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THE TEMPERANCE HERALD,

A WEEKLY FAMILY JOURNAL OF SOCIAL PROGRESS AND MORAL REFORM.

"FREEDOM FOR THE RIGHT MEANS SUPPRESSION OF THE WRONG."

VOLUME IX.

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It is true that the Scott Act has been repealed in seven counties, and from this fact some people will infer that in those counties the Scott Act was not appreciated. But no theorizing, no speculation, no manipulation of figures can get over the solid facts contained in the report of the Provincial Secretary, laid before the Ontario Legislature at its last session. That report shows that in all those counties which have gone back from license to Scott Act, there were during their last year of license ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY commitments to jail for drunkenness; while during the last year of the Scott Act enforcement there were ONLY THIRTY-SIX.

A member of Simcoe W. C. T. U., writing to a local journal on the recent triumph at the polls of the whisky party says:—

"What do the mothers now say? God help them, for it would seem that vain is the help of man. Well, take courage, mothers; if God be for us, who can be against us? And if your respect for the husband that took you for better or worse has fallen one hundred per cent. since the vote was taken, remember that there is still a God in Heaven who judges righteously, and says to those of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, for I will come with a recompense and will save you.'"

In the report of the Medical Superintendent of the Insane Asylum at London, published in the annual report of the Inspector of Prisons and Public Charities, there occurs the following statement:—We have passed another year without using or requiring to use alcohol in any form, either in sickness or health, and I am more than ever convinced that in the treatment of all kinds of disease, as well as in health, this drug is not only useless but injurious."

The Toronto License Commissioners finished up their work on Monday last, going to the full limits allowed by law, and issuing 150 tavern licenses. We are pleased to see that they refused to renew the licenses of some parties whose taverns were notorious as the resort of bad characters; but they might have gone further, it was not necessary we think, to give licenses to make up the full amount of those that were out off. We expect to publish the list in full, and make some remarks upon it at a later date.

We notice that some party journals in the United States are agitating in favor of a High License Law for the State of Maine. Now Maine has Prohibition, Practical Prohibition, Actual Prohibition. If the High License people believe in High License as a means toward Prohibition, why in the world do they want, when they have got the end, to go back again to the means?

The 10th day of April last was the fiftieth anniversary of Father Mathew signing the pledge, and it was duly honored by his followers in many places. Father Mathew commenced his temperance crusade in 1838. In less than nine months 136,000 names were on his pledge roll. Protestants as well as Catholics followed his noble example, and the total number he enrolled is estimated at about 5,000,000. Here is an extract from one of his addresses:—

"What filled our jails and bridewells? The effects of intoxication. What crowded the very lowest cellars? Drunkenness and its effects. What fed the very gibbets? Drunkenness. I never will give up until we are freed, with the blessing and the assistance of God, from all these deplorable evils. Since there are, it is strange, look with an evil eye upon me. But cannot I say, in the words of St. Paul, 'Am I your enemy because I tell the truth?' Let them show me any one brought to misery or ruin by total abstinence. Show me any one brought to the jail by total abstinence. Show me any one brought to the hospital by total abstinence. Oh, no! not a single one."

The question of High License as a means of securing the immediate restriction of the liquor traffic and ultimate Prohibition is still doubted, but it surely ought to have been definitely settled by the revelation of the startling fact that the distillers and brewers of the United States were cordially and energetically working in its interests.

ONTARIO ITEMS.

Fines, Conventions, Votes, Enforcement, etc.

The Oakville Ont. Council of R. T. of T. initiated 21 new members at its last week's meeting.

All the hotel-keepers in Campbellford, Ont., were fined recently for Scott Act violation.

George King, of Scotland Village, Brant Co., Ont., and his sister-in-law, Miss Davidson, were each fined \$50.00 and costs for Scott Act violation a few days ago.

Scott Act constables must be let alone. James Wilkie, of Exeter, was recently fined \$5.00 for obstructing two of these gentlemen in the discharge of their duty, and T. H. Hyndman was committed for trial for a similar offence.

Ontario County, Ont.

Central Ontario is having a good deal of educative work at the present time. Rev. B. B. Keefer has been campaigning with large success in South Ontario and Durham. A number of local ministers there have been preaching temperance sermons, and Mr. W. W. Buchanan, of Hamilton, has been down stirring up the Royal Templars. We wish them all the largest kind of success.

