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FREEDOM FOR THE RIGHT MEANS SUPPRESSION OF THE WRONG.

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CARLETON COUNTY HAS CARRIED THE SCOTT ACT BY NEARLY ONE THOUSAND MAJORITY.

THE PETITIONS.

Numerous inquiries are being made as to who should be permitted to sign the petitions against the mutilation of the Scott Act. In reply we would say: Let all sign who are described in the petition—"residents of Canada." Electors have other methods by which they can make their influence felt by our legislators but there is a large proportion of our population that can only reach Parliament by petition. We want to have the views of this class presented to our legislators, as well as the view of voters. Let all sign, male and female, and let us show Parliament what the sentiment of *the people* really is.

We desire to urge strongly upon our friends, who are circulating these petitions, the importance of pushing them through with all possible expedition. Parliament is now in session and we want to present these petitions as soon as we can do so. Let them be sent when signed, direct to the Secretary, F. S. Spence, 8 King St. East, Toronto.

THE ONTARIO CONVENTION.

The Convention held in Toronto last week was, without exception, the largest and most thoroughly representative gathering of the sort ever convened in Canada. The number present, of earnest thoughtful men, the careful examination of every question presented, the unusual harmony of opinion and readiness to fall in with any line of policy as soon as it was shown to be right and desirable, the close and keen attention invariably given to the subject in hand, the great public interest in the proceedings as evidenced by the attendance of visitors and extensive press reports—these and many other similar features tended to make strongly manifest the magnitude, the high moral character, and the irresistible strength of the present great Prohibition movement.

All the addresses were remarkable for conciseness and point. Hardly any phase of the great temperance question was left untouched, and yet there were no tedious speeches, no wearisome repetitions. Many of the members of the Alliance were here for the first time, many of them had been tried, unfaltering toilers for years, but all were united in making everything give way to concentration upon practical, definite work. There was unusual ability displayed in discussion; the best legal talent of Canada was present, the highest medical ability was represented, the most prominent ministers of many denominations were on hand, the keenest business men of our communities took part, the practical common sense of our intelligent farmers came well to the front, the

recognized official leaders of the different temperance organizations joined in; and altogether the whole meeting was as marked in ability and weight, as in earnestness and importance.

THE REPORTS FROM COUNTIES were full and encouraging. Of our forty-eight Scott Act constituencies there are only eight that have not yet been organized. The work done during the year and its practical results are both remarkable and encouraging, in all probability every county and city in Ontario will have been polled before the end of the present year. Fourteen contests had taken place in 1884, and eleven of these had resulted in Scott Act victories, the aggregate standing as follows:—

For the Scott Act.....	43,955
Against ".....	32,967

Majority for the Act..... 10,988

Four more victories have been won in the present year with an aggregate majority of over three thousand.

THE LAGER BEER AND LIGHT WINES QUESTION underwent a thorough discussion, and there was an unusually able presentation of THE RELATION, TO DISEASE, OF THE USE OF ALCOHOL. The addresses on both of these subjects will form, when published, a most valuable contribution to our Canadian temperance literature, dealing as they do with very important matters, that are neither frequently enough, nor thoroughly enough discussed.

THE MATTER OF SCOTT ACT ENFORCEMENT was one of the most important subjects discussed. The success of the Act in Halton was established beyond all doubt. The soundness of the Scott Act from a constitutional standpoint was made very clear, and no doubt when the question comes up at the meeting of the Dominion Council to which it was referred, some of the amendments suggested for making it still more effective, will be adopted, and pressed upon the attention of the Dominion Parliament.

THE SALOON QUESTION was wisely let alone. The nearly unanimous sentiment of the Convention being, that it is wrong to do anything towards respectabilising the license system. It is desirable to restrict and curtail the traffic as far as possible, and any amendment to license-law in the direction of limiting the number of licenses would be advance legislation, but simply uniting liquor selling more closely with hotel keeping would not have this effect. This business if tolerated at all ought to be placed as far as possible upon its own merits (·) and not buttressed by association with some other necessary and useful occupation.

An important step was taken in the adoption of a resolution looking toward a municipal vote on the question of the issue of licenses. It is worthy of note that while it has been decided that