

## The Temperance Worker

SATURDAY, MAY 24.

## PROHIBITION IN VIEW.

The movement for the general adoption of the Canada Temperance Act throughout Canada is rapidly gaining volume and strength. One of the best evidences of the breadth, depth and power of the agitation is the serious concern with which it is viewed by the conductors and supporters of the liquor traffic. They are organizing in every constituency and subscribing money freely to oppose the adoption of that excellent measure of permissive prohibition. Although their advocates in the press and on the platform repeatedly declare that the effect of the Act will be to create a large an unlicensed sale of liquor as now exists licensed, all the same they are going to fight tooth and nail against the introduction of a law that will let them sell as much as ever and without relieve them from license taxation! It cannot be too often repeated that the present is one of the most critical junctures in Canadian history, from the opportunity, to be improved or cast away, which the people have of utterly overthrowing the monster evil that is the most dangerous enemy the new nation can possibly harbor. This can in a great measure be immediately achieved through the Scott Act itself if the organizations to carry it be continued for its enforcement. Our highest hopes regarding the Act, however, concern it as a stepping stone to entire national prohibition. Parliament has solemnly recorded its obligation to enact prohibition whenever the people show their readiness for it. There is no way in which readiness for the larger measure can be more effectually shown than by the adoption of the Act in most, if not all, of the constituencies of Canada by large majorities, and then the insistence upon its enforcement by unmistakable popular sentiment in both speech and action. Petitions for prohibition, if they could be got, signed by three-fourths of the electors of the Dominion would be less convincing to our wise legislators of ripeness for the act than the local option law of 1878 firmly administered over the greater part of the country. If, at the expiry of three years after the general adoption of the Act, it was still in force and favor, and no extensive movements for repeal were attempted, or, if attempted, successful, then Parliament would believe its record if it did not immediately enact a law prohibiting the importation, manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in the Dominion of Canada. The man who is indifferent in the present struggle is an enemy of his race and country.

A DOZEN LADIES AND GENTLEMEN employed in New York as telegraphers, teachers, and writers, last year leased a tract of land at Bergen County, New Jersey, on which they erected a cocoonery. This new enterprise in the culture of silk-worms proved so successful that they intend to start 200,000 worms by June 1st, 16,000 being the number raised last season.

ON MONDAY LAST George Peters' house at Sharbotake, Ontario, was burned and with it Peters, his daughter of eight years old, and a young woman named Bridgen were burned to death, their bodies being almost totally consumed. The fire was caused by a lamp being dropped and was afterwards spread by some one throwing water on it.

## THE WEEK.

A LEIPZIG ANTIQUARIAN has in his collection two unprinted productions of Beethoven when he was only twenty-one years old. One is a canto on the death of the German Emperor Joseph II., and the other a canto on the accession of Leopold II.

SINCE THE OPENING OF NAVIGATION this spring the lumber trade from Ottawa is reported as quite unprecedented and there is a great demand for barges to carry the lumber.

GREAT EXCITEMENT has been caused by the report of a morganatic or left-handed marriage between the Grand Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt, widower of the late Princess Alice, and a Russian lady named Mme. de Kalamire. It was understood that the Duke was to have married Princess Beatrice if the bill legalizing marriage with a deceased wife's sister had passed.

THE SECOND READING of the Channel Bill has been rejected by a vote of 222 to 84 in the British House of Commons. The opposition to this proposed dry road under the sea to the Continent is one of the strangest exhibitions of British sentiment ever known. It is a most striking illustration of the insular prejudices of John Bull, all the more remarkable when viewed along with his other more prominent characteristics. Great Britain is the most free and open-doored nation in the world in commercial matters. She is also the most hospitable and secure a refuge to the oppressed subjects and political fugitives of other nations. The so far insurmountable prejudice against making a mere molepath beneath the silver streak of sea that divides the United Kingdom from the rest of Christendom shows what great importance the British people place upon their insular position, from which they are able to defy the world. Perhaps they are right in this, and, indeed, it is not impossible to conceive of invasion being several degrees more feasible to Britannia's enemies with the Channel Tunnel than without it.

THE CONTRACT for the Brant memorial monument to be erected in Brantford, Ont., has been awarded to Mr. Percy Wood, of London, England. The work will be done in England and the monument shipped to Canada in time to be erected on October 1st, 1886. It will cost \$16,000. This is a fitting tribute to the memory of the Indian chief, Joseph Brant, who so materially assisted England against the colonies in the Revolutionary War and also in the previous war with France.

BAKER PASHA has returned to England from Egypt and was well received. His gallant conduct when at the head of the Egyptian army has aroused a great deal of sympathy for him, and twelve thousand signatures have been obtained to a petition to the Queen in favor of his being restored to the position in the British army which he lost by a breach of morality some years ago.

TO SHELTER THE FARMERS OF FRANCE from competition the Government of that country proposes to cover them with the rags and tatters of protection in the shape of taxation on imported cereals and cattle.

COMMENDATOR PERICOLI, a prominent politician of Rome and a former member of the Legislature of Italy, has been arrested under charge of a long series of fraudulent transactions.

A BANK CASHIER in Bavaria, Germany, committed suicide to avoid the disgrace of being arrested for embezzling nearly fifty thousand dollars.

