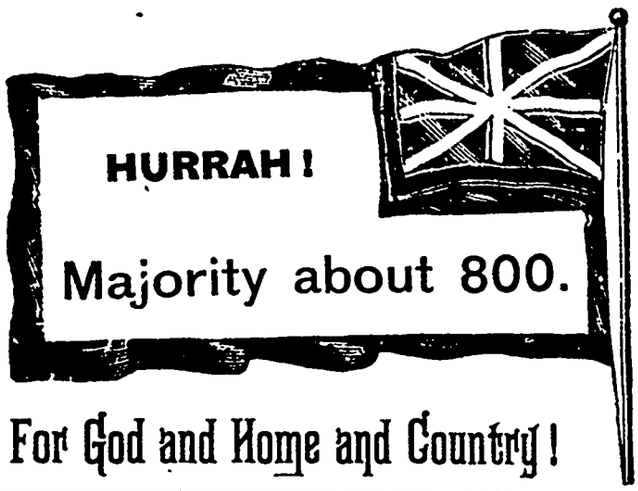
ANOTHER GLORIOUS VICTORY.

LEEDS AND GRENVILLE TO THE FRONT.



For God and Home and Country!

LEEDS AND GRENVILLE.

The Scott Act is meeting with the favor of all classes of our diversified Canadian communities. Sneers have been flung at our cause as having only the support of rural communities whose intelligence it suited the anti-temperance men to belittle, but now large towns are rolling us up magnificent majorities. The Frenchmen of Quebec, the Germans of South Bruce and Huron, the sturdy Scotchmen of Simcoe, the Renfrew Irish, the Englishman, the American, the native Canadian, all have united in supporting the cause of progress and morality. We have had our most signal victories in newly-settled counties, and now one of our oldest and most staid and settled communities comes to the front with a grand and inspiring record. The loyal workers in Leeds and Grenville are to be heartily congratulated. They had desperate opposition to cope with, they had against them the influence of old and extensive brewing and distilling interests, they had even brought against them in the earlier part of the fight the ineffectual artillery of the champion anti-orator; but all failed when brought face to face with the determined efforts of earnest praying workers, enthused with an earnest desire to free their county from the domination of rum. They have won. Workers everywhere will be strengthened and cheered. Our cause has received fresh impetus, and again with glad hearts we "Thank God and take courage."

THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE SCOTT ACT.

The opponents of the Scott Act have been busy of late in attempting to raise doubts as to its constitutionality. From time to time we see statements that a case is to be shortly raised in which the whole question will be discussed. The object of these rumors is apparent, and we trust that none of our friends will be deceived by them, or induced to slacken their efforts to secure the adoption of the Act. The fact is that probably no Canadian Legislation has been so thoroughly endorsed by the highest judicial authorities of the Dominion and of the Empire, and that after the most searching discussion and fullest consideration, whatever difficulties may arise they will certainly not come from that quarter; and our friends need not fear a return of the doubt and uncertainty on this point, which for ten years after Confederation paralyzed their efforts in the direction of prohibition, when they were sent from the local legislatures to the Dominion Parliament, and from the Parliament to the legislatures and back again. In order to refresh the memories of our readers we may briefly refer to what has taken place in the courts on this question since the adoption of the Scott Act.

The Act was first attacked in New Brunswick, and the Supreme Court of that province, by four judges against one held that it was unconstitutional. The case was carried to the Supreme Court of the Dominion by the Alliance, and the decision of the New Brunswick Court reversed by Chief Justice Ritchie and Judges Gwynne, Fournier, and Taschereau; Judge Henry alone dissenting. Application was made to the Privy Council for leave to carry it there, but on account of the death of the prosecutor this had to be dropped. A new case, that of *Russell*, was then brought up. The New Brunswick judges this time decided in favor of the Act, saying that their opinions were unchanged, but they were bound by the decision of the Supreme Court. This was appealed direct to the Privy Council, and special leave was given to embody in it the previous case and the remarks of the judges in both courts. On the 23rd of June, 1882, the Privy Council rendered judgment sustaining the Act on every point. It frequently happens that these appeals only settle one or two minor questions. However, in these cases, the legality of the whole Act was submitted to all the courts, and they considered every objection that was made to any part of it. As the official report states: "It was agreed that the only question which the court should be called upon to decide was as to the power of the Parliament of Canada to pass the Canada Temperance Act, 1878; all technical and other objections were waived." Both in the Supreme Court and in the Privy Council the question was considered on this basis, and the whole Act from the preamble to the final clause was passed under review and discussed. From the decision of the Privy Council there is no appeal, and the only way of escaping its judgment in this case would be an amendment of our constitution by the Imperial Parliament. The opponents of the Act cannot even pretend their case was not fully and ably presented. In the Supreme Court it was argued by Mr. Kaye, Q.C., of St. John recognized to be one of the keenest lawyers in the Maritime Provinces, and by Christopher Robinson, Q.C., of this city whose ability and position are so well known in this province. In the Privy Council they were represented by the late Mr. Benjamin, Q.C., then the leader of the English bar. Mr. Benjamin was particularly qualified to discuss such a case, having been a United States Senator and the Confederate Attorney-General, he was familiar with the jurisprudence of a federal system like ours, and besides he had been engaged in almost every case under the Confederation Act that had gone to England. In addition to this the opinions of the New Brunswick judges and of Judge Henry against the Act were read at the hearing before the Privy Council.

It has been thought by some that the decision upon the Crooks Act in the *Hodge* case threw some doubts upon the legality of the Scott Act. On the contrary, their Lordships then took occasion expressly to reaffirm their decision in the *Russell* case in order to prevent any such misapprehension. Indeed, they say that one of the chief grounds upon which they sustained the conviction of Hodge under the Crooks Act was that his offence was committed in this city where the Scott Act was not in force, so that there was no conflict. On the whole, we think, our friends may rest assured that the Act is in no danger from the highest courts, and that their energies may be all devoted to sustaining it at the polls, and to preventing its being mutilated in Parliament.

VAGRANCY AND CRIME.

The drink system of the present day bears to the rapidly increasing criminal record of our country, the relation of cause to effect.

This is no hasty assumption simply inferred from the common juxta-position of drinking and crime; it is a proposition established by the very clearest *a priori* argument, and supported by an over-