A County Convention.

The county of Wellington, Ont., held a big Prohibition Convention at Fergus, last week. The District Council of the R. T. of T. was in session at the same time. A great deal of enthusiasm characterized both meetings. On Wednesday evening a mass meeting was held in St. Andrew's church, presided over by Rev. Mr. Mullan. Addresses were delivered by Messrs J. Waddell, and C. S. Pedley.

A Big Batch in Bruce.

Police Magistrate Vanstone, of Bruce county, held court at Walkerton last week, and imposed the following sentences upon Scott Act violators: Mary Kunim, Mildmay, \$50 and costs or 90 days; John Floch, Mildmay, \$50 and costs or 90 days; Andrew Zettel, Mildmay, \$50 and costs or 90 days; Wm. Clark, Walkerton, \$50 and costs or 90 days; Wm. Farquharson, \$50 and costs or 90 days; Joseph O'Bright, \$50 and costs or 90 days.

The Renfrew Votes.

The full returns for Renfrew county as published in the Pembroke Observer give the following as the result of the recent voting:

For Repeal	2500
Against Repeal	1870

Majority against the Scott Act 910

The figures for this county on the vote of November 7th, 1887, were:

For the Scott Act	1748
Against	1018

Majority for the Scott Act 730

The Figures for Huron.

The official returns for the county of Huron are published, they give the total vote in the recent campaign as follows:

For the Repeal	6006
Against the Repeal	4725

Majority against Scott Act 1280

Total vote polled 10731

Total number of votes on the list 17439

The vote by which the Scott Act was carried was polled on October 30th, 1884. The following were the figures:

For the Scott Act	6987
Against the Scott Act	4504

Majority for Scott Act 2483

LOOK CAREFULLY at pages 812 and 813 of this Paper.

Presbyterians on Prohibition.

A FIELD DAY AT TORONTO.

Is it Right for the Church to Declare in Favor of Prohibition?—A Hot Discussion—The Toronto Presbytery says Yes.

There was an unusually interesting discussion on Tuesday at the monthly meeting of the Toronto Presbytery, over a series of resolutions introduced by Dr. Kellogg, which were really intended to express disapproval of the action taken heretofore by the Presbyterian Church. The supporters of the resolution were opposed to the church's declaring in favor of the Scott Act, Total Prohibition or any other legislative measure for the suppression of intemperance. The main discussion centred upon the third and fourth resolutions which were worded as follows:

2. That while this Presbytery therefore holds it to be the duty of the Church to exhort her members conscientiously to bear their part as citizens in seeking to free the community from the curse of drunkenness, they yet regard it as beyond the authority given by Christ to His Church for any Church court to pass any official judgment as to the specific method in which the civil power may best deal with the evil of the liquor traffic, seeing that in no such deliberation could she justly claim to be speaking from the Word of God and with the authority of Him whom alone we appoint to represent, provided always that nothing in this resolution shall be construed to deny the right of petition in cases extraordinary or "advice for satisfaction of conscience" when "required by the civil magistrate," as specified in the Confession of Faith, chap. ix. 1, 2.

3. That whereas, the questions addressed to sections by the Assembly of the Temperance Commission in regard to the voting of Church members in municipal and Provincial elections, and their practice in respect to total abstinence, would require if properly answered, an incursion into personal conduct touching matters which Holy Scripture clearly leaves to the individual conscience, (therefore) in the judgment of this Presbytery as forth in the second resolution which, according to the New Testament, all official action of the Church should ever be governed.

Dr. Kellogg's resolutions were seconded by Rev. H. M. Parsons, and were debated with much ability and vigor, several amendments being submitted.

Dr. Kellogg claimed that the Church in her official capacity was bound to testify against all things that were evil, but must never command anything which Christ had not commanded, nor forbid anything that Christ had not forbidden. His position was that, as Christ had not directly specified any kind of legislation, as the best method of dealing with evil, the church was debarred from meddling with a Church with legislation. The Church had a right to denounce drunkenness, and call on legislation to aid in removing drunkenness but had no right to direct law, and specify methods for this end. The Church should work by following Christ's example, urging right principles on the consciences of their members, leaving those principles to be developed, and leaving the members free to act upon them.

