

of Ontario, most notably the city of Brantford and the town of Chatham similar victories have been gained. And the probabilities are strong that the liquor-traffic in connection with the grocery trade will soon be a thing of the past.

NORTH ONTARIO.—The annual meeting of the North Ontario Branch of the Dominion Alliance was convened at Uxbridge on Wednesday, February 27th, 1884, in the Sons' Hall, at 3 o'clock p.m. In the absence of the President, the chair was taken by A. D. Weekes, Esq., Vice-President. A very large attendance of temperance workers, about 40 from various parts of the country, was present. It was the largest and most enthusiastic meeting of the Alliance ever held. After the reading of the minutes and the Treasurer's report, which were adopted, the following officers were elected for the next year:

President, Rev. Mr. Bishop.

Vice-President, Rev. Mr. McDonald.

Secretary, J. Symons, Esq.

Treasurer, Thomas Armstrong, Esq., and a Vice-President and Secretary for each municipality in the county.

The next immediate business that came before the Alliance was the question of the submission of the Scott Act to the ratepayers of the county for adoption. After some conversation, Rev. Mr. Brethour, of Halton, made some remarks on the working of the Act in that county. Many questions were asked regarding it, after which A. D. Weekes, Esq., of Uxbridge, moved, seconded by Mr. E. Phoenix, of Greenbank, Reach, "That in the opinion of this meeting the time has fully come for the submission of the Scott Act in this county, and that we take the preliminary steps to bring it before the people." Carried unanimously.

Efforts are to be made to secure the co-operation of surrounding counties in accordance with the Resolution of the Dominion Alliance.

A public meeting was held in the evening in the Methodist Church; it was large and enthusiastic. Addresses were delivered by Revs. Renner, of Prince Albert; Crozier, of Port Perry, and Rev. D. L. Brethour, of Halton.

The resolution the Alliance passed was submitted to the meeting, and was unanimously carried by a rising vote. The Scott Act will carry in Ontario County.

OTTAWA.—A meeting of the members of the House of Commons and the Dominion Alliance was held on Feb. 25 for the purpose of considering the following resolutions passed by the Dominion Alliance, and the submission to the House of which was requested by that body: "Whereas the object of good government is to promote the general welfare of the people by a careful encouragement and protection of whatever makes for the public good, and by an equally careful discouragement and suppression of whatever reacts to the public disadvantage; and whereas the traffic in alcoholic liquor as beverages is productive of serious injury to the moral, social, and industrial welfare of the people of Canada; and whereas, despite all preceding legislation, the evils of intemperance remain so vast in magnitude, so wide in extent, and so destructive in effect, as to constitute a social peril and a national menace; therefore be it resolved—That this House is of the opinion that the right and most effectual legislative remedy for these evils is to be found in the enactment and enforcement of a law prohibiting the importation, manufacture, and sale of liquors for beverage purposes."

VIEWS OF MEMBERS.

Mr. FOSTER, Chairman of the meeting, said the resolutions would give the members a chance to declare themselves, and when the pulse was known the way would be paved for the introduction of a Prohibitory Bill next session.

The discussion on the resolutions drew forth an expression of opinion on the Scott Act and the Dunkin Act.

Mr. McCRAVEY, (Halton), eulogised the Scott Act, saying it worked excellently. He read statistics obtained from the Commissioner, showing that there were 42 hotels in the county before the Scott Act, and \$100,000 worth of liquor sold annually in the county, and that now only \$10,000 worth is sold, being a saving of \$4 per head.

Mr. IRVINE, New Brunswick, said all who subscribed to the resolutions would be found supporting the Prohibitory Bill.

Mr. KIRK, Nova Scotia, believed if the Government introduced a prohibitory measure and used their influence they would carry it easily.

Mr. FOSTER reminded the meeting that the Alliance had sent a

deputation to the Government last summer with reference to the matter. The Government assured them that prohibition was a question on which they had no control of their followers. Even Mr. McKenzie had assured the Alliance that it would be fruitless to urge prohibition then.

