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The Canadian Son of Temperance.

My son, look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it gleeth its colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last, it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.—Proverbs, chap 23.

TORONTO TUESDAY—AUGUST 23, 1853.

The Editor, for two weeks past, has been, and is still, labouring under a severe attack of illness, which will account for less than the usual amount of editorial matter in the paper, as well as some few typographical errors.

PROHIBITION—A SONG.

BY JAMES CHALKER.

Prohibition! Prohibition! Let it form a coalition; Strong and mighty our position, Thundering as our gushing fountain, Flowing now and flowing ever, Till it reaches a noble river. Your voice is heard in sadness, Nigh to walling and in madness, Which shall turn to joy in madness, I shall will and long to sing, Over the hills and valleys bounding, From our sisters and our brothers, From our fathers and our mothers, Prohibition, sternly crying, Prohibition, for the dying, Prohibition, for the sighing, See, the foe is from us flying. Philadelphia, 1853.	Prohibition! Prohibition! Let it form a coalition; Like our fathers, who in story, Won immortal fame and glory; When their rights had been invaded, Chained, fettered and degraded, By the foe, like clouds in heaven, By the gathering tempest driven, When the galled oxen are riven, When the wretched slave is freed, Over the hills and valleys bounding, From our sisters and our brothers, From our fathers and our mothers, Prohibition, sternly crying, Prohibition, for the dying, Prohibition, for the sighing, See, the foe is from us flying.
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TEMPERANCE IN THE UNITED STATES.

The two approaching World's Temperance Conventions are just about to take place in the City of New York. One takes place on the 1st and 2nd of September, called by a large number of very influential male and female friends of temperance, and favoured by the New York Tribune. The other is called by a very large number of old and tried friends of the cause for the 6th and 7th of September, at the same place. The cause of these two calls is a dispute that arose last spring about the admission of female delegates. The latter Convention refuse to receive them; the former is called chiefly through the influence of the women and some active men. There may be room for both, but it seems to us, each will take from the others interest. So far as we can see, the strength of the temperance cause is increasing in the United States—the zeal of all is still kept up. Much of the disease in New Orleans is caused by drinking liquor. In Canada there is just now ludo doing, there may be fresh exertions made after this month. A very culpable apathy exists in the temperance ranks in our country. Railroad excitement, speculations in land, and a grovelling sycophancy for office, and laudation of the Canadian Government, are with us swallowing up everything else. The following is an account of what is intended to take place at the World's Temperance Convention in New York on the 6th and 7th September next.

THE GREAT CONVENTION.

But three weeks are now to elapse before the meeting of the great Convention. In ordinary times we should despair of much being accomplished in so short a period. But we live in days of railroad speed and telegraph despatch. Our people are learning to do everything at a moment's warning. Besides everybody is preparing to come about that week to New York, to see the Crystal Palace and the World's Fair. We shall have a Mammoth Convention. Well, there is room for all. The Committee of Arrangements have engaged the Metropolitan Hall for four days and four nights. Only let every one who comes, desiring to be a member, bring a written certificate as delegate from some Total Abstinence Society. Without this, he will indeed be admitted as a spectator, but not as an acting and voting member. The forenoon of each day will be devoted to business, the afternoon to visiting the crystal palace, and the evening to public speaking in the Metropolitan Hall. On Thursday evening, a splendid concert will be given in the Hall, in which the Convention will participate as guests. We cannot yet speak definitely about it, but we trust it will be worthy of the occasion. The Rev. John Pierpont is engaged to prepare an original Maine Law poem to be there recited; and there will be some fine music, and plenty of ice cream to keep us cool; with a banner or two from Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. We think that every temperance man and woman who stays at home, will regret so doing, when they hear the Report. True, it will cost something to come, but what's the use of all work and no play? The farmers will have done their work, and the ladies will want to see the Crystal Palace, and go to the source. Besides, every one who comes adds so much to the temperance cause. Now, friends is the time to show to the citizens of New York the strength of the Maine Law forces.—Journal of the American Temperance Union.

A TEMPERANCE AGENT IN THIS CITY.—We are strongly inclined to believe in the necessity of the employment of a talented active temperance agent in this city. He should receive a salary. His duty would be to collect statistics of the effects of the rum traffic—the poverty, death, and crime, produced by it, the number of the licensed and unlicensed inns; most of which should be published. He should give lectures at night, recommend the people to join Divisions of Sons or Temperance Societies. Put the Divisions on the alert as to what would best promote their interests—superintending getting up processions, mass meetings, temperance choirs, and the employment at times of assistant lecturers. During elections he should canvass for the interest of officers favorable to temperance. His salary might be paid by a small sum from each Division and a voluntary subscription of the inhabitants.

