

THE ONTARIO EVANGELIST.

"Go . . . speak . . . to the people ALL the words of this Life."

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POETRY.

(Written for the Christian Standard.)
THE PEACE OF GOD.

EDMUND SHEPPARD

O, for the sacred peace which God bestows,
Which broods upon the soul with hazyon wings;
The holy peace, which like a river flows,
And which the sweetest consolation brings.

The peace of God, which comes through faith and love,
A calm, through consciousness of sins forgiven;
When tempests which have tossed the soul remove,
Serenely resting in the smile of heaven

The peace of Jesus, which he kindly gives,
To pacify our hearts when filled with fear;
The peace which every troubled soul receives,
Who knows and feels the loving Saviour's near

The peace which from the Holy Spirit flows,
That in the glorious gospel is made known
Longingly in the Christian's bosom glows;
In which "the fruit of righteousness is sown."

The perfect peace which is the good man's end,
The placid hope of everlasting rest;
A tranquil meeting with our Heavenly Friend;
Forever reconciled, forever blest

RIDGETOWN, Ont., Can.

ORIGINAL.

A BATTLE GROUND

It is not, dear reader, of Flodden, of Waterloo, or of Sedan. I write not of any other field of decisive warfare where victory was obtained amid the roaring of guns and the flashing of steel, "with confused voice and garments rolled in blood," but of the conflict that is daily taking place in every Christian's heart and actions;—a struggle in which a triumph is most momentous in its results, and a defeat ominous of the greatest disaster. The warfare which is waged with weapons that are not carnal but mighty, through God, to the pulling down of strongholds;—a struggle between the flesh and the spirit which "are contrary one to another,"—between the inner man which is strengthened and equipped by God and is aspiring after goodness purity and honor on the one hand; and the outer man, instigated by lust and the Devil, striving to overcome all that is noble and Christlike and to bring the victim in captivity to sin and death.

Even the great Apostle felt most keenly the necessity of keeping his body under, from the consciousness that when he would do good evil was present with him, that though he delighted in the law of God, after the inward man, the law of sin in his members was seeking to counteract all his righteous designs and spiritual attainments. Every Christian has, in some degree, the same experience, but we fear, in many cases, without the same glorious termination which Paul had to the conflict.

Under the very best circumstances on account of the flesh being so powerful in its lusts and the enticements to evil so numerous and constant, the advantage seems often to be on the side of the fleshly foe even where prayer, watching, and Christian discipline were not entirely wanting. What then must be the result where all these means are neglected? The answer is to be found in a multitude of wrecked Christian lives, in the thousands and tens of thousands who have succumbed to the influence of worldly mindedness;—who have bartered their precious souls in the purchase of a giddy round of world-pleasure, who have drowned all their spirituality and worked to active warfare their animal propensities by the use of intoxicating liquors; who have allowed the demon of hate and revenge to overcome and destroy every emotion of love and Christian sympathy; who now lie bleeding and dying on the pathway of life! Who having been led captive by the Devil at his will are awaiting a hopeless death and an ignominious and eternal banishment from the presence of the Captain of our Salvation; whose trust they have betrayed;—whose leadership they have deserted and who have proved themselves to be unworthy of the reward of the faithful and the crown of the conqueror.

While all this is true we thank God that there is a numerous host now upon the earth who are determined, through God's grace, to fight to the end—Under the firm conviction that not

withstanding all that is against them a final conquest is assured to those who patiently endure temptation and firmly resist every inclination to wrong; who loyally seek the subjugation of every thought that rises against Christ and his holy cause. Who know that when the struggle is ended in this life that it is ended forever. That Jesus Christ will eventually deliver us from "this body of death" and clothe the immortal spirit in an immortal body to dwell among immortal beings. Where all will be peace and purity with only the joys and the emblems of victory, obtained through Christ, to remind us of our great deliverance.

RIDGETOWN E. MUND SHEPPARD.

IMITATE THE GREAT TEACHER.

He who would become a useful and a successful Evangelist, whether by *via vocæ* or by the press, must be, in heart and life, an imitation of Jesus. He was a genuine philanthropist—a lover of man. It is not enough that the Evangelist be an ardent patriot—a lover of his country and his fellow citizens: He must love all men—not in word only but in deed and in truth. "By the grace of God Jesus tasted death for every man." Paul deemed himself a debtor to all men—Greek and Barbarian, wise and unwise, and bound to preach the gospel to all. Every true man of God possessing the gifts requisite to preach the gospel, should, like Paul, endeavor to cancel his indebtedness to humanity. In his efforts to do so he should keep the Master before him, as a model, especially in adapting his efforts to command the eye, heart and mind of those whom he seeks to turn from the "error of their ways."

