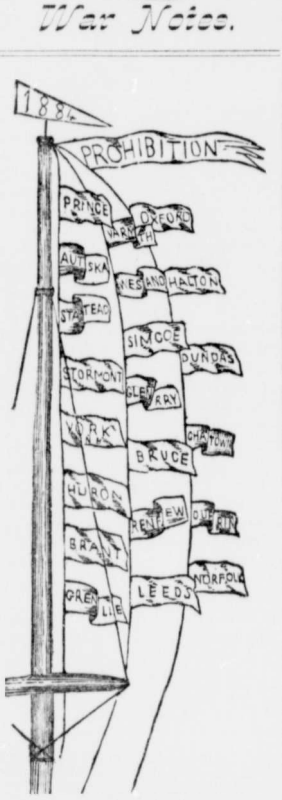
War Notes.



AN ELECTION under the Canada Temperance Act will be held at Guysboro, County, N.S., on June 25th, Sheriff Pearth, returning officer.

HURON.—At Brussels a local Scott Act Association has been formed, with 65 members to "co-operate with the county association in enforcing the Scott Act." The expectation are that the membership will swell to 300 or more.

YORK.—The petitions for the submission of the Scott Act in this county are now being circulated. They were given out to the canvassers for Woolwich a week ago last Friday. Twelve canvassers have been appointed and it is thought that at least one-third of the names on the voters' lists will be obtained.

SIMCOE.—The Scott Act, which went into force on the 1st inst. had good effect next day. Among the large crowds in town not a drunken man was to be seen. Vigilance Committees are formed for every municipality, and liberal rewards are offered for information that will lead to the conviction of violators of the Act.—*Globe.*

WATERLOO.—A meeting of the supporters of the Scott Act was held on Tuesday of last week to take steps to have petitions circulated, praying for the submission of the Act in this county. We understand that these petitions will be presented for signature at once, with the probability that the Act will be submitted next fall.

TORONTO.—The city hall was packed on the 11th inst. in Toronto by those who were anxious to hear Mrs. Peck of that city speak on prohibition. She reminded her audience that over 200 enactments had been passed in England for the regulation of the traffic, but that it had always shown a terrific resistance to regulation and could only be driven out by prohibition. There were over a hundred ladies on the platform and the speaker was loudly cheered.

MIDDLESEX.—At a meeting of the Middlesex County Alliance, on motion it was unanimously resolved "That the members of the Middlesex County Alliance submit our protest against the action of the Senate in exempting wines and beer from the operation of the Canada Temperance Act, and further express our wish that said amendment may not receive the sanction of the House of Commons."

A SHIPMENT of beer to Seaforth was found by the shipper in Montreal to be bound for a Scott Act county. He hastened to the freight shed and marked the barrels "patent drier." The shipping bill had been made out for beer, but it is understood that when it arrives at the far end the freight will be collected for patent drier. Some amendment will be needed for the Scott law making railways responsible for collusion of this Act.

PERTH.—It is to be hoped that the Dominion Government will order the vote to be taken in this county on the Scott Act some time before the end of the century; although from present appearance it seems to be waiting until that time comes. The "city" of Stratford will be included in the county in the taking of the vote, but should a majority of the electors of the "city" be against the Act, then the Act will, of course not come into force in that municipality.—*St. Mary's Argus.*

ACCORDING TO A FABLE current among the Arabs, the vine in the early stages of its growth was tended by Satan, who first moistened it with the blood of a peacock, later on that of a monkey was used, then that of a lion, and finally that of a hog. So says the fablist, it comes about, that in the various stages of intoxication a man first struts about with the vanity of a peacock, then he makes himself as ridiculous as a monkey, and passing through the stage of fancied bravery, lies down at last in the gutter like a hog.—*The Worker.*

SIMCOE.—Barrie is the head quarters of the county for Scott Act purposes and has an association for the enforcement of the Act. The citizens of Bradford determined to form a branch of the county association which is in connection with the Dominion Alliance, and at a meeting held for this purpose elected Mr. Campbell president. Six other gentlemen had been nominated for the position but declared in favor of Mr. Campbell. All the ministers of the place together with a number of prominent citizens were appointed a committee.