WILL OUR CANADIAN ENEMIES read the following account of the effect of the traffic in the United States? It is only one of a thousand testimonies.—[Editor.

The Albany Daily Knickerbocker, edited by Hugh Hastings, says: "Crime has become so alarming that the people evince a willingness to adopt almost any measure that will make hanging less frequent. The friends of Temperance say that an anti-temperance law will produce this effect. There are others, however, who doubt it. If it does check crime, then we shall rejoice in its adoption. Should it not do so, the Legislature can at any time repeal it. Put it through. Four murders a week will excuse even a little tyranny. These views differ somewhat from those we formerly entertained. This must not be charged to inconsistency, however. It only shows that the Knickerbocker is not so wedded to an old notion, that it will not swap it off for a better one, even if it is new."

THE SUNDAY LIQUOR QUESTION!—GREAT REJOICING OF RUM-SELLERS! AND RUM PAPERS!—It seems by a late decision of our highest Court that Municipalities have not the power, under existing laws, to prevent the sale of liquor in inns on the Sabbath. A By-law of the Municipality of Galt has been quashed by the Queen's Bench. Municipalities may order the bars to be closed, but cannot forbid refreshments to be served out in the inn in the shape of liquors, &c. The Chief Justice holds spirituous liquors to be refreshments, the meaning of total abstinence being an enigma to him. The effects of Sunday sales of liquor are nothing as compared with the right to guzzle. This decision alone will, during this year, send many a man to his grave—create many a row—beggars dozens of families, and add FRESH PIETY to every church!! Rejoice ye drinkers of fire-water—rejoice ye Colonists and Leaders—RUM IS AGAIN LET LOOSE, and the Sabbath will be polluted with the howling of its victims. Oh, the liberty to drink rum is a fine thing! Now, we have, for the last eighteen months, been aware that doubts were entertained of the power of Municipalities to restrict the entire sale of liquor on the Sabbath, and have frequently alluded to the fact. The attention of our legislators and Malcolm Cameron must have been called to it, yet we find after two sessions no attempt is made by bill to make the matter plain—no attempt has been made to induce Great Britain to allow our Parliament to control merchant-shop licenses. All this shows that we really require a real Neal Dow in our Parliament, not a bastard one. We want a man or men in that house who understand something of the laws required to be passed to put down liquor selling. Very little has been done in the matter—our Provincial papers, pretending to be friendly to temperance, have not aroused public opinion or called the attention of Parliament to this matter. Many of such papers can abuse us because our politics don't suit them, but they silently see the Leader and Colonist, &c., wringing down the Maine law and Neal Dow without an effort to confute.

To the Editor of the Son of Temperance.

CONDUCT OF OUR POLICE MAGISTRATE—THOUGHTS ON TEMPERANCE.

TORONTO, August 6, 1853.

MR. EDITOR,—I have taken my pen in hand to write a few words for insertion in your paper, on what I consider to be an important subject. From one portion of our land to the other the ravages of the demon Alcohol have spread; young and old, rich and poor, male and female, learned and illiterate, have been, from time to time, the subjects of its destroying power. The best energies of man have been cramped, and he whose similitude was originally divine, has been rendered as a brute beast, has, I might say, been made worse than a brute, by the use of alcohol. Yet this alcohol is, by many persons, considered as a "good creature of God." Now mankind are awakening from their lethargy, and demanding that this destroyer of the human race shall be confined to the Druggist's shelf, and not be permitted any longer to go to and fro in the earth, destroying the noblest of the human family. If you tread on a man's corns he will generally let you know it; and we find, that the priests and priestesses of the temples of Bacchus are fearing that the hope of their gains is to be taken from them. They are therefore using all their energies to render null and void the efforts of those who are labouring for the welfare of their fellow creatures. We are told that "the Maine Law interferes with the rights of man," that it is not proper for us to make laws prohibiting them from the drinking that which will intoxicate them." Now, sir, it is, I believe, admitted by all that it is right to make laws for the punishment and prohibition of crime, though it is not so generally admitted that it is proper to prohibit by law the traffic in that which is a most prolific source of crime. Suppose that a man has a garden which is overrun with weeds, it would not, I presume,

