

# THE CANADA CITIZEN

AND TEMPERANCE HERALD

Freedom for the Right Means Suppression of the Wrong.

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## The Canada Citizen

AND TEMPERANCE HERALD.

A Journal devoted to the advocacy of Prohibition, and the promotion of social progress and moral Reform.

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TORONTO, FRIDAY, AUGUST 8th, 1884.

This number is sent to many friends whose names are not yet on our subscription list. Will they kindly aid our enterprise by forwarding their dollars and addresses? It is desirable to subscribe early, as we propose making every number well worth preserving for future reference and use.

### THE PROHIBITION PARTY.

A political movement of the greatest significance and interest has been organized by the temperance workers of the United States. There has sprung into existence a large well-organized and enthusiastic party, that cannot fail to play an important part in the nation's coming history. The old political parties were formed with reference to issues that are not live questions to-day, and instead of being the respective holders and workers out of diverse views as to how to deal with grave problems, the solution of which is of the utmost importance to the nation's welfare, they are little more than relics of a by-gone struggle, and rival combatants for the spoils of power. It is one of the evils of the party system that it keeps up the antagonism that was engendered in quarrels long buried, and too often progress is sadly hampered by a clinging to old dividing lines that keep in the back ground the claims of questions which ought to be dealt with at once, and that would form issues worthy of the men who are too often found bickering over unworthy trifles, or plotting merely for influence or position. There is no other question before the public to-day that equals in importance the liquor question. There is no other evil that produces so much present harm, or threatens so much disaster. The attention of legislation has been directed to this again and again; they have been urged to recognize

the urgency of the situation; but trammelled by entangling party connections, they have failed so completely to rise above factionism to real statesmanship that, the earnest workers for the cause of right have been driven to take politics into temperance because Democrats and Republicans persistently refused to let temperance into politics.

The old Republican party was born of the crying need of a nation for deliverance from the terrible curse of slavery. The new Prohibition party has been called into existence by as deeply felt anxiety for deliverance from a more terrible curse. Based upon eternal principles of justice and truth, and backed by the irresistible power of an awakened national conscience and a spirit of philanthropy, it seized the reins of power and despite the resistance even to blood of greedy avarice and bitter prejudice it safely guided the chariot of State through the turmoil of a terrible war—out to the broad highway of prosperity and power along which it has travelled for a quarter of a century. With this noble example before them and with as worthy and holy a mission to fulfil, the prohibition party to-day—after appealing in vain to the men who ought to be the guardians of the nation's weal—has called upon the American people to rally round the standard of justice and philanthropy once more, and we believe the American people will respond. Wisely and unitedly have the leaders acted thus far in the campaign. Worthy and blameless representatives have they chosen to carry their banner. Many of them have gone into this contest at great personal sacrifice, but of this they have not even spoken. Moral reforms now move with an accelerating velocity such as was unknown in days when the great public had everything to learn and little means of learning it. We look for glorious and speedy results from this new crusade, and we wish its soldiers a hearty God speed.

There is a lesson in all this for our Canadian statesmen. The best men of our Dominion are now zealous in the cause for which their co-workers in the United States have taken up arms. We will not form a Canadian Prohibition party if we can have Prohibition without it, but we must have Prohibition. If they will they can now do us justice and retain our support.

We give our readers some interesting paragraphs from the statement of principles adopted as the platform of the American Prohibition party:

That the importation, manufacture, supply and sale of alcoholic beverages, created and maintained by the laws of the National and State governments, during the entire history of such laws is everywhere shown to be the promoting cause of intemperance, with resulting crime and pauperism; making large demands upon public and private charity, imposing large and unjust taxation and public burdens for penal and sheltering institutions upon thrift, industry, manufactures, and commerce, endangering the public peace, causing desecration of the Sabbath; corrupting our politics, legislation, and administration of the laws; shortening lives, impairing health, and diminishing productive industry; causing education to be neglected and despised, nullifying the teachings of the Bible, the Church, and the school, the standards and guides of our fathers and their children in the founding and growth under God of our widely-extended country, and which, imperilling the perpetuity of our civil and religious liberties are baleful fruits by which we know that these laws are alike contrary to God's laws and contravene our happiness, and we call upon our fellow citizens to aid us in the repeal of these laws and in the legal suppression of this baneful liquor traffic.

The fact that during the twenty-four years in which the Republican party have controlled the general Government in many of these States no efforts have been made to change this policy, that Territories have been created from the National domain and government