THE HALTON COUNTY Temperance Association has in a series of resolutions called attention to the disgraceful course of the Milton Champion, in trying by every means in its power to defeat the operation of the Scott Act, and to abuse all who support the authorities in carrying out the law. One resolution calls on the County Council to remove the editors from their County offices. They consider that law defiers are not the proper kind of people to be entrusted with public office. The Haltonians mean business. When temperance men in other parts of Canada take hold in this way, they will throttle the liquor traffic in short order.—*Waterloo Chronicle.*

LENNOX.—The Good Templars of the Napanee district have arranged a grand demonstration to be held in the Crystal Palace Grounds, Napanee, on Saturday, May 23rd, to assist the Scott Act Association in paying the expenses of the recent contest in this county. The array of speakers is the largest ever announced in the county and should attract a large gathering. Prominent among those who have signified their intention to be present are Hon. J. B. Finch, Mrs. Leonard, of New York, Mr. Shakespeare, M. P. of British Columbia, besides a host of prominent British, American and Maritime Province gentlemen. The railways and steamers will give reduced fares to all who wish to attend.

RICHMOND.—The town council of Richmond must be thoroughly under the control of the rum party. During the past year, Judges Brook and Rioux have both held that the Dunkin Act is in force in the town, and on the 21st ult. a delegation of temperance people waited on the council, supported by a numerously signed petition, asking that the law should be respected and that no certificates for license should be granted, but the council, by a vote of four to two, granted certificates for obtaining four tavern and two shop licenses. It seems to us that it is time for the Government to assert the supremacy of the law by refusing to grant licenses upon these illegal certificates, and not place itself a second time in the humiliating position of having to cancel them and refund the licensees their money, as was done in Missisquoi some years ago. The temperance people of Richmond have a genuine grievance, and we hope they will follow the matter up, before the Courts, until th ir rights are respected.—*Cowansville Observer.*

OXFORD.—Dear Sir,—Whiskey died hard in this county. The last few hours of the licensed liquor traffic were strikingly characteristic—the ruling passion strong in death. All over the county wherever there was a tavern there was an amount of drinking, cursing, and fighting that was simply terrible. However, Friday, 1st of May, came, and with it the Scott Act. And now speaking for Woodstock only, (as I have not heard from other places) I believe the law has been strictly observed. Saturday was our weekly market day, and there was a very large number of people here, but I have yet to hear of the first man who showed any sign of having tasted liquor. I know some who that day went home sober for the first time for six years. So far, all, including the great majority of those who opposed the passing of the Act, seem glad of the change. I trust this happy state of affairs may long continue. We shall see. Accommodation for man and beast is the same as before, with, in some cases, a slight advance in price.—*Letter to Canada Citizen.*

THE CORNWALL *Reporter* sent round the town to interview the doctors on the first effects of the Scott Act and their intentions concerning prescriptions of intoxicants. In answer to the question as to whether or not prescriptions for alcohol were numerous, the answers were almost identical and amount to this: that the profession in Cornwall does not intend to become degraded by prescribing liquor for drinkers. "You may depend upon it" said one practitioner "that I am not going to become a purchasing agent for whiskey drinkers; neither will my professional brethren: we are resolved upon that." Still another doctor said: "I have three or four men and two women who are suffering reaction, but a little wholesome punishment, heroically endured will make them all right. As to prescriptions, I have issued one—without the patient's request or knowledge, because I considered the article was necessary. I have had either two or three bogus applications which I have refused. One thing you can put down: when I prescribe liquor, either for my own patients or for outsiders. I will not charge one cent to them. No one shall ever say that I made money by peddling whiskey.

