



War Notes.

MONTREAL, APRIL 4, 1885.

MR. S. H. BLAKE AT BELLEVILLE.

A Suggestion for the New Orleans Exhibition.—The "Wine and Beer" Fraud.

The Hon. S. H. Blake addressed a large meeting in the Belleville Opera House a few days ago, and said:—

The movement would succeed just so sure as there was a prayer-answering God. Like all reforms it was meeting with violent opposition, but in a few years people would be wondering how they had done so long without the Scott Act. One thing favorable to the Act was that indifference had been overcome and people were coming to understand that they were their brother's keeper. When a drunkard is mentioned we feel a touch of sympathy, but does it stop with sympathy for the drunkard? I plead with you earnestly, he said, for the wife and family. At the present time nearly all large manufacturers were exhibiting the results of their labors at the New Orleans Cotton Centennial. How do you suppose, asked Mr. Blake, an exhibit of palsied men, impoverished women, and destitute children would look as the result of the liquor manufacturer's labor? If the pulpits in this city would band together to support the poverty and distress caused by the liquor traffic, one church, the smallest in the city, could support those cases which are not caused by intemperance. The people, he said, should not neglect to support the Scott Act because it was not a prohibitory measure. The Temperance people had asked for a more complete measure from the Government, but were told that when they showed that the people wanted prohibition, they would get it. They must work together, shoulder to shoulder, regardless of politics, the rankest Grit with the best Tory—that's the way you put it, I guess, (laughter)—and pass the Act. If the Government can be shown that the majority of the people of Ontario and the Dominion want prohibition we will get a prohibitory law. He would not speak upon the subject of compensation, but he had noticed that liquor manufacturers had been making money while the sun shone, and he did not think they would be impoverished by having to change their business. He believed there were men in the business who were unhappy because of its bad effects. The cry for light wines and beer, he said, was a great fraud. Those weak stimulants would soon lose their tinkle and a bigger tinkle would be in demand when they would have to have stronger drink. It has been the verdict of England, Germany and France that beer, instead of educating the people away from intemperance, was educating them up to drunkenness. In speaking of moderate drinking he said some said be a strong man and drink to moderation. Which is the stronger man, the man who drinks to moderation, or the one who never drinks? Here to my right is the firm rock of total abstinence, to my left is

the pit of the habitual drunkard, and the bridge of moderation spans the intervening space. A man will not reach the pit unless he passes upon the bridge. Alcohol does not assimilate with any part of the body, but is cast out and rejected. He believed there would be no loss by the passage of the Scott Act. A large amount would be saved by not having the poverty to relieve and the criminals to provide for at the jails. A great many drinking men were anxious to have it cast out to remove the temptation. What was moderate drinking to some men was destruction to others. He would like in a short time to hear that Belleville and Hastings County had rolled up a handsome majority for the Act.

As the speaker took his seat he was greeted with prolonged applause. The meeting was brought to a close by singing God Save the Queen.

ADVICE TO OUR READERS.

As our readers are aware, War Notes was started to assist in the Scott Act campaign of last Summer. The enthusiastic way in which it was received, and the height to which its circulation rose in a few weeks, was most gratifying. Although, owing to its price, it could result in no pecuniary gain to ourselves, unasked testimonies from all parts of the country make us thankfully certain that this little paper has done much toward bringing about the grand result which have cheered our cause.

The time seems to be at hand when we can honourably retire from the field, our mission being largely accomplished. Many local papers now consent to publish just such temperance and campaign intelligence and arguments as it was our especial care to furnish. And it is much more desirable that the cause should be taken up by the regular press.

We shall very shortly announce the date at which the publication of War Notes in its present form will cease. But the "War Notes" themselves will not cease. This paper will be united with another, and the "War Notes" will continue to sound in no uncertain tones in the columns of the WEEKLY MESSENGER. The latter has already won its way into every part of this continent. It contains much more than double the amount of reading matter in War Notes, including full news of the week, written in the most interesting style, and beautifully printed in large type, with stories of absorbing interest, and matter for every member of the family,—besides portraits of "Men of the Time," and other abundant illustrations.