In all his labors Jesus sought to gratify the ruling, uppermost, desire of his hearers—providing it was a legitimate one; even though in his wisdom he knew that his hearer or patient needed something else much more than he did the favor for which he prayed. Take the hungry multitude, as an example: They were more anxious for loaves and fishes than to become his disciples. Jesus knew this; but their desire was a call of nature and it was right; but the great heart of Jesus revolted at the plea of his disciples to disperse them to their homes for food. "Give ye them to eat" said Jesus. And he grouped them in companies and miraculously multiplied the loaves and fishes and fed every one. Then he gave them the wonderful instructions which the beloved apostle John has preserved in the sixth chapter of his inspired narrative.

Consider one other example: A blind man shouts: "Jesus, Son of David have mercy on me!" "What do you wish said Jesus." "Lord that I may receive my sight!" Now Jesus doubtless knew that this blind man was a sinner, and that he needed pardon and devotion to his services more than anything else; but the blind man did not feel the importance of this moral and spiritual renovation. Jesus did not defer his grace until he made him a disciple; but he at once removed the poor man's blindness, and light not only shone into his heretofore darkened eye balls but the light of Jesus' teaching into his soul.

These two cases will suggest others. Now for an application: "The wise man teaches that 'he who winneth souls is wise.'" The wise Evangelist will make himself acquainted with the teachings and modes of thought which have heretofore characterized his audiences. In his introductory addresses he will dwell exclusively on the affirmative aspects of all the subjects which he discusses and never declare war against cherished religious dogmas until it becomes evident that they chain the soul and prevent its submission to Jesus.

ZORE.

SELECTIONS.

SCOTT ACT REPEAL.

PREPARATION FOR THE COMING SPRING CAMPAIGN.

In the opposing camps of the believers and non-believers in the Scott Act the most earnest preparations are in progress for a "battle royal" during the coming spring in those counties where

the local option measure is still in force. The opponents of the law have thrown down the gauntlet by the preparation of the necessary petitions for its repeal, while those who have faith in its efficiency have fairly accepted the challenge at Scott Act conventions held in the counties and have embodied a reference to the probable repeal contests in the official call for the meeting of the Ontario Prohibitory Alliance. Petitions for a vote have already been filed in Ottawa for the Counties of Leeds and Grenville, Brant, Wellington, Peterborough, Kent, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington, Victoria, and the City of St. Thomas. But the contests will be by no means limited to this list, as similar petitions are either prepared or in course of preparation in very many of the other counties. For purposes of information in view of the coming struggle a table has been prepared showing the counties wherein the Scott Act is still law, the majorities by which it was carried, the total vote cast, and the total vote at the last general election in these same counties. The value of the last column lies in the fact that at the repeal of the Scott Act in several counties last year the total vote was much increased over that polled at the time of the adoption of the Act, which led very many to contend that "the Act was not beaten by voters changing from "yea" to "nay," but by an independent vote which held aloof during the first contest, willing to give the Act a trial, but being dissatisfied or annoyed by its working, compassed its defeat by swelling the ranks of the "antis" on the repeal vote. Hence the wisdom of comparing the total vote drawn out by the first Scott Act contest with the usual vote of the county at a political election. Due allowance will, of course, be made by the reader for the change in the voters' lists:

County.	Majority for Scott Act.	Total Vote for Scott Act.	Vote of Feb. 22, 1887.
Lambton.....	2,912	6,004	8,946
Oxford.....	776	7,371	6,006
Brant.....	602	2,778	6,042
Leeds and Greenville	674	9,442	9,204
Kent.....	2,393	6,343	6,852
Lanark.....	406	4,460	6,115
Lennox and Addington	36	4,058	6,714
Guelph.....	768	1,230	14,218
Wellington.....	1,430	7,002	
Carleton.....	693	4,187	2,297
Durham and Northumberland.	2,187	9,913	14,349
Elgin.....	1,479	8,149	9,304
St. Thomas.....	11	1,497	
Frontenac.....	516	636	2,081
Lincoln.....	570	3,550	4,469
Middlesex.....	3,375	8,115	15,751
Ontario.....	1,351	5,473	11,192
Victoria.....	1,015	3,969	6,364
Peterborough.....	411	3,422	5,829

*Including Brantford.

The County of Lambton has voted three times already on the Scott Act. It carried it on May 29, 1879, by 215 majority, repealed it on November 29, 1881, by 105 majority, and adopted it again on March 19, 1885, by 2,912 majority. The eight counties in which the Act has been repealed, adopted it by a total majority of 8,646, or an average of about 1,080 votes per county. The highest, however, was Dundas, Stormont and Glengarry, where the majority reached 1,706.