KINGSTON.—The excitement in Kingston is too great altogether for it to be said that the coming vote on the Scott Act will be a one sided contest. A large meeting was held in the City Hall on the 7th inst. when the people flocked to hear the speakers. The building was packed, the two front seats in the room being occupied by ladies of the W. C. T. U. all of whom were enthusiastic. There were two speakers, Dr. Lavell who spoke for an hour in favor of the Act, and Mr. Mudie who spoke against it for the same length of time. The remarks of the latter gentlemen may be judged from the following statement he made as reported in a paper which is opposed to the Act:—"The best method to adopt to do away with drunkenness was moral suasion, and in this the people might take a few lessons from the Spartans who set their slaves drunk to let their children see how foolish they looked." This was greeted, the paper says, with loud applause. Mr. Mudie argued that the Spartans trained their children morally and were noted for their temperance. This argument of of the Anti-Scott Act speaker goes to show that the people of Kingston should keep a number of their citizens in slavery to drink in order that the remainder might profit by their loss and have moral suasion presented to them in the form of drunken men and women. This reference to the Spartans' plan will scarcely work any good to the moral suasion theory. At the close of the meeting a show of hands was taken and the mayor declared it would take a Philadelphia lawyer to tell which side had the best of it. Many of those who have public influence in Kingston are on the fence as regards the Scott Act and will try to be the first to shout for the winning side.

THE FOLLOWING EXTRACTS from noted English papers will be of interest as showing the turn things are taking in England in respect to the liquor traffic. The *Evening Standard* says:—"Athletes and others who undertake severe physical feats are well aware that to begin to drink beer early, and to continue to do so at short intervals throughout the day, would be absolutely destructive of their power to accomplish their tasks. Beer promotes rather than assuages thirst. Oatmeal with water, with a dash of lemon or lime juice, gives more support than beer, and is far better to work upon: and if farmers will provide plenty of this for their workers, and will add the money hitherto spent on beer to the men's wages, there can be no doubt that the latter will be in every way benefited by the change."

The *Daily Chronicle* gives this instance of the fruits of the traffic and comments on it: "Robert Smith, boastful of his capacity to drink large quantities of spirits, made a wager the other night that he could consume within a short time six shillings-worth of brandy. He went forthwith to a public house and drank thirteen glasses of brandy, which was one more than the terms of his bet required. After this feat he became, says the report of the occurrence, 'very drunk.' It would have been strange indeed if he had not. His attempt to dispose of all this fiery liquid within a certain time showed a strange ignorance of the fatal effect likely to be produced by such potations. He soon sank into a lethargic state, and he died a few minutes after he was carried home."

The *Standard* makes comments on this case: "Birmingham is said to be a model town in such matters as the Corporation, boards innumerable and a zealous police can regulate. But it was possible there for a man to get thirteen six-pennyworths of brandy in the same public house, within, we may suppose, a very short time. These Robert Smith drank for a wager, and promptly died. It is not worth while to point morals at him or his like. But when such incidents take place, in this age of the world, it is safe to foretell that Local Option is not very distant."

IN A PLEASANT SPOT in Lower Canada lives a small farmer of such social habits that his coming home intoxicated was once no unusual thing. His wife urged him in vain to sign the pledge. "Why, you see," he would say, "I'll sign it after a while, but I don't like to break right off at once; it ain't wholesome. The best way always is to git used to a thing by degrees, you know." "Very well, old man," his helpmate would rejoin, "see now if you don't fall into a hole one of these days, while you can't take care of yourself and nobody near to take you out." Sure enough, as if to verify the prophecy, a couple of days after, returning from a spree, the old fellow reeled into his own well, whose opening was level with the ground, and which fortunately for him was not very deep. After a good deal of spluttering and trying to see his way out of his trap, he had to resort to calling for his consort whom he knew to be cool blooded enough to treat him with a good deal of severity. The worthy woman took her time about hearing the cries for help. Finally,—"Didn't I tell you so," said she, looking coolly down into the well, "You've got into a hole at last, and it's only luck I'm in hearing, or you might have drowned, you old dog you! Well," she continued, after a pause, letting down the bucket, "take hold." And up he came higher at each turn of the windlass, until the old lady's grasp slipping from the handle down he went to the bottom again. This occurring more than once, made the temporary occupant of the well suspicious. "Look here," he screamed in a fury at the last splash, "you're doing that on purpose—I know you are!"—"Well now, I am," responded his old woman, tranquilly, while winding up once more. "Don't you remember telling me it's best to get used to a thing by degrees. I'm afraid if I were to bring you right up on a sudden, you wouldn't find it wholesome!" The old fellow grumbled out something as he was again being wheeled up ready for another plunge, and drawing in his breath as he thought he was about to descend once more, screamed out: "I'll sign the pledge, let me up." Much more sober after his bath he walked off after being let up, his wife cautioning him that if he ever got there again she would leave him stay.