

gressing improvements in your well situated City of Hamilton, when based on a state of society as to intoxicating drinks, *which we are ashamed to reveal to the heathen*, for the Christianization and civilization of whom, and for the support of religion, the same parties as likely give largely of their substance? The thing in the eyes of the thinking minds of the unbeliever or the indifferent will appear, as it really is, most hypocritical as before an all-seeing God, an act of hypocrisy and dishonesty as before and amongst ourselves.

3. Riddle and sift the machinery of your society and of your citizens in Hamilton, and beginning from the lowly and outcast (surrounded by the thoughtless and heartless professing Christian) up to the highest merchant in your city, (and there are good men amongst them,) and what will a critical observer see? He will see, he will meet, he will stumble upon an incubus, a parasitical bedevilment, *which no Christian people should show*, but rather what they should be ashamed of. You will find, as in London, C. W., where I have just been, a system engrafted into our society for which the heathens, who worship stocks and stones, (to whom we send out missionaries,) scoff at us, jeer us, and point to it with the finger of scorn, and when a man or woman is seen intoxicated, or even drinking in public, they say, "O, he is a Christian!" That system is the one of *licensing to retail and to sell in set public shops and places intoxicating drinks*.

4. But Hamilton city, the "Queen of the West," as in our prints, is not the only city where the *far worse* than heathenish system above referred to is so predominant, or where the professing Christians tolerate and encourage it. Would to God it was the only city. Look to Ottawa, to Toronto, west to London, to Kingston even, and to Montreal, and to Quebec—the two latter cities, as well as Ottawa, in a particular manner (to those who know anything of the habits of the trade and people)—where the vital and social interests of mankind are sacrificed for money to a system which we are to suppose that devils laugh at and hail as *the very best auxiliary* to increase the population of a certain place.

5. But again, what does the system of the retail trade in intoxicating drinks reveal? It reveals and shows itself, sir, before God and thinking and observing men, as one almost entirely supported and carried on by manufacture, wholesale and by retail, by *Presbyterians, Episcopalians and Roman Catholics*! Let a vigilant investigation be made, and not only the traffic in intoxicating drinks will be found as carried on by members, adherents or those belonging to these churches (such, too, as would not be rejected by either to make up census lists for particular purposes), but the *advertising* of intoxicating liquors in all the papers from Halifax, N. S., to Lake Superior, will be found as being nearly altogether with those of these three churches. I am a Presbyterian of the Free Church, and I hesitated not publicly at the late Synod of our church in Toronto, to bring the accusation before them. My memorial, with accompanying papers, will testify. I did the same to the United Presbyterian Church Synod. Both Synods *declare* against the evil; but still it goes on—"gloriously," as some would say, but sadly, as I state.

6. There is a burden, therefore, put on the members and ministers of other denominations, such as the numerous, vigorous, and vigilant Methodists; also the Baptists and Congregationalists (Independents); for they have to appear in the world and before mankind *as though they were the guilty parties, when they are not*.

I claim *the right* to make the above statements, and the "Conviction List," ending June last, with a number of the *Challenge* endorsed on it, which I sent you lately, may show more than here stated. I have endeavored, as a single Temperance advocate, to wipe away the disgrace of the traffic from the county of Perth, and from Canada, as may be known to you, and at present I have a *prohibitory law* of the retail traffic (according to the Municipal Act of 1858), to be voted on for this town by the people. I send you a copy.* I send also to the

* This By-law was negatived by a majority of nigh thirty. The liquor interest was an overmatch for the exertions of all the ministers, and the truly