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HOW PROHIBITION HURTS!

By ELI PERKINS.

"Britons," said President Cotten, "spend annually £140,000,000, or \$700,000,000 in drink, an average of \$19 for each Englishman."

Germany has 11,800 breweries, which turn out 846,000,000 gallons of beer.

America spends \$900,000,000 annually for rum and tobacco. The money wasted in drink in England, Germany and America would buy all the bread and meat eaten by the three nations.

This awful burden compels twice the amount of labor in the world. This drink burden makes two-thirds of our sickness and three-fourths of our crime.

"Yes, but you don't have to bear this burden if you don't drink," says the drunkard.

You are wrong, my friend; I paid \$425 taxes on my New York house last year. What was this tax used for? It was to govern a city where three-fourths of the arrests were made on account of drunkenness. I can govern myself, but I have to pay \$425 a year to be protected from the criminal classes, made criminals through rum.

I was lecturing out in Kansas last spring, where they have prohibition. An intemperate man came to me one day and said—

"Yes, Mr. Perkins, this prohibition will bring ruin to the State."

"It will, will it?"

"Yes, it will impoverish us and destroy our business houses."

"Now let's see about this, my friend," I said. "Let's examine this a little."

"If a Kansas farmer brings a thousand bushels of corn into Topeka, he gets how much for it?"

"Four hundred dollars," answered my friend.

"Now, if they take this thousand bushels of corn over to Peoria, how much whiskey will it make!"

"Four thousand gallons."

"And this whiskey is worth—how much?"

"O, after they have paid four thousand dollars revenue tax on it to the other thirty-six States, it will be worth about \$4,600."

"And if this whiskey should come back to Kansas you would have to pay about \$4,600 for it?"

"Yes, more too. We'd have to pay about \$5,000 for it."

"Would it be worth anything to your citizens?"

"No; I suppose it would cause a good deal of idleness and crime. It would hurt us. I never did think whiskey a positive benefit. I—"

"Well, how much would it hurt you?" I asked.

"O I can't tell. I—"

"Well, I'll tell you," I said. "It will hurt you directly about five thousand dollars worth. You would sell the corn from which this whiskey is made for \$400 and then buy back the whiskey for \$5,000. You would be directly out of pocket just \$4,600. And, indirectly, it would cost Kansas, in idleness and crime—caused by the four thousand gallons of whiskey—about \$20,000. It would take 16,000 men a day apiece to drink it up, if they drank a quart a day each. The loss of 16,000 days' labor to Kansas would be \$20,000, wouldn't it?"

"By heavens!" exclaimed my friend, "I never heard it put in that way. I see it all plainly now. I'll never say anything about prohibition damaging Kansas again."

"Yes," I said, "If Kansas can save \$25,000 on every thousand bushels of

corn by letting it go over to Peoria, the more she is damaged that way the richer she will become, till finally, Illinois, utterly impoverished, will have to call on Kansas to lend her money to build poor-houses. But there is one thing in Kansas," I said, "that will be ruined by prohibition."

"What is that?" asked my friend.

"Why, her poor-houses. Your poor-houses and jails will become empty. Think of a poor-house with not a soul in it but the poor-matter! Think of a jail without a convict—poor bankrupt jail and poor-house!"

THE BANNER COUNTY!—Lambton's majority turns out to be 2922 votes, being 4,468 for the Act, and only 1,546 against the Act. Here are the official figures:

	For.	Against.
Sombra	392	90
Enniskillen	292	55
Moore	538	162
Bosanquet	315	84
Warwick	395	91
Sarnia township	188	40
Plympton	417	92
Dawn	148	40
Euphemis	197	51
Brooks	284	96
Sarnia town	322	94
Petrolia	242	70
Arkona	73	14
Alvinston	59	67
Wyoming	107	28
Forest	142	119
Oil Springs	74	15
Watford	117	44
Thedford	69	18
Point Edward	97	85
Total	4,468	1,546

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