

The : Canada : Citizen AND TEMPERANCE HERALD.

A Journal Devoted to the Promotion of Social Progress and Moral Reform.

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THE CITIZEN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

We referred last week to some changes being made in our company. The Ontario Government has issued Letters Patent authorizing the increase of our capital stock from \$10,000 to \$50,000.

It having become necessary for us to concentrate as much force as possible in the direct personal supervision of our company's efforts, some changes have been made in our management.

We have now a printing office of our own and expect that all delays in the getting out of our paper are at an end. This department of our work will be under the management of Mr. Corney Simmonds, who is at once an experienced printer and a gentleman of ability and standing.

Mr. John Stuart, late of Hastings, England, an able and energetic advocate of progressive thought, and a noted temperance advocate has also been added to our staff.

Few of our readers have any conception of the work involved in placing weekly before them the compendium of fact and argument which the CANADA CITIZEN presents, and fewer still are fully aware of the power and influence that such a journal exerts in the thousands of homes to which it carries its weekly message.

KEEP UP THE ORGANIZATIONS.

It is impossible to too strongly emphasize the imperative necessity that exists at the present crisis of our country's history, for the sustaining and extending of every form of Temperance

work. The I. O. G. T., the S. of T., and the R. T. of T. should be encouraged and supported cordially by every true friend of Temperance Reform.

THE MONTREAL CONVENTION.

Our good friends in Montreal are making extensive preparations for the Convention to be held in their city in July, particulars of which may be found on page 3 of this paper.

An enthusiastic Scott Act worker said some days ago:—"We could easily have whipped the liquor party, we can down them any time in a fair fight, but we are not yet strong enough to fight the liquor party and the Dominion Government and the Provincial Government all together."

THE GREATER CRIMINALS.

We have already called attention to the severe sentence pronounced by Judge McMahon at Chatham, Ont., on the dynamiter, Macey. There are very few people of any other opinion, than that it was right to send the man, who dynamited the Scott Act Inspector's house, to jail for fourteen years.

From the evidence it is apparent that you came to this country, incited by others, to commit one of the most diabolical crimes known or heard of in this land, and a man found guilty of the commission of such an offence, it is right, as a proper, that he should be made an example of.

The evidence that was given at the trial fully warranted his Lordship's charge, against the villains connected with the liquor traffic, who in the trial were shown to have been accomplices in the diabolical outrage that was committed.

The liquor traffic is an organized conspiracy against justice, law, and the public welfare. The business that would employ such creatures as Macey, to wreak its vengeance upon men, who in the discharge of duty have come in contact with it, ought not for a moment to be tolerated in a civilized community.

too to law itself, as well as to every thing that is pure and good.

The liquor traffic develops scoundrels of the vilest kind, scoundrels clever enough to employ wretched tools like Macey and Sidley to do its meanest work, mean enough to refuse to pay the miserable pittance promised for the villainy.

A TEMPERANCE BED.

An enthusiastic W.C.T.U. worker of Fredericton, N.B., has sent us an interesting report of an enterprise undertaken by the organization which she represents.

Lady Tilley, who has interested herself very largely in the Hospital (and to whose efforts and liberality its establishment is largely due), strongly approves of this movement, and her esteemed husband, Sir Leonard Tilley, Lieut. Governor of the Province—a well-known Temperance worker—is also in harmony with it.

Some time ago we received from a prominent W.C.T.U. lady in Quebec Province, a suggestion, that something ought to be done in connection with the Toronto General Hospital, to make more clear to the general public, the fact which the Fredericton ladies expect to demonstrate.

THE SCOTT ACT.

Elsewhere will be found a number of extracts from different journals, making reference to the recent Scott Act defeats, and the lessons to be drawn therefrom. We have endeavored to avoid, in making these quotations, a repetition of strong expressions of partisanship.

Now, what is really the situation? Seven counties, which three years ago adopted the Scott Act by majorities aggregating about 7,500, have repealed that Act by a majority of about the same figure.

from it? What should be our plan for further action?

In the first place, too much was expected from the Scott Act. The people were and are thoroughly sick of the demoralizing influences and evil results of the liquor traffic.

There is no doubt whatever that politicians have been busily engaged in endeavoring to use the liquor traffic, the Scott Act, and its enforcement, and temperance sentiment, for the promotion of their partizan objects.

The Dominion Government has hampered the Scott Act by sundry orders in Council, and by refusing to provide (which it easily could have done) amendments that would have made the Act more workable.

On the other hand, the Ontario Government, when, in obedience to unmistakable public sentiment, it took hold of Scott Act enforcement, did not deal justly with the law.

But the situation had another and more serious aspect. The failure of the Scott Act, in so far as it was due to the Dominion Government, roused bitter feelings among Temperance Reformers, and so far as it was due to the indifference of Provincial Government officials, it roused similar feelings among Temperance Conservatives.

It ought to be distinctly borne in mind, that the Temperance people of Canada are not in any sense responsible for the fact that they have been

working with local option instead of Prohibition. Local option must always be unsatisfactory and comparatively ineffective. The liquor traffic is an evil, a curse, an infamy.

Prohibition should be thorough-going. Laws prohibiting the sale and permitting the manufacture—suppressing the retail traffic, but tolerating the distiller who takes the biggest share of the wealth plundered from the unfortunate victims—are simply of the same character as would be legislation that was aimed against sheep stealers, but contained provisions for licensing, encouraging and protecting butchers who regularly received the stolen animals and employed and paid the thieves who gathered them in.

Again, the doctrine, however embodied or expressed, that the liquor traffic is not a crime, except in places where people have voted it a crime, is exceedingly pernicious.

Is it not strange, however, that the Maritime Provinces sustained the Scott Act when Ontario repealed it? Public sentiment is stronger in the east than it is here.

Whatever the future of our cause must be, the fact will always remain, that the Scott Act in Ontario did immeasurable good, cut down the liquor traffic, diminished drunkenness, lessened crime, and benefited the public, wherever it was in operation.

But above and beyond everything else there stands out clear and definite this great lesson made more prominent in the light of the knowledge we have gathered in the recent struggle:—all the energies of temperance reformers ought to be concentrated into determined, persistent, definite, uncompromising effort, prayer, agitation, influence and vote, for IMMEDIATE TOTAL PROHIBITION.

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