

CANADA CITIZEN

AND TEMPERANCE HERALD

FREEDOM FOR THE RIGHT MEANS SUPPRESSION OF THE WRONG.

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Copies of this issue of THE CANADA CITIZEN are sent to many persons who are not yet subscribers. We respectfully ask all such to carefully examine the paper and see whether or not it is just such a journal as they would like to have make a weekly visit to their homes.

Our object is the promotion and advocacy of all that is good, and determined opposition to what is bad. In fact these two are so intimately connected that the one implies the other. There are in society, in custom, and in law, many things that are the outgrowth of narrow selfishness, or the relics of ignorance and barbarism; abuses that are working evil, and that, strongly entrenched in prejudice, fashion, or wealth, refuse to yield their position in response to the growing demands of philanthropy and progress. We shall never hesitate to assail these strongholds of wrong, and shall fearlessly champion the cause of truth and right, no matter how unpopular, how weak, or how moneyless that cause may be.

In this patriotic crusade we confidently appeal for sympathy and support to the strong sound sense and warm true heart of our young Canadian Nationality. Every day brings us words of encouragement, and evidence that our efforts are appreciated, and feeling certain of a ready response, we earnestly request our friends everywhere to do what they can to extend the sphere of our circulation and usefulness.

We have received several letters and cards from ministers who had remitted us their dollars in response to a remarkable offer made in THE CANADA CITIZEN some time ago. Writers of some of these letters are surprised that they did not receive the promised books a little earlier. Pressure of business prevented their being printed and mailed as soon as expected. They have all now been sent to those entitled to receive them. If any omission has occurred we shall be much obliged if the seemingly-neglected friends will kindly notify us at once. Their names were all placed upon our mailing

list on receipt of their letters and they will confer a favor by notifying us if there is any further irregularity in the delivery to them of THE CANADA CITIZEN.

The Right Worthy Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars holds its thirty-first annual session at the Educational Department Buildings in this city commencing on Tuesday, May 26th. Delegates will be present from different quarters of the Globe, constituting perhaps a more generally representative gathering than any that has been convened in this city before. Preparations are now going on to tender our friends from a distance such a reception as will be due to the magnitude and importance of the organization and cause which they represent.

The "Beer and Light Wine" craze is such a *prima facie* absurdity that it is strange that sensible people can be misled by it. All the alcohol in pure brandy previously existed in pure wine, and distillation has altered neither its quantity nor its quality. The brandy may be diluted till it is weaker than wine and the wine may be fortified till it is stronger than the brandy. The alcohol in the "milder" beverages is the same thing, and will produce the same results as the alcohol in the stronger, and the proposal to prevent the poisoning, by taking the poison in another form, somewhat resembles a proposal to keep your feet dry by walking in dirty water instead of in that which is comparatively clean.

Besides the absurdity that you can prevent the consumption of alcohol by encouraging the consumption of alcohol, the "beer people" favor the equally ridiculous paradox that the cultivation of an appetite for alcoholic beverages will lead to a diminution of drunkenness. Every one knows that no drinker begins on a large dose of alcohol. He must take at first diluted whiskey or a beverage with but little alcohol in it. If he did not begin he would never go on. You do not prevent a traveller reaching his journey's end by helping into the wagon to start.

Further than all this, beer has been made, is made, and will be made,—if made at all—just as strong as men want it. The whole case has recently been cleverly and concisely stated by a *Globe* correspondent in the following words which are well worth repeating:—

"The Temperance crusade is not against any one or two intoxicating beverages, but against alcohol, the enemy of health and happiness. Beer is drunk for the alcohol it contains; take that out and no one will touch the dirty stuff. Alcohol is a poison whether in whiskey, rum, brandy, or "pure beer and light wines."

Supposing the temperance people should agree to permit the sale of "the lighter drinks," and say to the liquor men, "We are bound to drive out rum, gin, whiskey, and brandy, and will allow you for the present to sell ale, beer, and domestic wine." The liquor men would laugh at their stupidity and say to themselves "Of course we would prefer to have a license for all intoxicating liquors, but if this will satisfy them, we will look out for the whiskey," and they would. Whiskey can never be drowned in beer, but an attempt at such a thing would result in "square" beer, or beer "with a feather in it," or "with a stick in it," or "with a stone in it," or, if need be, "with a maul and wedge in it," and if still stronger be desired they would call for beer "with the devil in it," and they would get it every time. No, beer will not do as a substitute for whiskey, nor can the appetite for brandy be satisfied with wine."