

To the Editor of the Canadian Son of Temperance.

MAINE LIQUOR LAW MEETING, AT
CALEDONIA

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It gives me much pleasure to inform you that a meeting was held in the Free Presbyterian Church, in this village last evening, called, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of petitioning Parliament at its next session, to pass a law similar to the much celebrated Maine Liquor Law; at which the following resolutions were adopted unanimously:—

Resolved, That in view of the numerous and wide spread evils, produced in our country by the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, this meeting deems it right and proper to express publicly, its decided conviction, that nothing less than an entire prohibitory law can effectually shield the people of Canada from the evils of intemperance.

Resolved, That a committee of three persons be appointed by this meeting to draft a form of petition to the Parliament of Canada, for the passage of a law similar to the Maine Liquor law,—procure signatures to the same, and forward to some member of said Parliament, for presentation at its next session.

The Rev. Mr. King of Glamford, addressed the meeting at length, urging with much force and energy, the necessity of a prohibitory law, against the traffic in intoxicating drinks, and showing most conclusively, the applicability of the Maine Law to the present wants and condition of the people of Canada.

I should also state that a meeting, was held in the same place, and for the same purpose on Friday evening last, which was addressed by the Rev. Mr. Dick, of your city, who was passing through our place, and very kindly consented to give us a lecture on the Maine Law, for which he will please receive the most hearty thanks of the friends of Temperance in this place. Mr. Dick's lecture was clear, logical, and argumentative, and I think must have convinced every person that heard it, of the justness, and propriety of a law forbidding under severe penalties, the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drinks as a beverage. *Rum-selling* is the egg from from which is hatched all those evils over which we as Temperance men mourn—the deadly *upas tree* which is scattering destruction and death through our country—the *fountain* which continues to pour forth the seeds of disease, wretchedness, and premature death. And no measure deserves the name of a remedy, which does not aim at the destruction of this egg—the cutting up, root and branch of this tree—and the effectual drying up of this fountain.

Rum-selling, and intemperance are inseparable—One cannot exist without the other. Wherever the whiskey traffic is carried on, there drunkenness and intemperance with all the numerous family of evils engendered by them, will surely prevail. Wherever *Rum Holes* are multiplied, there poverty, crime, and misery, will be multiplied. One is a cause, and the others the effects. It is a maxim in philosophy that "remove the cause and the effects cease." What we want in Canada, is a little *Maine Law Philosophy*. There is nothing more true than that the people of Canada can have the Maine Law if they wish it. People may talk of the prerogatives of the Crown, as much as they please, but under our free, responsible, representative form of government, the people, the true source of political power, are and of right ought to be all powerful.

No important measure is likely to pass through our Provincial Legislature, and become a law without the previous sanction of the people. All great reforms, whether of a moral, social, or political nature, were effected only by *teaching, agitation, and discussion*, and the Sons of Temperance, and other friends of the Cause in Canada, will get the Maine Law only by using the same means. *Agitate—agitate—agitate*—should be the war cry of the Sons of Temperance, when petitions are sent out in by thousands. We must *teach* and *talk*, until we have created such a public opinion, and produced such a pressure from without, as shall force our M^s. P. P. to yield to our wishes. If the friends of Temperance in Canada are but true to their principles, true to the cause, success is certain.

In this age of *Reform and Progress*—of stirring speeches, and noble thoughts—of new wonders, and useful inventions—of *science*, *revelations*, and wonderful discoveries, when mind is agitated to an uncommon degree, upon all the great and important questions affecting the happiness and destiny of man, every man, every minister of the Gospel, every newspaper editor, a the

land should define his position in regard to this question.

There should be no neutrality—he that is not for us is against us.

How is it, that so few ministers of the Gospel comparatively, give us their countenance, aid and co-operation; even some of them who are professedly our friends, give a most dreadful uncertain sound on this question. Christian ministers in our country exert, as they ought, a most powerful influence; and this influence if exerted to promote our cause, would materially help to mould a right public opinion—but among some of them there is too much *daubing of intempered mortar*. In some places the whole Gospel is not preached as it should be. Many of them are not inclined to *speak out*, and more that *dare not*. It is really curious sometimes to see a minister of the Gospel, in his sermon or prayer, when enumerating the evils in society about him to be deplored, avoid speaking of drunkenness, or intemperance—there seems to be a studied silence on this point, which is significant. Is not drunkenness a crime, a sin as well as Sabbath breaking? Is not intemperance to be deplored as well as swearing? But I am happy to say that there are some noble exceptions, some *bold out-spoken* ministers who will preach and speak the whole truth whether men will hear or forbear, who fear God rather than man.

Yours Fraternally,

A. C. BUCK, D. G. W. P.
Caledonia, May 20, 1852.

FOREIGN NEWS.

