

Mr. Gorman ought to know that if the Act does not appoint an "Inspector," under that name, it says that the Collector of Inland Revenue for each district shall perform the offices for the enforcement of the Act that a License Inspector performs for the present License Act. Besides, both the Crooks and McCarthy Acts provide that if the Scott Act is carried in any County, the Inspectors under the License Acts shall be officers to see that the Scott Act is enforced. Only those who have tried, know how hard it is to enforce the present Acts,—how many loopholes there are in them big enough for a 'cute liquor dealer to crawl through. The Scott Act is in all respects an easier Act to enforce.—*Renfrew Mercury*.

WATERLOO.—The friends of Temperance in our County have been looking forward with some anxiety mingled with hope to the meeting called for Tuesday last. Two questions would be answered by that meeting. The first was whether there was enough interest in the matter in our County to gather a fairly representative meeting from all parts of the County in response to a simple call by circular letter. The second, whether there was enough unanimity of feeling and spirit of self-sacrifice to permit the combination of the temperance forces in a County Organization.

Both questions have been satisfactorily answered. A little after two o'clock, the meeting, which was held in the Town Hall, Berlin, on Tuesday last, was organized by Rev. F. E. Nugent taking the chair on motion of Rev. S. L. Umbach. Rev. Messrs. Walker, of Galt, and Campbell, of Preston, led in prayer. The meeting was then declared open and Mr. Hilliard was elected Secretary and Mr. S. Bingeman, Assistant Secretary.

It was resolved to form a County Association, and on motion a committee consisting of Rev. S. L. Umbach, Berlin, Rev. Mr. Walker, Galt; Rev. Mr. Thompson, Ayr, Dr. McIntyre, Hespeler; Dr. Passmore, Conestogo; J. L. Wideman, St. Jacobs, and Thos. Hilliard were appointed to draft a constitution.

Rev. Mr. Phillips addressed the meeting giving an account of the Scott Act in Halton.

The committee on constitution reported, and the following is a summary:

NAME.—The Waterloo County Temperance Association.

OBJECT.—To promote the cause of Temperance in our County.

MEMBERSHIP.—All residents of the County applying for membership, and paying one dollar annually for men and 50 cents for women are members.

OFFICERS.—A President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary-Treasurer, who compose the Executive Committee, and a Local Secretary for each locality capable of being the centre of temperance work, who shall with the Executive constitute the Board of Management. The remainder of the constitution consists of the usual provisions.

On motion, after the constitution had been accepted, the committee were instructed to report nominations for the offices. Meantime the roll was opened for membership, and for a time three or four Secretaries were kept busy taking names and money. About four hundred people had gathered by this time and nearly one hundred joined the Association.

The officers elected to hold office for one year were:—President, Rev. F. E. Nugent, Berlin; 1st Vice-President, Jacob Y. Shantz, Berlin; 2nd Vice-President, Rev. S. L. Umbach, Berlin; Secretary-Treasurer, Thos. Hilliard, Waterloo.

In the evening the hall was packed with a most attentive audience. Some unfinished business was disposed of and able, lively, and practical addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Wagner, Hespeler; Dierlamm, Waterloo; Umbach, Berlin; Eby, and Dr. Lowry of Brantford and Mr. Jacob Y. Shantz. The Temperance Choir, under the leadership of Mr. Peter Shupe, were out in full force and added greatly to the interest of the meeting by their spirited and really excellent singing. A number of new names were added to the Association roll, a collection amounting to nearly nine dollars was taken up. Rev. Mr. Nugent, Chairman, gave short but powerful speech, and this first County Temperance meeting was close by Rev. D. Tait pronouncing the benediction.—*Waterloo Chronicle*.

