

propose to ask. The simple facts of the case are, that their traffic is being curtailed by the operation of the Scott Act, and they want some legislation that will stop this diminishing of their business.

The liquor traffic is our country's greatest curse. There is no political fact better known than this; there is no proposition of political science more fully or more clearly demonstrated. Men who are working for the extension and perpetuation of the liquor traffic are working against all the best interests of society; they are working in the interests of our country's ruin and shame. Legislation in favor of drink would be retrograde, unpatriotic and sinful.

Our parliament exists for the conservation and benefit of society. In the carrying out of these objects it has been steadily restricting and curtailing the awful curse of drink-selling. Any other line of action would be a turning aside from the legitimate functions of a legislative body, and would be treason to the community that elected it. The drink traffic antagonizes society, legislation is for the protection of society, legislation must be against the drink-traffic. Good government must antagonize the liquor business, and every one knows that the liquor business antagonizes good government. The audacity of the whiskey-sellers is unparalleled. It is a direct insult to a government that exists to protect society against evil, to ask it to protect an evil against society. The people are sick of the whiskey business, and the whiskey business must go. If any government tries to keep it from going, that government will go along with it, and we have no fear that any government would rather fall with whiskey than stand without.

Two things are clear, (1) efforts are about to be made to have retrogressive legislation enacted, (2) we must resist such efforts with all energy and persistence. We have little fear of Government heeding the selfish and unreasonable requests of a beaten and dying cause, but it is our duty to do all we can to strengthen the hands of Government in their opposition to such proposals. The liquor party have been beaten at every game that they have yet attempted to play; if we stand united and immovable we will win another signal victory in the contest they are now about to inaugurate.

## DOMINION ALLIANCE.

### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE QUEBEC BRANCH

The annual meeting of the Quebec Branch of the Dominion Alliance was held in Montreal on the 20th ult. We are indebted to the *Daily Witness* for the following report:—

#### MORNING SESSION.

The Alliance met in Association Hall, the president, Mr. T. S. Brown, in the chair. There were present the following members:—

The Revs. W. Galbraith, J. Kines, D. W. Morrison, Mr. Jamieson, A. B. Chambers, J. A. Newnham, Mr. Lindsay, R. A. Campbell; Messrs. John Gough, J. M. M. Duff, — Wallbridge, F. E. Grafton, J. S. Hall, senr., Bradwood, McNaughton, J. H. Cayford, Henry Morton, A. S. Lebourveau and others.

The Rev. Mr. Morrison, of Ormstown, led with a short prayer.

The President, in opening the meeting, for the business of the day, was received with applause. He referred to the work done during the past year, and congratulated the Alliance upon the success that had been so wonderful. He remarked that the unification of the several churches for the work of the temperance cause was most gratifying to reflect upon. The outlook was full of hopefulness, and the work called for vigilance and activity, and by working on this line success must crown their efforts in the end. He went on at some length, and after detailing what their work should be, he resumed his seat amid applause.

After organization and appointment of Committees the Committee on Nomination presented the following report:—

President, Mr. J. Redpath Dougall; Vice-Presidents, His Lordship Bishop Bond, Mr. T. S. Brown, the Hon. James Ferrier, Sir A. T. Galt, the Ven. Archdeacon Lindsay, of Waterloo; Mr. J. S. Hall, Dr. Wm. Marsden, of Quebec; Mr. Wm. H. Lambly, of Inverness; Dr. Christie, of Iachute; Lieut. Col. Dyer, of Sutton; Mr. A. A. Ayer, the Rev. Dr. Potts, the Rev. A. G. Upham, the Rev. Geo. Jamieson, of Aylmer, Mr. Wm. McNaughton, of Ormstown.

Secretary—The Rev. D. V. Lucas.

Recording Secretary—The Rev. James Kines.

Treasurer—Mr. J. M. M. Duff.

Committee—Messrs. D. Bentley, S. A. Abbott, J. H. Cayford, the Rev. J. H. Dixon, the Rev. E. M. Hill, Dr. Bazin, Wm. Drysdale, James Baylis, F. E. Grafton, R. Irvine, S. A. Lebourveau, the Rev. Robert Lindsay, the Rev. James McCaul, Henry Morton, N. R. Mudge, the Rev. J. A. Newnham, Walter Paul, the Rev. J. Scrimger, David Teas, the Rev. A. B. Chambers, LL.B., the Rev. G. H. Wells, C. T. Williams, J. A. Mathewson, Edward Murphy, J. B. Rolland, Thos. Aiken, J. J. Curran, Q.C., M.P., Duncan McDonnell, the Rev. Alex. Campbell, M. B. Jewell, East Farnham; John Gough, of Medford; A. S. Wallbridge, of Mystic; S. F. Morey, H. A. Elkins, of Sherbrooke; Abel Waters, of Hull; Wm. S. McLaren, David Boyd, Huntingdon; C. J. Fleet, Ald. J. Grenier, R. S. Smith, and H. L. Robinson, of Waterloo.

