

that, but we want to see it take a position upon its own merits, if it has any, and stand there. There are many and serious charges made against it; is it guilty or not guilty? An exchange before us says:

"The drink-demon accomplishes wonderful transformations in society. It takes a boy of beauty and promise and teaches him to carouse with gay associates, and makes him a bloated, loathsome, worthless man.

"It takes a young girl, loved and lovable, and manufactures her into a miserable, bloated woman, at whom passers-by point with fingers of scorn.

"It wrecks lives that might, but for it, be grand; hearts, that might otherwise be happy; homes, that in its absence might blossom like Eden.

"No one outside of the liquor-makers and sellers was ever made happier or richer for it.

"It degrades, not ennobles; curses, not blesses; hurts, not helps, wrecks, not saves. Like all sin, 'it is evil, and that continually.'"

Now, that is a pretty serious indictment, and if it is not true, why does the traffic not refute it? It is not new; the charges have rested against it for years. If it has ever done one single thing for man, woman or child; if it has made any being better, nobler, happier upon the face of the earth, why does it not point to its good works and tell us so? Come, Mr. Drink Den, give us a single reason why sentence should not be pronounced against you? If you can give a reason why you should exist, we will readily record it.—*Ex.*

LICENSED TO SELL.

We are growing weary of the meaningless sign, "Licensed to retail spirituous liquors." Would not the rumseller give us a true idea of what his license grants him, and what the true nature of his business? To help him towards this end I would suggest the following as a correct translation of the common and seemingly harmless inscription which we see over the doors of "Our Family Vaults:"—

Licensed to hush the voice of right;
 Licensed to bid all honor flee;
 Licensed to make a sin seem light;
 Licensed to make lives disagree,
 Licensed to kill the maiden's blush,
 Licensed to dull the fear of shame,
 Licensed to bid her conscience hush,
 Licensed to give a tarnished name;
 Licensed to lead our youth astray,
 Licensed to coax him from his toil,
 Licensed to give his passions sway,
 Licensed to lead him into brawl;
 Licensed to take the workman's hoard,
 Licensed to make his arm grow weak,
 Licensed to rob the children's board,
 Licensed to blanch the mother's cheek;
 Licensed to make us need police;
 Licensed to tax our house and land;
 Licensed to bid all crime increase;
 Licensed to form the robber's band;
 Licensed to crush the drunkard low,
 Licensed to leave him in the mire,
 Licensed to bid his mad talk flow,
 Licensed to set his brain on fire;
 Licensed to fill a drunkard's grave;
 Licensed to bring a widow woe;
 Licensed to make a woman a slave;
 Licensed to be the children's foe;
 Licensed to give a prison life;
 Licensed to bid a felon lurk;
 Licensed to whet assassin's knife;
 Licensed to give the hangman work;
 Licensed to work in sin like leaven;
 Licensed to live a ne'er-do-well;
 Licensed to shut men out of Heaven;
 Licensed to shut men up in Hell.

—*Selected.*

AN APPEAL FROM PEEL.

TO THE ELECTORS OF HALTON.

I would like the privilege of addressing a few words to the electors of Halton, and especially to my many farmer-friends in the county in regard to the coming vote on the petition for the repeal of the Scott Act.

Your gallant little county has set a good example by adopting prohibition, and has fought a brave battle against the liquor interest. Encouraged by your success 32 counties have taken steps to poll the vote of their people on the adoption of the Scott Act. There is a cheering prospect that the Act will be adopted by a good majority in most of these counties, but the success of the repeal petition just now would deal a serious blow to the movement all along the line. Eager eyes are anxiously watching the contest in Halton, as you practically hold the key of the situation, and are fighting the battle of prohibition for all Ontario. I need not remind you of the grave responsibility that rests upon you at this time in this connection; I am willing to believe that you realize and appreciate it, and I am confident you will bravely discharge your duty, but I am profoundly anxious that you shall not only sustain the Scott Act, but that you shall do so by such a majority as will settle the question once for all so far as your county is concerned, that the dram shops must go. I cannot believe that with the experience you have had you will take the responsibility of saying by your ballots that forty or more bar-rooms shall again be opened out in your county to stand out, as they do in our county, a standing disgrace to our boasted civilization, a "bar" to everything that is good, and true, for who can point to any good results that the liquor traffic has produced to individuals or community? It is all against the peace and prosperity of the people, and in the interest of selfish men, whose unholy craft is in danger.

As I drove through your beautiful county a few days ago, I admired your well cultivated farms, your large barns, your handsome dwellings, your fine churches and school houses, your sparkling streams, and I was glad to see that Providence has blessed you with a bountiful harvest to fill your barns, which blessings I hope and trust you will acknowledge on the 9th day of September by marking your ballots for the prohibition of a vile traffic which has done nothing to bring about the prosperity you enjoy, but the whole tendency of which is to impoverish, to degrade, and to demoralize.

I trust no one will be content to take neutral ground in this contest; to refrain from voting is to half consent to the return of the whiskey monopoly with all its attendant evils; don't do it—come out like men and stand by your county, your boys, and your homes, and you shall share in the blessings of the Lord, which maketh rich and to which he adds no sorrow. My message to you from Peel is, "HOLD THE FORT, FOR WE ARE COMING."—*J. C. Snell in Halton News.*

Scott Act News.

RENFREW.—The petitions for the submission of the Scott Act in Renfrew county was filed with the Registrar at Pembroke on Saturday. They are signed by over 2,000 electors, the number required being 1,450. More petitions were received by the secretary, but too late to be of use. The work has been rapidly done during the farmers' busiest season. It was only decided to submit the Act on July 18th. At no political election in the county has there been 4,000 votes cast for both parties. The prospect is therefore good for the temperance people's success.—*Mail.*

HALTON.—The work in this county is going bravely on. Excitement is at fever heat, and the prospects of success are growing brighter every day. Nearly all the local ministers are in the field, as well as most of the prominent laymen of the county, among whom may be specially noted Mr. McCraney, the Reform representative in the House of Commons, and Mr. Kerns, the Conservative representative in the Legislative Assembly, who are stumping the county together in the interests of the Scott Act. Outside volunteers are also doing noble work, among these may specially be mentioned Rev. W. A. McKay, president of the Oxford Scott Act Association, Rev. C. R. Morrow, Hon. J. G. Currie, Hon. S. H. Blake,