

The Canada Citizen

AND TEMPERANCE HERALD.

Journal devoted to the advocacy of Prohibition, and the promotion of social progress and moral Reform.

Published every Friday by the

CITIZEN PUBLISHING COMPANY,

OFFICE, 8 KING STREET EAST, TORONTO.

Subscription, ONE DOLLAR A YEAR, strictly in advance.

CLUB RATES:

The Canada Citizen is published at an exceedingly low figure, but as some of our friends have asked for Special Club Rates, we make the following offer:—We will supply

5 copies	one year for \$4 00.
12 "	" 9 00.
20 "	" 14 00.

Subscribers will oblige by informing us at once of any irregularities in delivery.

Subscriptions may commence at any time

Agents Wanted Everywhere.

All communications should be addressed to

F. S. SPENCE, - - - MANAGER.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, JUNE 19TH, 1885.

MEN, WOMEN, AND THINGS IN GENERAL.

Thomas Wentworth Higginson, in one of his sensible articles on "Women and Men" in *Harper's Bazaar*, specifies some obstacles in women's way to useful and remunerative employment, which he regards as "removable." One of these is social pride. "A young man when he has his living to make, ordinarily puts his pride in his pocket; a young woman does not, and this is a very great difference. . . . It is a distinct advantage in employing a young man, that he can be called on for anything; he considers that he sells me his time and does not trouble himself to consider whether the service is menial or not; he is not sensitive as to what door he comes in by, or suspicious as to the manner in which the servants treat him. When a woman is thoroughly gifted with good sense the same is true of her. . . . Woman can never compete with man in the labor market except by putting social pride, as he does, into temporary retirement."

There is much truth as well as good sense in these remarks, as there is in most of what Mr. Higginson writes. His criticism is enforced by the statements of a Washington correspondent who recently investigated the working of the Civil Service there. In some of the Departments a qualifying examination is prescribed, and, on the testimony of a member of the Examining Commission, women stand this test on the average better than men do. On the other hand, the chief of one of the bureaus gives a number of reasons why men are generally preferred to women as clerks, in spite of the capacity of the latter for finer work in many lines, such as copying. Women, he says, lose more time by sickness than men do, and when they are ailing they elicit more sympathy and cause more work to be thrown on others. "Then you do not care to boss a woman around like you would a man, or scold her if she should fail to do her work. And then there are women who will not stand being reprimanded, and talk back to you savagely and then subside into a spell of the sulks that will last several days. All of this is very unpleasant, and it does not occur often with the male clerks. . . . Another reason is that women stir up more trouble in the offices than men; they gossip more and fall out more with each other, and at these times make themselves generally disagreeable to all the clerks in the room. Occasionally a lady clerk will throw the whole room in an uproar about some trifling thing that a man would never give

a thought to. Again, an occasional flirtation between the clerks will give us trouble." There are some obstacles in women's way that, as Mr. Higginson implies, are not removable, such as want of physical strength, the incumbrance of dress, etc.; but these are obstacles only in certain lines of employment. It is to be regretted that their usefulness in other lines, such as correspondence, book-keeping, copying, drawing, etc., should be marred by defects like those specified above. Time will, no doubt, eliminate these defects, but this process may be greatly hastened by judicious home training. Every mother should bring up her daughters to think that no labor, however menial, is undignified, and if she succeeds in doing this she will have given them a most valuable education whatever their other accomplishments may be. The position of a domestic servant is just as honorable, and should be as highly honored, as that of a governess or a clerk.

David Dudley Field has been making some curious calculations to show the amount of time and money wasted by unnecessary words in ordinary legal documents. Judge Fullerton, another eminent New York lawyer, takes the same view, and adds that any lawyer has a right to construct the simplest forms possible for legal instruments, their present tautologies and periphrases being simply worthless relics of a bygone age. Much has been done of recent years to simplify the language and form of legal instruments in Ontario, but much more might be accomplished. A layman is tempted to ask whether Judge Fullerton's statement holds good of this country as well as the United States.

An eminent promoter of the "Liberal Temperance Union" argues strongly, in a late number of the *Week*, in favor of requiring a majority of all the voters in a county for the adoption of the Scott Act. Speaking of the large number of people who do not vote at all he says:—

"Those who thus abstained from voting cannot have been in favor of the law; at all events they cannot have reached that degree of conviction which alone will justify a man in imposing a sumptuary law upon his neighbors."

There are only two ways of describing the position of those who call the Scott Act a sumptuary law: either they have never looked into the provisions of the Act, or they do not know the meaning of the term "sumptuary." The Act in question is not a sumptuary but a police measure, and is intended to protect the community against crime and pauperism, not to prescribe what men and women shall eat, or drink, or wear. It does not forbid a man to drink alcoholic liquors; it only enables the majority in a given locality to say to those in the traffic: "After a certain interval you shall not continue to sell in our midst a substance which by increasing pauperism adds to our burdens, and which leaves us at the mercy of men whom it has temporarily deprived of their reason."

It is possible under the Scott Act, for those who want it, to have all the liquor they can consume, but they must get it in some locality where the Act is not in force and must use it in private. This shows clearly that the law was not aimed at drinking *per se*, but at the public exhibition and sale of the liquor in places where other attractions lure the victim, and help to enthrall him. The Act may or may not prove effective for the purpose intended, without the correctness of the above description being liable to challenge. Its text speaks for itself, and so do all the efforts made to enforce it. A law against drinking would not be a sumptuary law unless the intention were to regulate the cost of living; but the Scott Act is not even a law against drinking. It is a law against selling.

M. J. C. Jeaffreson, who some time ago, explored the unsavory record of Lord Byron's life, has been doing a similar ungracious service for the memory of Shelly. He makes the poet out to be an outrageous liar, mean in disposition, base in his relations to women, and dangerous in his free-love teachings. It is needless to say that if this indictment is true it will induce many admirers of the ethereal poet to shatter their idol. It is doubtful whether work of the kind Mr. Jeaffreson is engaged in serves any useful purpose. The poet had better be left to impress himself on his reader through the medium of his works, and the author of the "Skylark," the "Sensitive Plant," the "Cloud," and above all the "Adonais," cannot have been entirely abandoned to evil. There are very few lives which will bear microscopic inspection, and it is not calculated to improve and elevate