be a very good means of destroying those weeds for him to go round and cut off the tops of them; neither is this the plan that would be adopted by him. But what would he do? His answer is plain. He would pull them all up by the roots. Let our Legislators learn a lesson from this. If we wish to eradicate crime we must commence with the destruction of that which causes it. What thinking man will deny that alcohol is a great source of crime? Surely none. The Druggist is not allowed to sell poison, unless he label the bottle in which it is, so that all may know that it is poison. But an exception is made in favour of alcohol. Our government grants licenses for the sale of liquid fire. The tavern-keeper is aided and encouraged, in his fiendish occupation, by the strong hand of law. He sells that which destroys life, stunts it, is true, but yet surely, and when his victim reaches an unly grave, he defies every effort to bring him to justice, and shows you what he calls a license. He is allowed to sell poison to his fellow creatures; he is permitted to spoil the earth of some of its inhabitants, and is honored very frequently for doing so. But he is in some measure, it is true, restricted by his license. There are times when the law does not permit him to sell the poisonous draught. But what does the keeper of a tavern care for the law. Those who care not for God's day regard not man's law, if they think that they can escape untouched. Persons who are afraid to violate the law openly, will yet manage to evade it, and I am sorry to say, that our Chief Police Magistrate sometimes appears to connive at their doing. I conceive that we cannot employ too rigorous measures with those who violate the laws of both God and man, by retaining poison, in the shape of liquid fire, on the Sabbath day. We who can help observing, that when persons are brought up before our Chief Police Magistrate, charged with a breach of the law in this respect, he sometimes allows them to escape entirely unscathed, and sometimes he inflicts such a slight fine that its name is repeated immediately. Now, it appears to me, that a gentleman, occupying such a position, should show by his conduct that he delights "to keep holy the Sabbath day," and should by all lawful means seek to prevent its violation. If we have not at present such a Chief Magistrate, there is nothing to prevent our having one, and let us exert ourselves for it. Let temperance men redouble their exertions, and soon the temperance cause shall have a glorious triumph. Pardon me for trespassing so much.

Yours in L. P. and F., JOHN H. HEWLETT.

The SUNDAY TEMPERANCE SERMONS of this city usually given, are postponed until September.

MEETING OF THE GRAND SECTION OF CADETS

The Grand Section will meet in Ontario Division Room, (if it can be procured), on Wednesday, the 24th inst., at ten o'clock. It does not seem to have been advertised in any paper so far.

THE "HURON SIGNAL," a miserable echo of Malcolm Cameron—that would whitewash all his dirty acts—edited by some upstart lawyer, and the *Whitby Reporter*, a miserable country rag—owned and edited by a little fop, who is hanging on to the skirts of the government for some office at the coroner's, I have received the slanders of McQueen and McDougall, against this paper. If such men as these, or such a man as MASTERSING Malcolm Cameron, were to control the order of the Sons one year, it would be torn into fragments. The *Huron Signal* and *Whitby Reporter* are both liquor advertising papers—are afraid to do their duty to the public—they court the patronage of merchants and innkeepers who sell liquors. The *Signal* is edited by a man who has never joined the Sons, and any real friendly feeling for them. Malcolm Cameron does not belong to the order, and it is questionable if he belongs to any temperance association. He has not given for the advancement of temperance ten pounds during the last five years, although within that period he has received probably \$16,000 of the people's money. The Editor of this paper has been a temperance man as long as he has, and has written and done more within the last three years for temperance than all the Editors of political papers of Upper Canada twice told together, and has expended within that period for the cause not less than \$38 besides his time. Some may say we have been paid by the paper we publish. This is false, for this paper has never yet realized anything beyond its expenditure. As for our dispute with McQueen—he assumed before the public an unengaged position, and commenced and carried out the discussion, as the *Signal* well knows, with the most wanton and violent abuse of us personally.

THE ISLAND OF MADEIRA—This ill-fated island, whose destination experienced a partial and temporary relief from the contributions of this country last spring, is still in a state of extreme suffering. The following, from the *Washington Intelligencer*, is an extract of a private letter from a gentleman of Madeira, travelling for his health, to his friend in Washington: "I have letters from Madeira to the 22nd June. Alas, for dear Island! there will be no wine there this year. I am enabled it will be necessary to root up all the vines and get fresh cuttings from abroad, so that many years may elapse ere good wine be made there again. I fear the glory of the place is departed; certainly for a season. The people can only be relieved by emigration. Without this outlet being opened, tens of thousands will perish. The letters that have lately appeared in the papers will prevent much morbid being sent from this country, unless vigorous efforts be made to counteract the impressions and put before the public the plain facts, the means which chiefly supported the population of the island (125,000) have been swept away suddenly, completely; the produce of the vineyards supported the people, for nine months out of the twelve; that there is no immediate means of restoring the vines to health; to root them up seems the only plan of plant fresh cuttings, involving the necessity of waiting for at least three years ere they can get any return."