

hard words and hard sticks. These stones and sticks are *their arguments*, but to us they are *prophecies* of coming victory. The first gun fired at Fort Sumpter settled the doom of slavery in the United States; the first blow struck with a deadly weapon, in favour of the repeal of the Dunkin Act in this county, settles the fate of the repeal agitation.

2. Is it not another sign of the coming dawn, the way county after county declares for local prohibition of the liquor traffic? Another county has just been added to the honorable list, that of Peterborough; and yet another has made a beginning, and so on till Ontario is free—till this Province can sing, as to one Pharaoh, at least—

“Sound the loud timbrel o’er Egypt’s dark sea,
Jehovah hath triumphed, his people are free.”

But some will say, What is the use of enacting what cannot be enforced? But it can be enforced. Every county town (and it is in these the brunt of the battle lies) is not like our county town. Read what the Mayor of Napanee writes this week to a gentleman in Guelph, where they are preparing for the battle:—

“The Dunkin Bill is a success in this town and county, and the Antis cannot get strength to repeal it, which we consider one of the best evidences of the utility of the law. We have no prisoners in our gaol, except one, a lunatic. We have no fights, no quarrels, no arrests, no paupers; all is peace and harmony and good will.

“The trade of the town has not suffered in the least.

“The collector of market tolls says he has collected more this year than last.

“Merchants are all doing well and prospering. Our temperance hotel is doing well and is the best house in town, and is well patronized.

“We have no municipal by-law better kept than this. I advise the good people of Guelph who love order and prosperity to vote yea, and thus assist to put down an evil which has ruined thousands of our best citizens.”

What is done in one place may, with God’s help, be done in another.

3. There are also hopeful signs in the promises made by our Premier and other leading statesmen, that in Ottawa this winter the trouble arising by the clashing of local and federal jurisdiction, will be removed and fresh power put in the hands of temperance people. The two jurisdictions work together at present like a machine which had one section of its wheels made in one shop and another section in another shop, but all this can be righted by turning all the wheels out of one shop. Patience, good brethren. Rome was not built in one day. This is not a battle, but a war.

4. But the best sign of all that daylight will yet come to us after this darkness, we find in the promises of God. When this conflict began