

THE CANADA CITIZEN AND TEMPERANCE HERALD.

Freedom for the Right means Suppression of the Wrong.

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The Canada Citizen

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F. S. SPENCE, - - - MANAGER.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21st, 1884.

Again we would earnestly urge upon our friends in the different counties the need that there is for the most thorough organization. This is what tells on the day of polling. Meetings are good, preaching is powerful, the circulation of literature is of incalculable value, but let nothing be allowed to take the place of complete organization for the purpose of having every individual voter convinced of his personal duty, and then brought to the polls.

We specially request that our Scott Act workers will keep us posted as to their movements and engagements. Mr. Fee is busily engaged in perfecting organization in Carleton. Mr. Burgess has returned from a successful campaign in Middlesex, and is now open for further engagements; his address is 33 Hayden Street, Toronto. We shall take it as a favor if all who are willing to work for the cause, and all who are needing the assistance of skilled workers, will communicate with this office.

The Scott Act workers of Perth have been very badly treated. They prepared an immense petition, they placed it in the hands of the Secretary of State believing that they had complied with all the preliminary requirements, but their prayer for a vote was not granted because they had deposited their petition for scrutiny in the office of a registrar appointed for only a part of the county. We do not complain of this. It is right that the law should be strictly carried out, but it is not right that we should be put to more trouble than is necessary. The Perth workers asked to have their petition returned that they might deposit it for scrutiny in the right place, and comply with every detail of legal requirement, but their reasonable request was refused. The Government has declined to allow a perfectly legal petition to be technically made so that it must be accepted. We are pleased to see that the electors of Perth have in them the right sort of stuff and are already hard at work on their new petition, but it is utterly unfair that they should be put to so much trouble and expense. We must repeat what we said before:—There is too much whiskey influence at Ottawa.

The Scott Act agitation grows steadier and stronger. Many petitions are just about ready and the coming winter will see nearly every county in Ontario in the line of fight. The people are rising in their might with an irresistible determination to utterly root out the liquor system. The present movement is the outcome of long years of patient suffering and unwavering advocacy and teaching. It is no temporary enthusiasm going out in response to some unusual appeal. It is a spontaneous effort of the people, by the only present available means, to bring about a result that they are resolved to attain. Their ardor will not abate while the drink traffic remains; they see the daily ruin wrought by this deadly foe to all that is pure and good, and until that ruin ceases the conflict must go on.

BEER AND WHISKEY.

A representative of the *Toronto Globe* has been interviewing a number of men prominently connected with the Scott Act agitation, and also a number of those who are most strongly opposed to it. One of the latter, Mr. Eugene O'Keefe, a Toronto brewer, has been specially bitter in his denunciation of Scott Act advocates, and specially reckless in his assertions. Some of his statements are misrepresentations of matters concerning which the facts are known to the public, and therefore no time need be wasted in exposing them; but he misrepresents some matters concerning which every one does not know the facts, and his mis-statements regarding these might mislead, if they were allowed to pass uncorrected. In his special pleading on behalf of the brewers Mr. O'Keefe says:—"We furnish a beverage which is wholesome and nutritious, and which is calculated to reduce the consumption of the liquor which the temperance men complain against as doing so much harm. Look at the United States. Some years ago hardly anything but whiskey was drunk there. Now beer has almost entirely taken its place.

This is the bald statement, and it is one not infrequently made in some form by Anti-Scott agitators. It is unaccompanied by any evidence or citation of authority in its support. To show the facts in regard to it we subjoin a table taken from the United States' Report of the Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, Treasury Department, exhibiting the increase in the consumption of distilled liquors and fermented liquors respectively for the years therein named, and to make the record more complete we put along with it a similar table compiled from our Canadian blue-books showing the consumption of the same liquors in Canada during the same time:—

Year.	UNITED STATES.		CANADA.	
	Consumption of Spirits.	Consumption of Malt-liquors.	Consumption of Spirits.	Consumption of Malt-liquors.
	Proof Galls.	Gallons.	Proof Galls.	Gallons.
1879.....	54,278,475	344,625,485	4,569,377	9,099,097
1880.....	63,526,634	414,220,165	2,927,007	9,394,479
1881.....	70,697,081	444,112,169	4,015,595	10,146,063
1882.....	73,556,976	526,379,980	4,441,285	12,285,470
1883.....	78,452,687	551,497,340	4,770,691	13,564,172

These figures show that if we compare the year 1883 with the year 1879 we find that, in the United States, where "Beer has almost entirely taken the place" of whiskey, while the consumption of malt liquor increased over sixty per cent., the consumption of ardent spirits did not fall off but increased MORE THAN FORTY-FOUR PER CENT. Census statistics and calculations show that the popula-