MARQUETTE.—In accordance with our promise two weeks ago, we place before our readers the position of affairs in this county in regard to the Scott Act. After a keen agitation, extending over some months, the Scott Act was passed in the old county, or electoral division, of Marquette, in Sept. 1881, by a vote of 612 for the Act to 195 against it; or with a majority of 417. In due time the Order-in-Council of the Dominion Government was issued, declar-

ing that on and after a certain date, viz. the expiration of the license then running, the Act should be in force. The friends of temperance then made arrangements to secure its enforcement, and so successful were these arrangements that no less than ten liquor sellers in the Portage were brought before the magistrate, convicted and fined, and there can be no doubt, that if the wish of the majority had been carried out just at this point, without any legal quibbling, the liquor interest in this county would have received its death blow. But appeals were made from these convictions to the Provincial Court of Queen's Bench, and the defence set up was that proper notices of the election, as prescribed by the Act, were not given to the electors in some localities, and the notice had not been inserted the required number of times in the *Gazette*. The judges before whom the case was argued were the late Chief Justice Wood, James Millar, the present Attorney-General of the Province, and Judge Dubuc. Chief Justice Wood said in his judgment: "I have no doubt some irregularities occurred but to the extent of materially affecting the general result of the polling, I do not believe." He went further, and declared that the Order-in-Council bringing the Act into force being an Act of Parliament the Court had no power to set it aside, and he decided favorable to the Act. Judge Miller gave judgment favorable to the appeal, in which Judge Dubuc concurring the convictions were quashed. Mark the convictions not the Act; for the Court had no power to set aside the Act. So we stand at present in this county in the anomalous position of having upon our Statute Book a law, proclaimed to be such by an Order of the Governor-General-in-Council, which cannot be enforced, in other words the Scott Act in the old electoral division of Marquette is a dead letter. But it may be asked how was this unlooked for decision received? We are glad to be able to record the fact that the most eminent jurists of the Province and Dominion have commented unfavorably upon it. That it was a snap verdict, unlikely to occur with different judges upon the Bench, is made apparent by the able judgment of the late Chief Justice. But leaving law out of the question, it was without a doubt from a common sense view of the case a perversion of justice, an outrage upon the wishes of the majority, who had so plainly declared by a vote of over three to one that they did not want the liquor traffic foisted upon them. A more unrighteous decision we have seldom, if ever, heard of, and we do not wonder that the man who could frame it is held in such contempt by his fellows in the profession. An appeal was made from the decision of the Court of Queen's Bench to the Supreme Court, but it was never argued, as the latter Court, much to the astonishment of all who remember the somewhat similar case, *Russell vs. the Queen*, claimed to have no jurisdiction. Immediately after the decision of the Court of Queen's Bench, the Provincial Government, with its usual respect for law and order, commenced the issue of licenses in Marquette. If the Government had done its duty toward those who had so plainly declared their wishes at the polls instead of pandering to the liquor sellers, it would have enforced the provisions of its license law against those selling without license. Mark: not one of these ten liquor sellers had a license at this time. They never denied the fact that the liquor was sold without a license too. And yet our Government, with a kindness peculiar to itself, instead of prosecuting them for selling without a license, grants them a license dated back, we are informed, so as to cover the date on which the liquor was sold; thus imposing the liquor traffic upon this electoral division in spite of the plainly expressed verdict of the voters at the polls. But the temperance people, we are glad to say, are not discouraged. Though they have been cheated out of their rights once, yet, with a tenacity of purpose that argues well for the future, they are getting into line with the rest of the Province for the coming conflict and expect before the close of the year to pass the Act with a larger majority than in 1881. We understand that the unanimous opinion of the legal advisers of the Manitoba Alliance is that in the Counties of this Electoral Division, the vote can be taken at the same time as the rest of the Province, only, here a double petition will have to be circulated,—one setting forth the irregular position in which we now stand, and praying that the Act be expensed from the Statute Book; the other, asking for a poll upon the question at the same time as the rest of the Province. This will give the people an opportunity, not only of voting down the liquor traffic, but of showing their disapproval of the unrighteous decision which before thwarted their expressed will. And to call upon all the electors of this county to once more do their duty at the polls—to cast a honest vote "for God, humanity and home.—*Manitoba Liberal*.