Rev. H. M. Parsons held the same views, claimed that the insisting of special methods of working out, even right principles, inculcated in the New Testament, when the methods were not there also laid down, must be a stumbling block in the way of the Church.

Rev. Professor Gregg claimed that the Church was not confined for guidance to the New Testament. He quoted from Exodus, the legislation in reference to the dangerous ox, which held the owner responsible. He claimed that the common law of the Presbyterian Church allowed the petitioning of Parliament, not simply on general lines, but for the purpose of drawing attention to special cases and asking for special legislation. He instanced the Act in regard to Clergy Reserves; he claimed that this was done in reference to the slavery question. He showed that in the old country the Church had memorialized the Government regarding the state of the Crofters. The Irish Presbyterian Church had taken similar action in regard to Home Rule. It would be tyrannical to compel a church to close her mouth in matters which concern the Church and State as well.

Dr. Reid considered the resolution objectionable. It could be understood as covering all questions of public morals. It would require the Church to remain silent, if it were proposed to repeal the law prohibiting the sale of liquor to Indians. Had John Knox believed in such principles, civil and religious liberty would never have been secured. He regretted the resolution and would be surprised to find them approved.

Rev. Mr. Friswell called attention to the fact that Dr. Kellogg's resolutions had been mailed behind bars, and made use of by liquor men. This convinced

him that those who supported them were on the wrong side. He felt humiliated that an elder in the Presbyterian Church could say, what one had said at the last meeting. The Presbyterian Church had always maintained the right to present its views to the governing bodies of the country. In Great Britain it petitioned for Local Option, for Sunday closing, and for many practical measures.

Rev. R. P. McKay claimed that Dr. Kellogg's resolutions would deny to the Church the right secured in the Confession of Faith. While the Church ought to have scriptural authority for legislation binding men's consciences, it was right for the church to recommend to its members specific action in methods governed by scriptural principles, although such detailed action was not commended directly in the Word of God. On these principles the church must act. A good deal of legislation must refer to matters, always coming up in a new form, and in respect to which there would always be new light. He moved the substitution of the following, for Dr. Kellogg's resolutions.

That while this Presbytery therefore holds it to be the duty of the Church to exhort her members conscientiously to bear their part as citizens in seeking to free the community from the curse of drunkenness, they yet regard it as beyond the authority given by Christ to His Church for any Church court to pass any official judgment binding men's consciences as to the specific method in which the civil power may best deal with the evil of the liquor traffic, seeing that in no such deliberation could she justly claim to be speaking from the Word of God, and with the authority of Him whom alone she is appointed to represent, but it is lawful for any Church court to recommend to its members or to the State, any specific legislation that may seem to it at the time most likely to accomplish the end in view.

The discussion now grew warm. Rev. G. M. Milligan objected to all organized effort for moral reform in the Church, and thought the General Assembly ought to discontinue the Temperance Committee. Rev. D. J. Macdonnell believed that the Church was exceeding her rights in meddling with the details of civil government, and he argued at length on the lines of Dr. Kellogg's address.

Speeches were also made by Rev. Dr. McLaren and Revs. R. Wallace, John Neil, P. Nicol, A. Mitchell, and John Mutch. Finally, on a vote, Mr. McKay's amendment was adopted by a vote of 19 to 9.

Indecent haste.

The South Bruce liquor party are rushing things. The petitions for liquor licenses for the coming year were in the hands of the officials before the Scott Act vote. Voting took place on April 19th, and on the 23rd the license commissioners met and granted the licenses; although the Dominion Parliament had not as yet enacted the legislation necessary to allow these licenses to go into operation before May 1st, 1889. Surely these officers must be going ahead of their instructions from the Ontario Government.

A Rider on Rum.

The following is a statement of the great champion bicyclist, Rowe, which is evidence of the strongest kind, in favor of total abstinence from intoxicating drink and a condition of the fullest development of physical ability and skill. "I have consulted the finest doctors and physicians in the United States, and they tell me that the greater part of my success lies in my abstinence. I feel myself that it is so. I am just as good one day as another. I never have an off day, whereas people who take stimulants are good today and nothing the next day. It sometimes takes them a fortnight to get back again into good order. Brother professionals have admitted as much to me. When I rode my greatest distance in an hour I had not done any work on my bicycle for a week on account of bad weather, and though I thought I should not be in condition, yet when I came to ride I found I accomplished the greatest performance ever yet done in the world—and all on tea, too, my boy."