AMENDING THE SCOTT ACT.

Mr. BURPEE moved, seconded by Mr. SHAKESPEARE, the following amendment, which was carried:—"Whereas an Act known as the Scott Act was passed and became law in 1878, containing the principle of local prohibition, and is a great advance on all former legislation, and this Act, in the counties where the friends of temperance have been able to enforce it, has met the reasonable expectations of the friends of temperance; and whereas certain defects in that Act have made it unworkable in many counties, therefore be it resolved that it is the duty of the temperance men in this Parliament to endeavor to have the Scott Act so amended that it may be made workable throughout the Dominion."

Several members expressed fear that interference with the Scott Act would destroy its usefulness.

A committee consisting of Messrs. McCraney, Fisher, Foster, Burpee, King, Shakespeare, Screwer, Robertson (Shelburne), and Senators McClellan and Vidal, was then appointed to prepare the necessary amendments to the Scott Act.

BRIGDEN.—As announced in our last issue, a large number of the citizens of Brigden and surrounding country assembled at the C. M. Church, for the purpose of forming a Scott Act Association for No. 6 polling sub-division, Moore. The attendance was very fair, but very enthusiastic. Some of the old residents say it was the most enthusiastic meeting ever held in this section. After addresses by Rev. J. A. McDonald, convener, and Rev. Messrs. Kerr, McKellar and McCutcheon, the following officers were elected:—Rev. J. B. Wynne, secretary, Dr. Ames, Treasurer. All in the room but two or three exceptions became members of the association, and pledged themselves to do all in their power to procure the adoption of the Scott Act, by all lawful endeavors. The membership of the association is 25 cents, and the secretary will be pleased to receive the names of any who may desire to become members at any time. The admission fee is charged so the association will be able to pay all current expenses.—*Brigden Beagle.*

ST. JOHN, N. B., Feb. 25.—Moncton has had a sensation. It happens that there is a law making it discretionary with the police magistrate in towns where the Scott Act is in force to dismiss the police officers, etc., if he is fully satisfied that these officers are not faithfully discharging their duty in enforcing that act. On Saturday it seems Mr. Wortman, police magistrate made up his mind that this was the trouble in Moncton, and he accordingly removed the county constables and almost all the police officers. As he had no power to appoint officers, the town was for a time without police.

BOSTON.—The coffee-house experiment in Boston is only sixteen months old, but has reached \$1,000 profit a month. The capital was furnished by benevolent men who looked for no pecuniary return. The Casino coffee-house was opened in February, 1882, and occupied the whole of a building. Plate-glass windows, hardwood finish, decorated walls and tasteful furnishings served to remove any impression of cheap charity. There were two entrances, one for women opening directly into the drawing rooms, and the other, for men, to a "coffee bar," where coffee, cocoa, etc., sandwiches and simple refreshments were sold, and in the rear were billiard and pool tables, with chairs for persons watching the games. Cigars were sold at the coffee counter, and smoking was allowed. Overhead was a reading-room and an apartment fitted up for games. The idea was to provide all the social attractions of the saloons, with the exception of intoxicating drinks. A new coffee-house was soon projected, the Alhambra, which is even more attractive in its decorations and furnishings than the Casino, and equally successful. *Steuben Signal.*

ARKANSAS.—The temperance fight is hot in Arkansas. A state law provides that a majority of the adult population, female and male together, may by petition, prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors within three miles of a church or school-house. Of course this makes it optional with each city, town and village whether it shall enforce prohibition, for even in Arkansas the three mile limit would include all centers of population. Just now Little Rock, the state capital, is the scene of the hottest contest. The temperance people are holding mass meetings, and the liquor dealers are boycotting business men who favor the closing of saloons.—*The Prohibitionist, (Debuque, Ia.)*