THE FAILURE OF THE ORIENTAL BANK has caused wide-spread consternation, and suicides have been plentiful. What trouble innocent people would be saved if banks had the same restrictions as are within the constitution of the proposed Colonial Bank of Germany, which forbids the bank to issue notes, deal in its own shares, speculate or acquire landed property or advance money thereon.

MRS. WEBB, the widow of Capt. Webb, who perished last year in his attempt to swim the rapids below Niagara Falls, has accepted the position of cashier of the Whirlpool Rapids Park near the falls.

THE FACT THAT a large number of New York and Brooklyn merchants have sent a petition to Congress asking for a reduction of import duties shows that the reaction in favor of free trade is gaining strength in the United States.

ON OPENING UP a freight car at Altoona, Pennsylvania, the bodies of two young boys crushed so that they could not be recognized were found among the lumber, which must have rolled in on them.

THE GOVERNMENT OF MADAGASCAR has offered France one million pounds on condition she will give up all claims to land in the island.

A VERDICT has been given in favor of Mrs. Langtry, against whom a suit for breach of contract was entered in the New York courts by Arthur E. Carwood. The spokesman of the jury said they had not been influenced by the lady's fascinating powers but by justice.

FARMERS NEAR QUEBEC are complaining of the want of help and have left off some of their heavy work for this year. Truly our immigrants who "can't get work here" do not go far to look for it.

THE CZAR is taking the right course to gain the confidence of the people. On his son becoming of age a grand *fele* was given and the Czar and his son drove through the crowd without an escort and in an open carriage.

VICTORIA LODGE, Good Templars, at Stellarton, Nova Scotia, has over 220 members.

A BAND OF SPANISH BANDITS have been sentenced to imprisonment for life by a court-martial at Pamplona, Spain. The case has been appealed to the supreme council of war, the captain-general thinking that the sentence should have been death.

THE INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY has opened an office of the line in Quebec. The next thing to be done is to erect a bridge across the river opposite that city. Legislation has been effected to that end, but it remains to be seen whether action will be taken under it.

THE KING OF SPAIN is under medical treatment, as it is thought that he is consumptive.

THE PRINCESS LOUISE of Battenburg forgot the regal dignity so far as to actually jump over the royal coal-scuttle, in doing which she sprained her ankle.

THE PRUSSIAN LEGISLATURE has been snubbed for an alleged violation of a clause in the Prussian Constitution which says that executive power rests with the King only. The Lower House of the Prussian Diet had dared to request the Government to punish certain officials. Now it is informed that it must not do so any more.

HOWELL & Co's BANK at Spokane Falls, Colorado, has failed and the proprietors have taken flight, after, it is thought, squandering between thirty and forty thousand dollars.

COLONEL J. J. HICKMAN, the Good Templar orator from Kentucky, is under engagement by the Grand Lodge of Good Templars of Nova Scotia to deliver a series of lectures in that Province, beginning in June.

THE MEMBERS of the Money-or-your-life fraternity in California are not all weeded out yet. The Yosemite stage was recently waylaid and the passengers relieved of three watches and \$60 cash. So it appears that even in the present stage of civilization there are other rogues besides defaulters, embezzlers, speculators, &c.

TWO YOUNG MEN named Desjardins and Groulx, boarders at St. Joseph's College, Ottawa, made off to Montreal with a large sum of money belonging to their parents.

EDWARD KING, in a letter from Paris, states that Governor Stanton has decided to give several million dollars to found a university in California for the sons of working men, the university to be called after his deceased son.

DAMAGING DISCLOSURES are being made in England regarding the commissariat department in the Anglo-Egyptian campaign of 1882. The hay for forage was mouldy and loaded with brickbats and rubbish. Cattle were landed and then left untended to stray over into the enemy's lines. In many cases troopships and transports were overloaded, necessitating such valuable stores being thrown overboard to save the vessels. Branding irons as big as frying pans were made at the Woolwich Arsenal, and their use disabled hundreds of mules for which treble value had been paid. Officers of the department have testified that they received word from time to time of outlying detachments of British troops who were in a starving condition, but to whom it was impossible to send food because of the utter inefficiency of the transport service.

This is a huge scandal for staid old England, above all to be found in the army service that is supposed the world over to be a model as to order, method and efficiency. AN OLD MAN of 61 years has been sentenced to spend his declining years in prison in the state of California for attempted poisoning. Such crimes, horrible in any case, appear tenfold worse when committed by patriachs like this man.

THE PACIFIC STATES appear to be competing successfully with their Eastern brethren in the fruit line. An exhibition of strawberries from the ranch of Mr. Murphy, of Brighton, Cal., contained berries an inch in diameter and an inch and a half in length.

THE CITY ENGINEER of Philadelphia says the water supply of the city is horribly polluted. If city governments were as solicitous about the supply of nature's beverage as they are about that of the deadly drinks sold in the saloons, human life would be a good many percent longer in cities than it is.

THE REV. ROBERT IGNATIUS, who died lately in New York at the comparatively early age of forty-five, was a well-known Jesuit priest. After receiving a college education he was married and moved to San Francisco, where his wife died. He then joined the Jesuit order in Canada, being ordained in 1879, and was ultimately stationed on Blackwell's Island under direction of the Society of St. Francis Xavier.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED by the Association of Superintendents of Insane Asylums of the United States declare that one-third of the insane people are brought into the country by immigration, and urge the attention of Congress to the subject.

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