The report was on motion adopted.

A deputation from this branch of the Alliance was appointed to attend the meeting of the Council in Ottawa on the 5th and 6th of February.

The meeting then adjourned.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Alliance met again at 2 o'clock.

The Rev. Mr. Lucas congratulated the Alliance in having elected Mr. J. R. Dougall, and he now moved that that gentleman take the chair. Carried.

J. R. Dougall thanked the Alliance for having selected him for so honorable a position as that of president. Business might prevent him from giving that time and attention to the work of the Alliance necessary for its success. He, therefore, hoped that the committee would reconsider their choice and try and find some prominent citizen for the office who might have the assistance of a chairman of committee.

Mr. D. V. Lucas, Secretary of the Alliance, read his annual report.

This document detailed the prohibitory work done in the Dominion during the year referring specially to Quebec as follows:—

In the Province of Quebec the work has not advanced quite so rapidly as in some of the other provinces. This has not arisen, however, from the lack of a sentiment favorable to prohibition of the traffic in spirituous liquors, but from other causes. In a province where two different languages are so widely spoken, and where religious and even political distinctions are so marked, harmonious and united action in any given direction is not so easily and so quickly secured as where these peculiarities do not exist. We are glad to know, however, that the truly philanthropic work in which we are engaged so fully commends itself when thoroughly understood to the hearts of all Christian people that all these obstacles are being overcome, and the good cause is daily rising higher and higher above all ecclesiastical and political distinctions. Since the campaign of the summer of 1884 began, the "Scott Act" has been submitted to four counties and carried in three. It is a source of pleasure and encouragement to us to report that in this Province, where so many of our fellow-citizens are of the Catholic faith and speak the French language, that the county of Arthabaska, where the electorate is almost entirely composed of French-speaking Catholics, was the first to adopt the prohibitory law by a majority of 1,252. During the past year His Grace Archbishop Taschereau, and some of the bishops also, have carefully studied the nature and the aim of the Canada Temperance Act, and the result is, His Grace, as also Bishop Laflèche, of Three Rivers, and Bishop Racine, of Sherbrooke, have declared themselves the warm friends of the Act, and have promised their hearty co-operation. We anticipate, therefore, during the present year a much more rapid advancement of prohibition sentiment and work than heretofore. We are more hopeful in this respect since His Grace has kindly given his consent to allow his imprimatur to accompany each copy of an edition of 20,000 of the Scott Act in the French language. We confidently expect to see large and beneficial results from this action. Our best thanks are due Dr. Marsden, president Q. V. A., for the valuable assistance given our secretary in this matter. We have during the year held in several parts of the province four picnics, at which addresses have been delivered by many prominent gentlemen, both clerical and lay, among the latter several members of our Federal and Provincial Parliaments. The number attending these gatherings have been large; in some instances as high as 2,500 persons have been present, all of whom were apparently deeply interested in the subject almost exclusively dwelt on, the entire prohibition of the liquor traffic. A few meetings have also been held in several parts of the city of Montreal. By means of our temperance literature depository, kept by Mrs. Gales, several hundreds of volumes of valuable literature have been distributed. We sincerely urge upon our friends throughout the province to avail themselves of the opportunity which the depository offers them to secure very useful and reliable literature on the temperance question at very cheap rates. Mrs. Gales' address is 105 Mansfield street, Montreal. Our secretary has during the year travelled largely over the province attending conventions, assisting in and directing campaigns, and stirring up by lectures and personal visitation an active interest everywhere in our very important and laudable movement. We have been greatly assisted and encouraged by the persevering energy displayed by our sisters of the W. C. T. U. We feel that they are a power in the land in securing the abolition of this terrible curse to humanity, and we sincerely hope that every well-wisher of our people and of our race will render them all possible assistance in the multiplication of unions where they may desire assistance in this direction, and otherwise, if feasible, add to their means for usefulness.

The Rev. Mr. Campbell moved the adoption of the report, which motion was seconded by Mr. McNaughton, and the Rev. Mr. Jamieson. The report was considered to be very satisfactory, and was carried unanimously.

Resolutions were passed