

THE CANADA CITIZEN

AND TEMPERANCE HERALD

Freedom for the Right Means Suppression of the Wrong.

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The Canada Citizen

AND TEMPERANCE HERALD.

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

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F. S. SPENCE, - - - MANAGER.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH, 1884.

This number is sent to many friends whose names are not yet on our subscription list. Will they kindly aid our enterprise by forwarding their dollars and addresses? It is desirable to subscribe early, as we propose making every number well worth preserving for future reference and use.

Hon. Alex Vidal, president of the Dominion Alliance, called at our office last week. He has just returned to Ontario from his holiday trip, and is delighted with the progress and prospects of the good cause in every part of the Dominion.

Renfrew, Peel, Simcoe, Dufferin, Perth, Bruce and Kent have completed their petitions. In most cases the number of signatures is far beyond what the law requires. The prospect brightens as the fight grows hotter. The coming campaign will be a grand success.

The president of the Peel Association has sent to Halton a message that well expresses the desire and determination of all the surrounding counties:—"Hold the fort for we are coming." And from the ballot boxes of Halton next Tuesday will echo back a ringing chorus,—“By God's grace we will.”

The workers are gathering in from their midsummer vacation. Hon. S. H. Blake, president of the Ontario Branch of the Dominion Alliance has returned to the city, and is going straight to aid plucky little Halton in her heroic struggle. Mr. J. J. McLaren, Q.C., fresh from his holidays is doing yeoman service on the same battle ground.

Rev. John Smith, chairman of the executive is taking his rest by joining in the same, as are also the president of the Oxford Association, Mr. W. H. Howland, and many other well known workers. Mr. N. W. Hoyles has returned from Murray Bay, and at once buckled on his armor for the cause in general, and the C.E.T.S. in particular. Dr. R. Snelling has just arrived from England full of facts and of information about the work that is going on in other places, and, if possible, more enthusiastic than ever; we hope that our readers will shortly be favored with some interesting reminiscences of his visit to the old land, and interesting reports of the wonderful success of the temperance movement there.

The Maine Law has been a grand success, and now, proud of its working, and determined to put it forever beyond doubt that they are rid of the liquor traffic for ever, the people of Maine have determined to embody prohibition in their State constitution, and on Monday next, Sept. 5th, (the day before our Halton vote), they will vote upon the adoption of the following addition to that constitution:—

“The manufacture of intoxicating liquors, not including cider and the sale and keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors, are and shall be forever prohibited. Except, however, that the sale and keeping for sale of such liquors for medicinal and mechanical purposes and the arts, and the sale and the keeping for sale of cider may be permitted under such regulations as the Legislature may provide. The Legislature shall enact laws with suitable penalties for the suppression of the manufacture, sale and keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors, with the exceptions herein specified.”

PUSH THE PETITIONS.

We desire again to urge upon our friends in the different counties the desirability of pushing forward their petitioning work as rapidly as possible. The pressure of harvesting has caused a temporary delay in many localities, but the heaviest part of this pressure is over now, and it is very important that as many petitions as possible should be in the hands of the Secretary of State at a very early day. Unless they are before the Council during the present month it will be almost impossible to have polling in time to bring the Act into force on the first day of May, 1885, and unless this is done the coming into force will be delayed for another year. Meantime the work should be pushed forward even in counties that cannot get ready in time. The present opportunity must not be lost. Public sentiment is just now very strong, and advantage ought to be taken of this, and of the sympathy and enthusiasm that always attend co-operation and success.

Besides all this, it must not be forgotten that our opponents have really but few workers. These few are engaged in a most unfair misrepresentation of facts, in the most outrageous garbling of police reports, and in a systematic slandering of Halton and other counties where the act is working. We have in every county any number of earnest, willing, volunteer workers, inspired by love for the right and their fellowmen, more than enough to do all the work that is needed. We want to have the whole Scott Act question discussed fully and fairly everywhere, but this can be done without the aid of the professional agitators to whom we have alluded, and we have no desire to extend the time of our campaign so as to give