

The Canada Citizen

AND TEMPERANCE HERALD.

A Journal devoted to the advocacy of Prohibition, and the promotion of social progress and moral Reform.

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CLUB RATES.

The Canada Citizen is published at an exceedingly low figure, but as some of our friends have asked for Special Club Rates, we make the following offer:—We will supply

5 copies	one year for \$4 00.
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20 "	" " 14 00.

Subscribers will oblige by informing us at once of any irregularities in delivery.

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F. S. SPENCE. - - - MANAGER.

TORONTO FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9th, 1883.

TEMPERANCE LITERATURE.

One of the necessities of the Temperance cause in Canada today is the circulation of carefully prepared literature, relating to the different phases of our great movement. The printed page is one of the most powerful allies of any social reform. It is the sharpest weapon that has ever been wielded by the uncompromising foes of tyranny and wrong; and it has awed despots into submission more speedily and effectually than loaded cannon and flashing swords. Of all forms of literature, the newspaper is probably the most powerful, either for evil or good. Through its columns we reach the public easier, quicker, and to a far greater extent, than we can by any other agency. The newspaper is everywhere, and read by everybody. Herein it has potencies that, used aright, are the greatest and most blessed that man is permitted to control; and on the other hand, when perverted, are the most ruinous and terrible that curse communities and homes.

There is not enough vigilance exercised over the character of the journals that we daily admit to the sacred privacy of our homes, and which exert their influences whose results reach as far as eternity itself. There are parents, who would shudder at the bare idea of bringing home, as a guest, some leprous libertine to associate with the innocent-minded children that they are endeavoring to train in purity and goodness; and yet they will carelessly allow these same boys and girls to have the most intimate companionship with a periodical literature that, by its sensationalism, exaggeration and indelicacy, is actually vitiating and depraving their whole moral nature.

In reference to this evil, we believe that grave responsibilities rest not only upon the parents, who should most carefully scrutinize every publication that asks for admission to their family circle, but also upon those who undertake the important office of providing the literature that makes this request. Editors and writers ought to have not merely the highest abilities, but the purest motives and the keenest power of discrimination. With these qualifications the newspaper worker has an influence for good that no other human-being possesses, and his earnest efforts ought to command the warmest sympathy and the heartiest support of every Christian woman and man.

A properly conducted newspaper will not often leap into popularity and circulation all at once. The people that it relies upon

for support are, naturally and rightly, careful and deliberate in testing its worth, but we believe such journals will ultimately succeed. True merit is sure to meet with appreciation and success, but it always has uphill work at first. And after all there is not enough of readiness to assist such an undertaking on the part of the Christian and temperance portion of the community. There is a great deal of truth in the following extract from the *Chicago Lever*:—

"The work of publishing a temperance paper is a thankless task under the most favorable circumstances. It requires an amount of personal sacrifice and hard work of which those who have never undertaken such an enterprise can form no just estimate. We speak confidently on this point because we have been through the mill or at least part way through. We say it without any fear of successful contradiction that the same amount of energy and pluck that has been expended on *The Lever* would have yielded ten-fold more, so far as the goods of this world are concerned, if they had been expended on almost any other kind of a paper. If we had catered to the whims of everybody and filled our columns with the common blood and thunder slush of the day instead of trying to correct a corrupt public sentiment we might have secured dollars where we have not secured cents. The fact is, too many people who despise the liquor traffic and who believe that to license that traffic is of the devil, are not doing all that they ought to be doing to overthrow that traffic. They subscribe for and read more license than anti-license papers. Comparatively they are indifferent in regard to the success of the cause which, they will tell you, is the grandest cause on earth; and this indifference on the part of professed temperance men and women makes the work of the temperance journalist an exceedingly thankless task. Only those who know no defeat should undertake such a work."

In spite of these discouraging considerations we have faith in our enterprise. The managers of THE CANADA CITIZEN started with the determination to make it good and keep it clean no matter what might be the consequences, and the response of the public to their efforts has so far greatly exceeded their anticipations. Our circulation is rapidly increasing; we are getting kind words and encouragement from every quarter; and we desire to express to our many friends our sincere gratitude for their appreciation and support.

As soon as our financial position will enable us, we will extend our work by publishing and circulating books, pamphlets, tracts, and every-other form of the best temperance literature that can be obtained. The plan of our company's organization provides for the establishment of a publishing house and book-room. We are working towards this end, believing that it will be both a mighty agency for good and a safe financial undertaking. We appeal earnestly to our many friends for assistance; our stock-book is still open and new names are being added to it every day. We do not promise to our shareholders any great bonanza; we do not want any of them to subscribe for large amounts, but we claim that our undertaking will enable stock-holders to do a great deal of good with their money, and will in a short time pay such a dividend that this money may be considered as profitably invested. To all those who are not yet acquainted with the details of our enterprise, we will be happy to send circulars and give full information if they will kindly send us their names and addresses.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN TORONTO.

We ask particular attention to the report, on another page, of the reception by the Toronto City Council of the deputation of the C. W. S. A., and of the subsequent action of the Council in response to the petition of the deputation. The able address of Mrs. McEwen is specially worthy of notice, but the point to which we wish more directly to refer is the composition of the minority that