

MISSISSIPPI.—A conference of Prohibitionists was held at Jackson, and decided to hold a State Convention, July 1st, at which the friends of Prohibition will determine what policy to pursue in order to accomplish their objects. This is the initiatory step toward the organization of a separate Prohibition party in Mississippi, and at the Convention in July it will undoubtedly be decided to cut off from the Democratic party. This result is one of the results of Mr. St. John's tour. The Committee is greatly encouraged at the outlook of the temperance work, and expects the approaching Convention to be the largest meeting of representative temperance men ever held at the capital.—*Voice*.

MAINE.—The Legislature has passed an act to provide for scientific temperance instruction in the Public Schools.

By the single decisive vote of the President of the Senate, sundry amendments to the prohibitory law were adopted, much less stringent and effective than had been asked for. One orders clerks of courts to advertise within thirty days what disposition has been made of liquor cases; another prohibits newspapers advertising liquors.

In Portland, on the 16th ult., a Democratic mayor in favor of enforcing prohibition was chosen, on second trial, over a Republican candidate understood to favor the liquor interest.—*National Temperance Advocate*.

KENTUCKY.—The Prohibition State Convention met recently with forty counties represented, and more than 150 delegates were present. Fountaine T. Fox, a lawyer of Louisville, presided, and General Green Clay Smith, the candidate of the Prohibition party for President in 1876, delivered an address. Fountaine T. Fox was nominated for State Treasurer to be elected next August. The platform adopted declares: First, opposition to the manufacture and sale of alcoholic liquors as a beverage; second, in favor of popular education; third, in favor of a more economical administration of State and national affairs; fourth, in favor of immigration and the introduction of foreign capital into Kentucky; fifth, in favor of civil service reform; sixth, opposition to polygamy.—*Ex*.

IOWA.—The Supreme Court has rendered a decision of the greatest importance to the Prohibitionists. It settles definitely the question of the constitutionality of the prohibitory law, and, Prohibitionists claim, will enable them to close every saloon in the State, making the law effectual even in cities where public sentiment does not sustain it. The case on which the decision was made was as follows:—Louis Fritz, of Des Moines, violated the law by selling liquor, and after local Prohibitionists had appealed to the authorities in vain, they determined to test the question whether the law does not give any citizen the right to enjoin a saloon as a nuisance—that is, to proceed against the saloon-keeper by filing an affidavit and securing a writ of injunction to abate a nuisance. The court decided in their favor. The practical result of its ruling is to enable the temperance men to suppress any saloon by merely taking out an injunction. This decision has already had a wonderful effect. The liquor dealers are in consternation. The enforcement of the law now rests with the Prohibitionists. Will they bend very energy and enforce it?

GREAT BRITAIN.—Several temperance mayors have been re-elected in various parts of England, notably at Leeds, Bootle, Clitheroe, Falmouth, Flint, G. antham, and Pontefract. York, Reading and Stockton-on-Tees, which had temperance mayors last year, have again elected abstainers for their chief magistrates. The new Lord Mayor of York, Mr. Councillor Woodall, on being invested with the insignia of office, said, "For about twenty years I have been a total abstainer, and I have found the adoption of those principles to be a safe insurance against the evils that arise from the use of intoxicating liquors. I think I may also say that on several occasions when we have enjoyed the hospitality of the Mansion House, and the sheriff's hospitality, where those principles have been observed during the present year, those occasions have been both ended and enjoyable. Therefore, you will not wonder when I say I intend to go on those lines during the coming year." Swanscombe and Barnsley have also elected total mayors this year. Mr. Davies, the new mayor of Swansea, will entertain the Town Council, but has decided not to allow any one to be drunk on the occasion.—*Carleton Place*

Royal Templars.

A grand three days International meeting of Royal Templars under auspices of the Dominion Council has been arranged to take place at the International Park, Niagara Falls, early in August. The best speakers on the continent will be secured for the occasion and the principal lines of railway will make very low excursion rates from points in Ontario, New York and Pennsylvania.

All previous record of institution was eclipsed on Tuesday evening last, when in Hamilton a Select Council of 112 charter members was instituted by the D. V. C. The main credit for working up this magnificent Council, henceforth to be known as Sceptre Council No. 187, is due to Mr. Raymond Walker, Past Grand Secretary. In the institution Mr. Buchanan was supported by the Grand Councillor of Ontario, Mr. J. H. Flagg, of Mitchell, Mr. P. H. Stewart, of Cookstown, Dominion Auditor, Jno. H. Land, Dominion Secretary, J. G. Y. Burkholder, Dominion Herald, Jas. Guill and R. Yurhorst, of Toronto, Geo. Allen, of Burlington, J. Telman, of Dundas, and many city brethren. Mr. Walker was elected to the chair of the new Council and presided at a grand banquet given at the Temperance Dining Rooms after the institution. The Grand Opera House Orchestra furnished the music for the banquet and speech and song carried the festivities far into the morning.

Selected Articles.

A CURIOUS DILEMMA.

An Ontario paper recently noticed an instance of many cases which come to the surface in Temperance Reform. A liquor dealer offered to dispose of his stock at cost, and considered he had claims on the temperance public to help him out of a bad business. It strikes us that a fair analogy may be instituted, as follows:—

Neighbor Brown imports fifty bull-dogs. He finds they are of no earthly use but to bite. He has sold two or three of the lot, and in every instance they left the marks of their fangs in somebody's flesh. The public complain and remonstrate. Neighbor Brown is heartily ashamed and perplexed over his purchase, especially as some of his own family have been badly bitten. What is he to do? If he should turn loose the brutes, the public will be ruined; if he will keep them they will ruin himself. He offers to sell out the bull-dogs. He does not ask any profit on the first purchase. He thinks the public that are in danger of being bitten, and especially the public that are strongly prejudiced against dogs, ought to help him out.

What would be neighbor Brown's best course to pursue? And what ought the public to do in the case?

Correspondence on this vexed question is invited.—*The Clarion*.

WE ARE PROGRESSING.

The population of the Maritime Provinces is 870,696 and of this number 590,795, or nearly two thirds, are now under the Scott Act. This embraces the whole of Prince Edward Island and five eighths of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. St. John and Halifax are now swinging into line which will bring the figures up considerably. The recent victories in Ontario bring nearly one third of that province under the Act and most of the remaining two-thirds is working for its adoption. Quebec has three counties under the Act, and in several other counties the campaign is in progress. The whole Province of Manitoba is preparing to vote on the Act, and British Columbia alone seems to be out in the cold. For the whole Dominion the population is 4,325,000 and the Scott Act covers 1,240,000, or over one quarter of the whole. Besides this the whole of the North-West Territory, with a population of 56,000 is under strict prohibitory law, and Quebec has two counties under the local Dunkin Act.

In point of territory we find that of the 2,221 million acres in the Dominion, dram-shops are forbidden in 1,764 millions or over three-quarters.

This is not a bad showing, and in respect of the liquor question, our young Dominion sets a good example to its older relatives and neighbors.—*The Signal*.