

## OUR DRINK BILL.

BY G. F. BLISS, BRANDON, MANITOBA.

## • SPIRITUOUS AND MALT LIQUORS.

*Manufactured, Imported, and Used in the Dominion of Canada in thirteen years.*

Years.	Grain used.	Molasses used.	Sugar used.	Spirits produced.	Malt liquors produced.	Duty Collected.
	Bushels.	gallons.	lbs.	gallons.	gallons.	\$ c.
Manufactured 1868 to 1882	17,880,000	74,900	3,200,000	54,900,000	128,000,000	42,000,000.00
Imported 1868 to 1882			1,800,000	31,000,000		22,000,000.00
	17,880,000	74,900	5,000,000	85,900,000	128,000,000	\$64,220,000.00

Shows a waste of Grain 17,880,000 Bushels at 60c. \$10,720,000.00  
 " " Molasses 74,900 gallons at 60c. 44,940.00  
 " " Sugar 5,000,000 lbs. at 10c. 500,000.00

\$11,272,940.00

## MONEY PAID FOR THIS LIQUOR.

"Wholesale" men charge on an average the saloon keepers the following rates:—

85,000,000 gal. spirituous liquors at \$1.00 per gal. \$85,000,000.00  
 128,000,000 " malt " 30c. " 38,500,000.00

Total cost to saloon-keepers etc. \$123,000,000.00

Now let us see what these liquor merchants (?) take out of the pockets of the people by the retail sale of this liquor:

85,000,000 gals. whiskey, etc., at 60 drinks to the gal. contain 5,100,000,000 drinks

At 5c. per drink these will cost \$255,000,000.00

128,000,000 gals. malt liquor at 18 drinks to 1 gallon contain 2,304,000,000 drinks.

At 5c. per drink these will cost \$115,200,000.00

TOTAL CASH PAID BY CONSUMERS. \$370,200,000.00

Now the persons who have bought and drunk this liquor have literally NOTHING to show for their investment, they are poorer to the extent of the amount named. The country is also poorer by the loss of the material destroyed in the manufacture, that otherwise would have been exported, and money or value returned to represent it. The retail dealers have made a profit of \$247,200,000, less their working expenses, and the manufacturers and wholesalers have also made enormous profits. All the money spent by the consumer is not merely loss to him but loss to the aggregate wealth of the community. If money is spent for dry-goods, for furniture, for any such articles of value, there is material with the purchaser equal in value to the money held by the producer and dealer, and the whole community has money and value for twice the amount expended. But the drink business leaves nothing with the consumer, hence the community is poorer to the full amount of his investment and the total loss is as follows:—

Cost of liquor to consumers. \$ 370,200,000  
 Value of material destroyed. 11,272,940

\$381,472,940

This calculation does not take into account the vast amount of indirect loss that the country sustains through the liquor traffic. It simply represents the initial cost to the country of this terrible curse, and the sole return for all this is the revenue. For the comparatively paltry sum of \$64,220,000, the Government opens these hell-gates through which thousands of our best citizens are enticed, the whole country paying for them the enormous entrance fee of \$370,200,000, or, reckoning our population at six millions, a sum amounting to more than \$60 for every man, woman and child in the country.

## Scott Act News.

BRANT.—A large and enthusiastic meeting was held at Cainsville on the 11th, under the auspices of the Sons of Temperance in their hall. The chair was occupied by Mr. Thomas Shaw. The choir of Paris division was present and sang several campaign songs. After the opening exercises the chairman introduced the Hon. Ansley Gray, of Wisconsin, who addressed the meeting for over an hour. He dwelt principally on the question of prohibition and high licenses, showing the advantages of the former over the latter. He was followed by Mr. Thomas Webster, who spoke on the advantages of the Scott Act, as compared with the Dunkin and Crooks Act. On a vote being taken, the meeting was decided unanimous in favor of the Act—*Mail*.

GREY.—A mass meeting assembled in Victoria Hall at Dundalk on the 10th, to hear the Rev. Mr. Keefer discuss the subject "The Scott Act and its working in Halton." For nearly two hours the rev. gentleman, in glowing and forceful language, asserted the right of the State to control and prohibit the consumption of liquor, and the vast superiority of the Scott Act to the Dunkin Act. The question of compensation was also taken up. Evidence complete and satisfactory as to the success of the Act in Halton was also produced, and every objection of anti-Scott men was met as fully as time permitted. At the close of the meeting, when requested to show their sympathy with the movement row on foot, and to avow their determination to use their utmost endeavor to carry the Act if submitted, the whole audience, with but one or two exceptions, responded by a standing vote. The meeting closed with votes of thanks to the lecturer and the chairman, and the pronouncing of the benediction.—*Globe*.

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS.—The recent triumphant adoption of the Canada Temperance Act, or Scott Law, in the County of Arthabaska, by what may be called a spontaneous movement of the people, uninfluenced by outside pressure, claims more than passing consideration. Arthabaska is a central county of the Province. In a population of 20,359 only 810 are Protestants. The clergy acted with the people, and Monseigneur Lafleche, Bishop of the diocese, supported them. Under this guidance this Catholic county becomes the first in this Province in adopting the Temperance Act, and the polling of votes at twenty-six polls may be enumerated as the best evidence of a general and cordial appreciation or the value of prohibition. The total number of votes polled 1,722, for the Act 1,457, against 235, majority for 1,252, was perhaps more than would have been given at an ordinary election.

With this magnificent exhibit of popular sentiment it is clear that if the Bishop of St Hyacinthe and the Bishop of Sherbrooke will accord to the movement the same active influence that has been accorded by the Bishop of Three Rivers to the movement in Arthabaska, the Canada Temperance Act may be carried in all the ten Township counties south of Arthabaska. All the Protestants are ready for the conflict and equally willing to follow or to lead which ever may be most expedient; that is—the Protestants might lead in Compton, Stanstead, Brome, Missisquoi, where they are largely in the majority, and the Catholics might lead in the six other counties where they are in great majority with assurance that the Protestants will support them loyally. The population of the ten counties by census of 1880-81 is 163,741, of which 104,246 are Catholics and 64,495 of other denominations. With these proportions it is evident that the flocks of the Roman Catholic clergy have a double interest in the blessings of prohibition.—*Alpha*.

BRUCE.—The fight in this county is waxing hot. The Anti-Temperance champion has been holding meetings at different points, and several lesser lights are also attempting a defence of the liquor business. Mr. Barker and Rev. Mr. Moore, of Kincardine, are doing good service for the Temperance cause.

On Tuesday evening last a meeting of the ratepayers was held in the Kincardine Town Hall, to hear the Scott Act discussed. Mr. Jas. Barker occupied the chair. Rev. Mr. Cameron, Lucknow, the first speaker, dwelt on the evils of the license system, the cost incurred, and the crime committed as the result of its use. Rev. M. Coutts, spoke on the practical working of the Act in Halton from