

cab driver, coarse in his nature and given to acts of violence. Whiskey makes strange friendships which often come to a bad but not unnatural end.

The other sensation was caused by the failure and flight of two brothers named Buchanan, who have long stood in the foremost rank of business men in Louisville. They were the unfortunate proprietors of an enormous quantity of whiskey, which, owing to overproduction rather than lack of consumers, has been for several years a heavy drug on the market. Distillers having made too much of the stuff, Congress was appealed to for permission to leave the whiskey in bonded warehouses and pay the excise duty of 90 cents a gallon on it as it was taken out for consumption. The request was refused, and the prospect of having to pay this heavy duty on their present stocks is causing the distillers no end of trouble and anxiety. The only way to evade the duty was to send the whiskey abroad and store it in some foreign country in bond. Canada naturally presented itself as a good field to operate in, but the Canadian Government properly declined to connive at such an evasion of the law of a neighboring country. Large quantities have been stored in Bermuda, but at a cost so great as to make the loss not much less than would be inflicted by the payment of the tax. The Buchanans have for some time past been paying \$80,000 a year in interest as the result of an overload of whiskey. It is probable that their failure will be followed by others, more especially as the spread of the prohibition movement makes the future of whiskey-making very uncertain.

STAND TO YOUR GUNS.

Day by day we are cheered and encouraged as the tidings come steadily in of the brightening prospects and overwhelming success of our work all over the Dominion. With thankful hearts we praise our Heavenly Father for what has already been accomplished, and look forward hopefully to still greater things to come. "Our experience worketh hope," and we "Thank God and take courage."

Halton has added another to the glorious wreath of substantial moral victories that the electors of Canada are weaving to adorn the records of their beloved land; another strand to the mighty cable of opinion and law that will soon bind the liquor traffic in such helpless captivity that the monster will be powerless to work the ruin with which he now devastates our homes.

Pending this contest, work had been almost suspended in other places. It was known that the liquor power was making Halton the battle-ground in which to test what money and work could do to stay the advancing tide, and our workers anxiously waited the result. Besides this, the busy fall season had compelled a temporary relaxation of the earnest efforts that were put forth, and so for a time the Scott Act agitation has been somewhat delayed.

Now the period of anxiety and the pressure of the farmers' work are over. Through God's grace the flag of victory floats over the late battlefield, and our barns are verflowing with an abundant and safely garnered harvest. There is no reason for any longer waiting. In gratitude and faith let us rally round the old banner once more and let every soldier fall into line to complete the conquest that has been assigned us.

In most of the Ontario counties work is going on. Let it be pushed with renewed energy and determination, and forced to a conclusion as speedily as possible. There are a few counties that have not yet formally entered the fight. We earnestly call upon them to lose no time in beginning. The Dominion Council of the Alliance at its last annual session called upon our Province to take the lead in the fray, and we want to report every county polled. Where no county organization exists, let a few leading men at once unite in a widely circulated call for a convention to discuss the situation and

prepare for immediate action. The present time is unusually opportune, and it is earnestly hoped that no county will fail to do its duty in taking advantage of the rising tide.

Any information or assistance in his power will be promptly and gladly furnished by the Secretary, whose post-office address is 8 King St. East, Toronto.

N.B.—Funds for aiding the campaign are much needed by the Provincial Council. Many friends have responded very liberally to calls for financial assistance, but more money is still required, and all friends who favor the cause are urgently requested to do what they can towards supplying the want. All expenditure is controlled by a finance committee, and is made judiciously, economically and efficiently. Let us have the sinews of war. Contributions will be thankfully received and acknowledged either by the Secretary or by the Treasurer, Mr. H. O'Hara, 31 Adelaide St. East, Toronto.

Selected Articles

THE SCOTT ACT QUESTION.

The Mitchell *Advocate*, a staunch Tory paper, discusses prohibition in the following style:

"The vote for the repeal of the Scott Act in Halton was taken on Tuesday, and resulted in its being sustained by 180, or 99 more than the Act was carried by three years ago. The change has been very slight, but there is not a doubt but that the result will affect the vote in other counties some. In Perth, if a vote is ever taken, we are not afraid but that the Act will be defeated by a very large majority. Only two or three municipalities at most in the whole county, it is generally believed, will cast a majority in favor of robbing liquor dealers of their property and interfering with the liberty of the subject. Let the trial come when it may, we are ready. We have nailed our flag to the mast, and we will not desert the ship until the last gun is spiked."

But this question of robbery we don't quite understand. Does the *Advocate* hold that a man who has a license for one year thereby acquires a right to a license every subsequent year? If not, then what does our contemporary mean by robbing the liquor dealers? The law does not recognize a general right to sell. Our license law is a police regulation. It recognizes prohibition as the normal state of things, and it limits the issue of licenses to a very small number of the population and for a period of twelve months. At the end of the twelve months the license is at an end, and the holder has no more authority without a new license to sell liquor than his neighbors. But the theory of the liquor dealers having a right of property that is interfered with, is a very odd one indeed. The wife and children of the drinking man, according to the theory of the *Advocate*, have no rights that a liquor dealer is bound to respect. Nor have the public at large any right to take precautions against pauperism.

Not long since we read of a case in an American journal—a Mr. James Bond, who had been at one time in good circumstances. He became addicted to drink and wasted his property; his wife protested against the saloon-keepers in the neighborhood giving him drink. The saloon-keepers thought the complaint most unreasonable, and refused to comply with her wishes. The wife's complaint gave Mr. Bond great offence and he put her outdoors in a storm, and she was found dead on the way to a neighbor's dwelling. Mr. Bond committed sudden suicide. There were three children, who were too young to support themselves, and who had to be provided for under the poor law by the State, which enacted that they should be put up at public auction and assigned to the lowest bidder, who was to provide them with the necessary food and clothing. The amount, of course, was a charge upon the municipality. We should like the *Advocate* to say whether the municipality had not the moral right to protect itself against the multiplication of burdens of this kind. If the *Advocate* is ready to contend that liquor dealers shall bear the expense of pauperism and the crime that drinking occasions, we can better understand its argument. There are those who maintain that the owner of a vicious animal has a right to allow it to run at large so long as he is responsible for damages. Governments have never acted upon this view but the *Advocate* goes much farther,