

tion would have increased only about fifteen per cent. in the five years 1878-83, so that the consumption of whiskey (while beer was driving it out) increased nearly three times as fast as did the population. Taking Canada for the same time we find that while our consumption of beer increased forty-nine per cent., our consumption of whiskey increased more than four per cent. It is well known however, that in the year 1879 there was an exceptionally large quantity of spirits entered for home consumption and the following year the quantity was exceptionally small. There was about the time named, on account of tariff changes, a good deal of fluctuation in quantities entered so that any single year's record is not a fair showing of the quantity consumed. If we average the four years 1877-80 we get the following results:—Annual consumption of spirits 3,798, 638 gallons; annual consumption of beer 9,162,603 gallons. Let us compare the year 1883 with this average and we shall find that our consumption of malt liquor has increased over forty-seven per cent. and along with this our consumption of spirits has increased twenty-four per cent., while our population has only increased ten per cent.

Every thoughtful observer knows that beer-drinking leads to whiskey-drinking, that lager is the curse of Canada to-day, and is leading astray thousands who are seduced by it into habits of inebriety, but who would never have commenced on whiskey. The same statement holds good in reference to European wine and beer producing countries; we have already published extensive statistics showing this. Alcohol is the same dangerous and debauching drug whether it be found in brandy or beer, its consumption creates a craving for it, and anything that encourages the consumption must increase the craving, and will, in a community, lead to drunkenness and the drinking of ardent spirits. The introduction of beer and wine simply means more ruin than whiskey could work alone. The old drinkers keep on, and the more temperate are seduced into becoming drinkers.

"They drink who never drank before,
And they who drank drink all the more."

Again, Mr. O'Keefe makes the statement that the consumption of whiskey has increased under the Scott Act in the Province of Prince Edward Island. All that it is needful to do, in reply to such audacious misrepresentation as this, is simply to quote the Government returns for that Province for the years above mentioned. The blue books give the following as the quantities in gallons of spirits, both manufactured and imported, that were entered for home consumption in the years named:—

Year.....	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Quantity.....	62,100	58,832	51,665	47,008	45,984

The year 1880 was the first year in which the Scott Act was even nominally in operation in any part of Prince Edward Island. It is true that the beer-business in that province is now nearly destroyed, but it is not true that other liquors are more largely consumed. Had it not been for the disloyal antagonism of the liquor-men of the province the law would have done even better work than as shown in this record. Respect for the law is growing. Its enforcement is becoming easier, and even the sliders of Ontario brewers are evidence that it is woe that the liquor-business hates, and the liquor-business, of course, hates what weakens itself and tends towards its abolition.

We believe in the Scott Act because it drives out whiskey, which Mr. O'K. denies. We believe in it because it also drives out beer, as Mr. O'K. admits, and we are glad to have that gentleman's assurance that we are "running beer out of the market." He knows about that particular result of our work, the distillers can speak about the effect it has upon their business. The Scott Act agitation is a successful crusade against the sale of both whiskey and beer.

We know that beer has less alcohol in it than whiskey, and the weaker interest will probably succumb the first, but both must go. As temperance workers we cannot accept any legislation that is not an advance step towards the total driving out of both whiskey and beer.

Campaign News.

MIDDLESEX.—The campaign is becoming in this county. Ministers of all Protestants denominations and the prominent priests of the Catholic Church are hard at work. Mr. Burgess has closed two weeks campaign. From every part of the county come most encouraging reports, and the prospects are that an immense majority will be recorded for the Scott Act when the day of voting comes.

BRANTFORD.—On Friday of last week Mr. J. B. Finch, of Nebraska, delivered an earnest and telling address in the First Presbyterian Church, under the auspices of the W. C. T. U. The large building was crammed to the doors, and the frequent and enthusiastic applause showed the deep interest and appreciation of the audience. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Dr. Beattie and the meeting will tell well for the Scott Act here.

WELLINGTON.—The petition for the submission of the Scott Act in this county is ready. Feeling is waxing hot, and things are looking bright for the temperance people. The petition contains 3,556 signatures, divided as follows:—Garafraxa, 305; Palmerston, 123; West Luther, 124; Harriston, 149; Mount Forest, 122; Eramosa, 284; Erin, 350; Maryborough, 325; Minto, 285; Pilkington, 138; Nichol, 165; Clifford, 45; Peel, 304; Elora, 88; Puslinch, 226; Fergus, 94; Guelph Township, 171; Drayton, 78; Arthur Village, 72; Arthur Township, 108.

DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND.—Another slight delay has occurred in this county. The Scott Act people filed their petition on the 8th inst., and being anxious to prevent a repetition of the rascally conduct by which they were luffed, they enclosed their petition in a glass case to prevent its again being mutilated. The petition was entirely open to inspection, but could not be handled. They have been advised that they have made a mistake by this action, and accordingly they have withdrawn their petition and given notice that they will deposit it again. They are acting wisely, as the recent decision in reference to the Perth County petition shows that temperance people ought to be certain that their petitions are unassailable before they let them pass out of their hands. There is no fear, however, but that the energy and determination of the Durham and Northumberland workers will soon carry the banner of Prohibition and victory in the territory they are working in.

HASTINGS.—The first of the Madoc meetings in the interest of the Scott Act campaign was held in the Lecture Room of the Methodist Church last Friday evening, when a Village Association was formed, with the following officers:—William Mackintosh, I. P. S., President; A. B. Ross, Esq., Vice-President; J. C. Dale, Esq., Treasurer; M. W. Sine, V. S., Secretary, and an Executive Committee of nearly thirty of the leading citizens in favor of the movement. A strong committee of ladies was also named, who will cooperate with the Village Association in carrying on the work.

Later.—The ladies met and formed a W. C. T. U. The Executive Committee also held another meeting and decided to purchase some of the best literature bearing on the subject of the Scott Act, and distribute it amongst the people at once in order that they may become educated on the matter. The next meeting will be held after the County Executive meets in Stirling on the 17th inst.

The hardest part of the struggle will be in the frontier townships, as great encouragement comes from the north part of the county. The main point at issue seems to be the proper educating of the people as to what the Scott Act is and how it will effect them financially, for they only seem to look to their pockets and no further, at least, the greater part of them.