

Mr. Spence, Secretary of the Dominion Alliance, was at Paris last week, and addressed a remarkably successful meeting. Rev. Jas. Grant was chairman, and among the prominent gentlemen present were Rev. Messrs. H. Hughes, Ballantine, Brock, Blackstock, and Boyle, T. Webster, Esq., Reeve Ackland, Deputy-Reeve Robinson, Jno. Baker, Esq., etc.

At the close of the meeting which was very enthusiastic, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by a standing vote: "Having heard the Canada Temperance Act so clearly explained by Mr. Spence, and believing it to be superior to any other License Law on the Statute Book, Resolved, that we strongly declare ourselves in favor of its passage in the county of Brant."

The following resolutions were adopted at a recent meeting of the Paris Ministerial Association:—

1. "That this association deems it dutiful in present circumstances to declare, that, in its judgment, the appalling results of the liquor traffic in waste, poverty, misery and crime, not only justify but demand the service of the Legislature in protecting society from this evil.

2. That it therefore welcomes the Canada Temperance Act of 1878, as the best available means for the legal suppression of the traffic in question.

3. That whereas this Act is likely to be submitted at an early date to the electors of Brant County, it hereby recommends the said Act to the prayerful consideration of the inhabitants of our good town of Paris, who are electors, with a view to their intelligent action on the day appointed for the popular vote on this highly important matter."

Signed,

JAMES GRANT, Baptist Minister.

JAMES BALLANTINE, Presbyterian Minister.

HENRY HUGHES, Congregational Minister.

W. H. W. BOYLE, Presbyterian Minister.

THOMAS BROCK, Methodist Minister.

HALTON.—Mr. Robert Bennett, a tavern-keeper of Georgetown, was recently committed to Milton jail on a warrant executed by constable Paige, of Kilbride, the conviction being for a third offence against the Scott Act. On Saturday a writ of *habeas corpus* was issued, and Mr. Bennett in company with jailer Vamellen and D. McGibbon, barrister, went to Toronto, where, at Osgoode Hall, Justice Osler granted Mr. Bennett his freedom. The case has a peculiar history.

On the 10th of January, 1882, Mr. Bennett was convicted for a second offence and fined \$100 for keeping intoxicating liquor for sale. The magistrate, in writing out the conviction, inadvertently omitted to insert the words "for sale," and did not notice the error for some days after. He at once wrote out another conviction with the words inserted, which he had a perfect right to do, provided no appeal was entered in the meantime. Both conviction records were transmitted to the proper officer, and then Mr. Bennett entered an appeal in the Court of Queen's Bench. Both records were brought up at the court and the first was quashed but the second held to be good, thereby confirming the conviction as for a second offence. He then appealed to the Court of Appeal, and the case still stands there undisposed of.

On the 23rd of April, 1884, Bennett was convicted of a third offence, and a warrant issued for his commitment for two months. The execution of the warrant was delayed for reasons which reflect credit upon the forbearance of the magistrate, and about midsummer Mr. McGibbon, the defendant's lawyer, tried to have a fine substituted for imprisonment, and was referred by the magistrate to Crown Attorney Fenton of Toronto for his opinion. Mr. Fenton recommended the magistrate to accept a fine of \$100 as for a second offence, inasmuch as the case in appeal had not been disposed of. This was done, and Mr. Bennett gave his note for \$100 due in two months, but it was not accepted by the magistrate because the endorser was not acceptable. The matter stood in this shape until last week when the warrant was executed with the result before mentioned. Now it appears that Justice Osler's attention last Saturday was drawn only to the quashing of the unamended conviction of the magistrate for Bennett's second offence, and no notice was taken of the fact that the Queen's Bench affirmed the amended conviction in the same case. From this it will be clearly seen that the police magistrate has acted legally and regularly throughout. We presume nothing further will be done till the Court of Appeal renders judgment in the case that has stood so long on the record.

—Halton News.

YARMOUTH, N.S.—The following has been condensed from the Kentville, N.S. *Watchman*:—Between the first day of May last, the date on which the Dominion License Act was supposed to become law, and at which time the Local Law, by which the traffic has been held in check was virtually repealed by the Dominion Legislature and the 16th September, the date on which the Scott Act came into force—the advocates for Prohibition were of the opinion that there was no law to enforce to restrict or prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors in this county.

Notwithstanding this unpleasant state of affairs in a county where no licenses have been granted for upwards of forty years, and from which many a vendor has had to fly to avoid the full penalty for violation of the local license law, there has been very little increase in drinking or drunkenness, as none of the local people availed themselves of the opportunity to engage in the business. But there are always some who, possibly driven from their former place of residence, seek to take advantage of an opportunity when it offers. A few of this class strayed into our town, and for a time their weekly supply of beer came from St. John; and cases where plentiful where the offices of the policeman and gaoler have been called into requisition.

After the Act came in force on the 16th of September, the Yarmouth Co. Temperance Convention held its annual meeting, and appointed a public prosecutor, and members of the convention and a number of other citizens pledged a large sum of money to be used if necessary in enforcing the Act.

Within less than thirty days from the date of the Act coming into force, sufficient evidence was secured to enable the prosecutor to enter suits.

In the case of one Major, two actions were begun simultaneously, the first by summons and the second by warrant, and rather than go to jail pending the trial, he paid into court sufficient to cover the fine and costs in both suits. When the cases were called a few days later, the defendant had an affidavit and medical certificate fixed, stating that he was too sick to attend, and prayed that the trial be deferred until the following day. This the Stipendiary granted, but when the hour for trial came, it was discovered that the sick man had decided to change his place of residence, and, doubtless much to his own discomfiture. He preferred to forfeit his deposit, rather than remain and risk a third action, that would likely follow, in which case, our gaoler would have had a lodger for at least 60 days.

In another case, that of a man named Carter, who had been prosecuted for vending liquors in a barn, the defendant admitted having given people bottles, but that he had obtained them for them at their own request, these people furnishing the money, and he procuring the liquor through the medium of another man (not now to be found), who went down street and returned with the bottles.

The defendant was convicted and ordered to pay a fine of \$50 and costs, and a promise obtained from him not to act as agent for thirty men any more.

The Scott Act has scored its first victory in Yarmouth.

TORONTO.—The West End Christian Temperance Society holds its anniversary entertainment in St. Andrew's Hall on Tuesday evening the 18th inst. The Hawkins Jubilee Singers will be present, and a rare musical and literary treat may be expected.

The Y. L. C. T. U. held their monthly meeting on Thursday Nov. 6, in the lecture room upstairs in Shaftesbury Hall, Miss Robinson presiding. The Band of Hope Committee reported having secured Wolseley Hall, cor. Yonge and Gerard sts., for Friday afternoons from 4.15 to 5.15. The following young ladies were appointed to take charge of this branch of work:—Misses Drummond, Scott, B. Drummond, and Skinner. On Friday the first meeting of the Band of Hope was held, eighteen children being enrolled as members.

A meeting of the Toronto Temperance Electoral Union was held Tuesday evening in Shaftesbury Hall. There was a full attendance. Rev. John Smith was Chairman and Mr. James Thomson, Secretary.

The meeting proceeded to consider the report of the Executive Committee, held just before the meeting. This report recommended that the petitions for the submission of the Scott Act in Toronto be circulated at once.

Mr. James Thomson moved the adoption of the report. A lively and earnest discussion arose.