## KNOX COLLEGE MONTHLY

THE

## AND

## PRESBYTERIAN MAGAZINE

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## THE PLEBISCITE: HOW SHALL I VOTE?

"Take up the stumbling block out of the way of my people."-Is. lvii. 14.

**B**<sup>Y</sup> order of the Ontario Legislature, the electors of this province will have an opportunity on the first day of January next of voting for or against the prohibition of the liquor traffic. To vote against prohibition is practically to vote for license. The question, then, resolves itself into Prohibition *versus* License —for which shall I vote? I shall vote for prohibition, for the following reasons:

I. Because license is wrong in principle.

This consideration alone, if clearly established, should settle the whole question. Once settle the question of right or wrong, and all questions of expediency must be set aside. We are to do right, though the heavens should fall; but the heavens will not fall. Now, whatever the original design of license may have been, it is as clear as noonday that its actual effect is to permit, sanction, protect. It is the voter's ballot that puts the liquor seller where he is. The liquor seller is the agent of the voter. The man who votes for license, therefore, becomes a partner in the guilt of the business. It is a well-known and admitted maxim in law, "Qui facit per alium, facit per se." Let there be no mistake here. The sovereign power in this province, at least, is in the hands of the voters. They can sweep the traffic out of