—The Globe.

PHASES OF PROHIBITION.

HOW IT PROMOTES THE MATERIAL WELFARE OF KANSAS.

BOSTON, DEC. 28TH. (Special Correspondence.)—A very important report upon Prohibition in Kansas has just been made by the Stockholders' Committee of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company. The members of the Committee are all residents of Boston, and their views are not colored by local or personal prejudice, but are wholly influenced by cool business considerations. Having examined the workings of Prohibition in Kansas, they are convinced that it is especially safe and desirable for businessmen to make investments where Prohibition is the law of the State and is enforced.

I make the following extract from the Committee's report:

"Believing it to be a matter of financial interest and otherwise to our stockholders, we digress somewhat to treat upon a question which has

been and is agitating the moral, social, religious and political welfare of all sections of our common country. We have no motive other than to apply the deductors therefrom obtained to the value of your Kansas investments.

"Noting the practical effects of Prohibition upon the people of the State, our observations lead us to believe that this movement is a grand success in Kansas, which adds, and will continue to add, value to all the lands in the State. Whatever makes human existence less burdensome, reduces taxation, prevents crime, and destroys pauperism is sure to give tangible and material wealth to any State. From a personal interview with Gen. S. B. Bradford, Attorney-General of the State, we have learned the following facts regarding the beneficial effects of Prohibition:

"In Leavenworth County the saloons were closed in March, 1887. In 1885 there were 36 persons sent to the penitentiary; in 1887, 13; and during the first half of 1888, 5.

"In Atchison County, in 1885, 23 persons were sent to the penitentiary for crimes. In January, 1886, all the saloons in that county, 60 in number, were closed. During 1886 the number of persons sent to the penitentiary was but 13; in 1887, but 6, and in the first half of 1888 but 1 person.

"In Ford County, including Dodge City, the saloons were closed in the fall of 1886. In 1886, 14 persons were sent to the penitentiary; in 1887, 6, and during the first half of 1888, 2.

"There are at present 104 less persons in the penitentiary than one year ago. The jails of the State are practically empty.

"The average of convicts is one-third less than four years ago.

"In four years of Prohibition, grand larceny has decreased 15 per cent., and crimes against persons have decreased 25 per cent.

"There is to-day 1 pauper to every 1,350 persons. In 1880, the last year of the dramshop act, there was 1 pauper to every 750 persons. There is not a barrel of bonded liquor in the State, and there is not a distillery in the State.

"We look upon the above facts, vouched for by such high authority, as a strong argument in favor of moral as well as material progress.

LEVI S. GOULD,

F. C. HOUSON,

A. C. GOSS,

J. E. RANKIN,

Stockholders' Committee.

—The Voice.

WINE-DRINKING IN ITALY.

AN AMERICAN PROHIBITIONIST EXPLODES SOME THEORIES ABOUT NAPLES WINE AND NAPLES WATER.

[Rev. J. W. Bashford, D. D., of Portland, Me., late the Prohibition candidate for Governor of Maine, sends us the following letter as the result of his experiences in Genoa, Pisa, Naples, Rome, Florence and Venice, during the vacation trip of five months which he, and his wife are enjoying.—EDITOR THE VOICE.]

Editor The Voice.—We have been assured that there is no liquor problem in lands where wine is native. We have even been told that the use of wine is a necessity which we would be forced to recognize when we visited Italy. Truth is better than one's theories, so we came with free minds. At the same time we could not see how a change of location could change the scientific fact that alcohol is a poison; or how alcoholic, and therefore poisonous, wine could be good for the human system in its normal state.

May 23rd we met some gay Americans in Naples, who, in a warm climate and with summer advancing, were drinking not only the wine of the province but the wine of various provinces of Italy, and German beer. One of them assured us that the Naples water was very dangerous, and that he had not tasted it since his arrival. He did not know that Naples has spent \$26,000,000 in the last six years in bringing the purest mountain water into the city from springs forty miles distant.

Besides, an old wine drinker the day before, while pressing us to take some wine of the province, assured us that wine from the other provinces was badly adulterated. He said: "Naples is the most fertile wine district in Italy. Wine brought in from other provinces must pay the cost of transportation and an import duty, and yet it is sold at the price of native wine. How is this possible without large adulteration?" We conveyed this cheery information to our gay American friends, and assured them that they had probably taken more poison into their systems already than ten years' use of Naples water would

(SEE FOURTH PAGE)