Catholics Among the Kiekers.

The Catholic Temperance Advocate, the organ of the Catholic Total Abstinence Society of the United States says: "We believe the time has arrived when our Catholic Total Abstainers should cease to endeavor by their influence on other temperance men and independent voters, to teach both of those parties that such action as has disgraced our state will no longer be tolerated, and the only remedy is to support the third party movement. If the servants of the people will publicly buy and sell voters on election day we must come to the conclusion that they are a dangerous class, and the safety of the state or nation is no longer safe in their hands."

Our many friends in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island will very much oblige us, by frequently sending us all the latest facts in reference to the progress of our cause in their respective localities. We find some difficulty in getting full details from the far east.

Royal Templars.

This Order has experienced unparalleled prosperity during the months of 1888. Since the 1st of January an increase of over 4,000 is reported in Canadian membership. In the same time \$10,000 has been added to the surplus of the Benefit Fund. The Emerald Revival team have just completed a three week's campaign in Montreal, filling the largest churches of the city nightly, and adding, in round numbers, 600 members to the Order in that city. The Dominion Councilor who has just returned from a trip to eastern cities, instituted a fine new Council in Kingston and a new select degree at Newtonville. The Order still keeps five Royal Revival teams constantly in the field carrying on gospel temperance meetings.

A Pretty Kind of a Judge.

We referred last week to an outrageous mis-carriage of justice in an appeal case tried before the Prince Edward Island Supreme Court, Judge Peters presiding. It seems that a man convicted of selling beer in violation of the Scott Act, had appealed against the decision made, on the ground that beer was not an intoxicating drink. A contemporary refers to the extraordinary judgment given on the appeal in the following terms: His Lordship, in delivering judgment to-day, said that it was open to very grave doubt whether or not the Act was not wholly void for not defining what percentage of alcohol must be in liquor before it came within the meaning of the Act; but that was unnecessary to decide, as he was of opinion that neither ale, beer, or light wines were intoxicating within the meaning of the Act; and on that ground the conviction must be quashed. His Lordship stated further that there was a very great distinction between "intoxicating liquor" and "exhilarating fluids," and Bass ale or light wines came under the latter head, and their sale was not a breach of the Act.

LAWLESS LAW-OFFICERS.

A Disgraceful State of Things.

Two or three times it has been our duty to call attention to the fact that in this province, men whose business it was to enforce the Scott Act, were known to be notorious violators of the law themselves. That this experience is not peculiar to Ontario, we learn from the following paragraphs taken from a recent issue of the Nova Scotia New Star:—

The Scott Act came up in a new role in the Supreme Court of New Brunswick last week. One Jardine had been convicted of selling liquor and the evidence showed that he had sold to four persons, viz: the magistrate who tried the case, the constable who served the papers and the two lawyers employed on the case. Upon these facts it was sought to have the conviction quashed on the ground that the magistrate who tried the case was an aider and abettor to the crime and therefore disqualified to give judgment. The argument to establish this was based upon sec 8 of chap. 145 of Revised Statutes and sec. 12 of chap. 178, the former of which is in the words following:

"Every one who aids, abets, counsels or procures the commission of any offence punishable on summary convictions, either for every time of its commission, or for the first or second time only, shall on conviction, be liable for every first second or subsequent offence, of aiding and abetting counselling or procuring, to the same offence and punishment to which a person guilty of a first, second or subsequent offence as a principal offender is liable."

And the latter section of which reads thus:

"Every one who aids, abets, counsels or procures the commission of any offence punishable on summary conviction, may be proceeded against and convicted either in the territorial division or else where the principal offender may be convicted, or that in which the offence of aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring was committed."

Thus the question was raised as to whether or not the man who buys liquor within the jurisdiction of the Scott Act is an aider and abettor and consequently a party to the crime. The question was before the Court several days and no satisfactory decision has yet been reached.

READ pages 812 and 813 of this Paper.