

Branch Depositories and to the trade; and 6,725 were issued by colporteurs. Included in the above are 2,300 copies in foreign languages, and eight in raised characters for the blind. The total issues of the Society since its commencement are 1,276,866.

### THE SENATE AND THE SCOTT ACT.

The disregard of public sentiment on the Temperance Question displayed by a majority of the Dominion Senate has called forth numerous indignant protests throughout the country. From the opening of the present session, a stream of petitions praying that the Scott Act should be made more, not less effective, and the number of counties adopting the Act by sweeping majorities, might have been sufficient to convince the most obdurate that the Canadian people were in earnest in their desire to secure effective Temperance legislation. In the face of this unmistakable desire, despite the earnest protests of the Temperance members of their own body, the Dominion Senate passed the now notorious amendment that would permit the sale of wine and beer in counties where the Scott Act is in operation.

Earnest friends of Temperance are showing that this new effort to undo their work is not to be accepted with complacency. They are not looking on as idle spectators with folded hands. Amid the distractions occasioned by other burning political questions, Temperance reformers are making their voices heard in indignant protest against the unwarrantable action the irresponsible senators have seen fit to pursue.

### Correspondence.

#### MR. HALL'S LETTER.

MR. EDITOR,—I suppose this letter will about finish my communications to you for the present missionary year. You will give me a vacation for a few months, after which I hope to continue my pleasant correspondence. Since writing you last I have visited our church in the city of

STRATFORD,

where we had a very successful missionary meeting on a week day evening. The attendance was much larger than I was accustomed to see in the church on Sunday, the lecture room being quite filled. I learned from the officers of the church that the congregation is steadily increasing, and few church meetings pass without additions being made to the membership. From Stratford I went to

GUELPH

in order to organize a Ladies' Missionary Auxiliary. We had a large attendance and after the public meeting forty ladies remained to identify themselves with the society. The pastor's wife was elected president with good efficient officers; we may expect to hear

from them by-and-bye. Following Sunday I preached missionary sermons in

GEORGETOWN.

Their usual plan heretofore was to appoint collectors who did their work well and earlier in the season. This year the church decided to give collections on Sunday, and dispense with collectors. I fear the society will not be so well supported by this course. But the church has been vacant for about a year, the congregation has greatly diminished, though I imagine the finances have been pretty well sustained, and the debt almost extinguished. Mr. J. W. Pedley was to commence his labours on the following Sunday, and we may confidently expect to hear of the revival of the work in his hands. In

BARRIE

we had a meeting and important conference with the church. You have already informed your readers that the cause in this place had been passing through deep waters. The worst is past. The friends are hopeful, yea, confident. The church has been in existence about three years. During that period nearly one hundred persons have been admitted to fellowship, more than half of them on profession of faith. The two last church meetings seven persons have been added. I think under all the circumstances the success of the work in Barrie has been most satisfactory. The ladies have worked nobly. In addition to what they have done for local work and foreign missions, they have raised \$50 for our society, being \$20 over last year.

EDGAR.

Seeding time is not the best for missionary meetings in the country. Yet we had a large congregation here. The subscriptions had been made for the society, but they were anxious to get information, and the same will bear fruit during the year. There is a tendency among the friends here to put their strength into foreign missions. I am as enthusiastic about foreign missions as any man; but this is a mistake, and it is ungrateful. If the home work is not maintained the foreign work will soon languish, and the churches should remember how long some of them were dependent upon the society, and consider that there are scores of churches throughout the country that could not exist without assistance, besides new fields cannot be opened without more generous giving. Under these circumstances it is neither consistent with our duty to the Master nor our obligations to the society, to consider the home work *second* to the foreign. Suppose for a moment that we should be obliged to close our mission churches, would not this be a loss to foreign missions? Most of the mission churches support the foreign work, and all are on the way to be self-sustaining, when they will be able to do more. Then if we open new churches, they in turn