

LOCAL PROHIBITION.

One of the indications of a growing interest in the principles of the Temperance Reformation, is the adoption in several municipalities of the Dunkin act. The success or failure of the law in these municipalities and the varied difficulties with which our friends have had to contend, will be laid before you, and will, we hope, receive your careful consideration.

PROHIBITORY PETITIONS TO THE DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

The uncertainty existing at the time of our last meeting, regarding the respective powers of the Provincial and Dominion Parliaments, in reference to the Liquor Traffic, received a quietus by the ruling of the Speaker of the Ontario Legislature, the purport of which was, that whilst each Provincial Parliament can dictate the conditions under which the traffic may exist within its jurisdiction, the Dominion Parliament alone can control a question affecting Dominion revenue, and therefore, to that body we must appeal for a law, prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drinks throughout the Dominion.

The Ontario Legislature memorialized the Dominion Parliament in favor of such a law. All friends of temperance throughout the Dominion should continue to do likewise, until a settlement of the question, as far as Legislative enactment is concerned, is attained.

Through the efforts of the Leagues in Ontario and Quebec, nobly seconded by the various temperance organizations of both Provinces, the question of Prohibition was brought before the country, and introduced into Parliament last spring. The petitions did not by any means represent the feeling that exists in favor of Prohibitory Law, but nevertheless were valuable expressions, and resulted in good. The discussion of the question in all parts of the country, and what is more, the discussion of the question on the floors of both Houses, and the subsequent reports of the Committee greatly strengthened and encouraged temperance reformers. The petitions from this Province were according to your request, forwarded to the Hon. J. Ferrier, and C.O. Colby, Esq., who kindly took charge of them in their respective Houses and to whom our thanks are due. We also record our deep sense of gratitude to Hons. Vidal and Flint, of the Senate, and Messrs Bodwell and Ross, of the Commons for the manner in which they supported the prayer of the petitioners. The able and interesting reports already alluded to, are too important to pass over without further notice. The Senate Committee after referring to the evils alluded to in the petitions, place on record the following truthful and emphatic declaration.

"Your Committee are fully convinced that the traffic in intoxicating liquors, in addition to the evils already mentioned, is detrimental to all the true interests of the Dominion, mercilessly slaying every year hundreds of her most promising citizens; plunging thousands into misery and want; converting her intelligent and industrious sons, who should be her glory and her strength, into feeble inebriates, her burden and her shame; wasting millions of her wealth in the consumption of an article whose use not only imparts no strength, but induces