The Whig party in the United States have nominated General Scott for President—the best choice they could politically make, but not the best man. He will be elected in our opinion.—The Cholera on the Southern and Western rivers is prevailing to some extent—139 persons died in one day in New Orleans. Cleanliness and attention to diet with strict temperance are the means to avoid it.—Austria has suppressed General Gorgy's work on the Hungarian Revolution, because it admits that Hungary up to a certain time was justified in her acts.—France is still awaiting the turn of events—watching her northern enemy, Russia. Peace will reign in France so long as Napoleon can find money to pay, and vice and pleasures to amuse the soldiers of France. The people are powerless under the soldiers.—It seems that the God fever is raging to a fearful extent in England. Dozens of vessels are leaving for Australia. There is a tremendous amount of *Gas in human nature* in this generation.—The English House of Commons are doing but little—playing in fact a game of *non-committalism*. It is difficult for them to do—what they are unwilling to advance. The coming elections will probably be against them.—The Catholic Priests in Ireland are trying to stay Irish Emigration.—The English elections will take place it is supposed during this next month.—The Michigan Central and Chiceago Railroad is finished. On the 21st May a train containing 800 passengers passed from Detroit to Chicago from 7 o'clock A. M. to 8 o'clock P. M.—thus a person leaving Chicago in the morning may be in New-York in 48 hours. A train of railroad cars went from Buffalo via Dunkirk to New-York city not long since in a train in about 12 hours, a distance of over 400 miles. The Americans are summing up space.—A sad persecution is going on against the Chinese in California.—The yellow fever is raging fearfully in Rio Janeiro.—A serious battle has just been fought between the English troops and the people of Burmah, in which the British were victorious with a loss of some officers and men. It is difficult to tell what all these Indian wars arise from. It seems some of the Indian tribes are also at war with the British.—The Cape of Good Hope is still the theatre of war, the Kaffirs being at times victorious and at another time discomfited.—The French are about to build a world ship *Crystal Palace*.—Queen Victoria's eldest son, the heir apparent, has a yearly income of £50,000.—Northern whale fishing vessels think that Sir John Franklin is still alive and has got into some ice in warmer latitudes or more open seas.—Great efforts are being made to explore the interior of Africa.—The crops in England and Ireland look well.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Mr. Hincks has arrived in Canada from England—negotiations with the English Ministry for a loan to carry on the Halifax Trunk Railway having failed as Mr. Hincks says, by the coolness and indifference of Sir John Packington. We think it may in the end

be all for the best for Canada. Let us mind our own business.—The chief topics of our Provincial Railways.—The chief topics of our discussion since our last issue in the political are certainly not very important, yet they have occupied much paper.—Dougal McNab, the forger's lawyer, Mr. Hincks—the libel trial of the *North American* with the *Spectator*, and *Mail Bag* contracts—excellent Post Master General.—Just now much is going on about the failure of the mission of Hincks to England.—In July we will be preparing for the August campaign. The tug of political warfare comes on then in Quebec. All we hope for is our members go to work manfully—pass good laws—talk little—drink little—and pass a good anti-licence Law.—Mr. Gough is lecturing in the neighbourhood of Cobourg.—Barrow's great agency is to be in Toronto on the 1st and 2nd July, is worth seeing.

Dr. Gavin Russell has written a letter in reply to the *North American*; we will try to insert it in our next.—It is in contemplation to form a Roman Catholic college for the education of Catholic priests in this city, by Bishop Charbonnel. Dogs are common near Elora, and also in C.atherine's.—Newfoundland is asking for more government.—An agitation is now going on in Canada to make free grants of 160 acres to the settlers; the same plan is adopted in the States.

RECEIPTS OF MONEY.

G. M. C., Port Robinson, \$1, new Sub. W., Dawn Miss, \$4, 5 new subscribers 183; Westminster, \$1 for 1852; G. D., St. Vincent, \$1, 1852; Rev. W. C., Simcoe, \$1 1852.

RECEIPTS OF COMMUNICATIONS.

Br. H.'s Address to the Trafalgar Central we will try and insert in our next. Address from Iron and Lecture from Ianisiff are received—insert a part or all of them in our next. "The Broken Vow," a temperance tale by Thomas, is received and will be inserted. Referred to the cause of delay correctly.

TO OUR AGENTS.

Agents may now take half yearly Sales from 1st June to 1st January, 2s 6d in advance, 3s 9d for the whole volume, taking the numbers, to new subscribers. Old subscribers over 2 months standing in arrears must pay.

MARKETS AND WEATHER, Toronto, June 1st.

The weather since our last issue has been very warm. The thermometer rising above 80 and at other times it has been too cool. On the weather has been rather cooler than usual season. We have had frost in the highlands is abundant, crops of wheat and spring are pretty well, in the front counties. Gardening backward.

Beef \$4 1/2 per 100lbs; Pork \$5 1/2 per do; Mutton to 5d per lb by carcass; Lambs \$1 1/2; Calves \$4 to \$5; Wheat per bush 3s. 8d; Oats 1s 3d to 1s 5d; Hay \$7 to \$10 per ton; Butter 6d to 7d fresh; Eggs 5d to 6d per doz; Toes 3s. to 3s. 9d. per bush; Flour from 1s 18s 9d. per bbl.; Hides \$3 1/2 per 100.

DIED—In this City on Saturday the 13th of the consumption, Miss MARGARET MITCHELL, daughter of Bro. P. Milton of Ontario Division, aged 31. Miss had not been of long duration. She was very generally esteemed, and a member of the Temperance Union of Daughters. Her funeral was attended by a numerous body of citizens and members of various Divisions, as well as Unions of the Son of Temperance in this city.

In the Township of Barton, on the 25th of the Rymal, Esq., at the advanced age of 83 years R. was among the first settlers of the Barton and with his family is connected a very large part of the population of that place.

The deceased was one of the earlier friends of the father of the Editor of this paper, and was many times as a member of Parliament thirty years ago.—[Editor Soc.]