

# Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

Vol. II.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1883.

No. 50.

## The Temperance Worker

### PUBLISHERS' NOTES.

The year is closing, and it will save us a large amount of trouble and expense if subscriptions are renewed before or during the first week in the new year.

Everyone that gets up a club of five new subscribers saves the cost of his own paper. We hope most of those who cannot do that may at least be able to send the subscription of one each besides themselves.

Those who would like to make some money for the holidays will find the means of doing so in the advertisement of our "December Competition" elsewhere.

Come, now, one and all, and roll up a heavy list for 1884, and we promise none will ever regret it if we can help.

Address JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Montreal, in sending subscriptions or asking for sample copies to use in canvassing.

### THE DOMINION LICENSE ACT.

The following extract from a letter on "Centralization" in a Nova Scotia paper would indicate that the Dominion License Act, of last session of Parliament, will have to be defended from two distinct points. First, the liquor men of Ontario will "ignore" it, which probably means that they will fight it through all the courts up to the foot of the throne if it pinches them; otherwise they will only acknowledge it to the extent of pleading immunity, by virtue of its existence, from "persecution" through other laws. Secondly, "some" of the Provincial Governments, jealous of the right claimed under the Canadian charter to make laws for the protection of their subjects from such common nuisances as the liquor traffic, are going to contest the Dominion Government's authority to deprive them of the right of "regulating" the traffic down to the point even of invisibility:—

For some reason, last session, our Dominion Parliament passed a license law to regulate the liquor traffic. The merits of that Act I shall not discuss. It is a license law and, like all license laws, seeks to cast a garb of respectability around that which is immoral. Various reasons were given why it was passed, more politic than wise. It is said that the decision of the Privy Council upon the Scott Act necessitated it; made it imperative to enact such a law by the Dominion Parliament. That is a very doubtful reason. High authority declares that that decision called for nothing of the kind. That it was a pure assumption that the question of the right of the Provincial Parliaments to regulate the traffic was involved in the issue. Be that as it may, the licensed victuallers of Ontario have decided to ignore the Act to come in force next January, and some of the Local Governments have decided to contest the right of the Dominion Parliament to pass such an Act, or rather have decided to defend a right given to the Provinces in the B. N. A. Act, the Act of confederation—in other words, to oppose centralization.

A NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES of the Intercolonial Railway have recently been discharged for violating the regulation against the use of intoxicating liquors.

### CAMPAIGN NOTES.

A movement is on foot in Norfolk county, Ontario, to have the Canada Temperance Act submitted to the electors.

The Toronto Branch of the Dominion Alliance has appointed an election committee to promote the election of temperance men to the City Council.

An important decision has been given upon the Canada Temperance Act by Judge Thompson, of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia. A violator of that statute was imprisoned for three months in default of payment of fine and costs for a first offence. His counsel applied for his release upon the grounds that the Justices had no power in any case to send to prison for a first offence under that Act, and that where there were no goods to levy upon for the fine, as in this case, the offender could not legally be imprisoned unless imprisonment is authorized by the statute imposing the penalty. The Judge refused to discharge the prisoner on these grounds.

The *Signal*, a lively temperance monthly published at St. Stephen, N. B., says.—"Isn't it strange that there is more liquor sold under the Scott Act than there will be under the License Law if in force, and yet the liquor sellers have subscribed one thousand dollars for the repeal of the Scott Act? The men who are doing the dirty work for them claim that it is in the interest of temperance, but it is not often that you find rum sellers originating a temperance movement and subscribing liberally for its success." The *Signal* reports a good answer given by a merchant in Charlotte county, N. B., to the hawk of a petition for the repeal of the Scott Act:—"No; if rum is a good thing let it be sold as freely as anything else. If it is not a good thing we have no right to license it." Another number of the same paper points to Milltown in Charlotte county as a proof of the virtue of the Canada Temperance Act:—"Since the late decision of the Supreme Court, the town has collected \$400 in fines. The enforcement of the law has had the better effects of driving out of the town some of the worst characters engaged in the business, and effectually closing four places where liquor was sold. Those who want liquor now find it hard to obtain it in Milltown, and, as a natural result, good order prevails. The law can be as well enforced in other localities as in Milltown. All that is lacking is some one to take the lead in it; and when officers are appointed and paid for that purpose, as will be the case after the first of January next, we hope to be able to record for the whole county as good results as follow the enforcement of the Scott Act in Milltown."

A HAPPY PLACE.—The Barrington, N. S., correspondent of the *Yarmouth Herald* writes:—"Barrington is one of the few seaport towns in the Province where no intoxicating liquors are allowed to be retailed. To this fact, as much as to the intelligence, morality and industry of her people is Barrington indebted for the thrift and comfort everywhere apparent among them."

### SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

Mr. Thomas Hutchings, the veteran lecturer and organizer of the Nova Scotia Grand Division, has instituted "Ever Onward" Division at Crow Harbor, Guysboro county, with 33 charter applicants. W. P., Elias Hensley; W. A. and D. G. W. P., William S. Horton; R. S., Zachariah Hensley; A. R. S., Maria L. Taylor; F. S., Cornelius Hensley; Trea, Tyrus Hensley; Chap., Thomas Carter; Con., Thomas Carter, Jr.; A. C., John Carter; I. S., Elijah Carter; O. S., Daniel Hensley; P. W., Silas Hensley. Mr. Hutchings has reorganized "Chedabucto" Division, with nine old and 24 new members, at Guysboro town. W. P., A. J. O. McGuire; W. A., Louisa Peart; R. S., Howard Tory; A. R. S., Maria A. Hart; F. S., William Cameron; Trea, and D. G. W. P., Herbert R. Cunningham; Chap., James H. Buckley; Con., William H. Cunningham; A. C., Lillie Hartley; I. S., William Carritt; O. S., John H. Stropole; P. W. P., Lewis E. Hart.

Mr. S. M. Lewis, one of the Grand Division's vigorous agents, has organized "Sea Breeze" Division at East Pubnico, Shelburne county, N. S., with 26 charter members. W. P., Theodore Larkin; W. A., Mary M. Larkin; R. S., Maurice Lowell; A. R. S., Benjamin Worthen; F. S., Edwin Goodwin; Treas., Ada Larkin; Chap., Moses Larkin; Cond., Rupert Larkin; A. C., Mary Whyman; I. S., Solace Larkin; O. S., Whitefield Goodwin.

Mr. Alex. McKay, of Tatamagouche Falls, has organized "Morning Ray" Division at Earlton village, N. S., W. P., Robert Sutherland; W. A., Jessie D. McKay; R. S., Arthur Ross; F. S., Mary S. McKay; Treas., John McBeth; Chap., Hugh Ferguson; Cond., John D. McKay; A. C., Annie B. McKay; I. S., John Matheson; O. S., James Sutherland; P. W. P., William Baillie; D. G. W. P., Robert Sutherland.

### WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION.

Forty members attended the regular monthly meeting of the Montreal Woman's Christian Temperance Union last week. An auxiliary association was reported at the suburb of Point St. Charles, with thirty-two members. A resolution of regret at the departure from the city of Mrs. J. D. Dougall, the late President, was unanimously recorded, and she was requested to act a Brooklyn correspondent of the Union. Mrs. Williams, corresponding secretary, reported, making practical recommendations. The prizes for the best temperance essays by boys and girls in the Province of Quebec had been awarded—first, fifteen dollars, to Miss Blanche Evans, Lachute, and the second, ten dollars, to H. George Cairns, Sawyerville. Miss Bryson, treasurer, reported a gradual increase in the paying membership from the different churches in the city. There was now a membership of between five and six hundred. Encouraging reports were given from various divisions of the work among old and young throughout the city, and a letter was read

from Mrs. Foster, of Knowlton, giving a highly interesting account of the National Convention of the Union held in Detroit in October, which she attended as a delegate from the Quebec Provincial Union. The Convention, in her view, revealed extraordinary intelligence and power being expended by the Christian women of America in the temperance cause.

### GOOD TEMPLARS.

Members of the Order in the city of St. John, N. B., have formed a Good Templars' Social Club.

Colchester County Lodge (Loyal) met in quarterly session at Acadia Iron Mines, N. S., on Dec. 4th. A large number of delegates were present. The reports given in from the various lodges were most cheering. The secretary's report showed upwards of 800 members in connection with the county lodge, an increase of over 200 during the past quarter. The treasurer's report showed the funds to be in a healthy condition, with a respectable balance on hand. A telegram was received from Cumberland Co. Lodge, in session at Amherst, conveying the fraternal greetings of over 1,200 Good Templars in that county, showing an increase of several hundred during the past quarter. A very successful public meeting was held in the evening.

### FRUITS OF THE TRAFFIC.

An unknown man was found on a recent morning in the railway yard at Niagara Falls, cut into several pieces. It was supposed he was run over by the New York express at four o'clock, and that he was one of a number of quartermen who were about town the previous night under the influence of Scotch whiskey.

George Wilson, the murderer of Bullard, the Detroit policeman, was discovered hiding at Petite Cote, Ontario, six miles below Detroit, across the river. He surrendered to an officer, owning up to the crime, and saying whiskey was the cause of it.

A notorious woman named Mrs. Balch was lately arrested in Ottawa for breaking glass in a hotel door while intoxicated. In the police cell she tried to hang herself to a bar in the door, but was cut down in time to save her life. Her husband, a Boston commercial traveller, appeared in court the next morning and was allowed by the magistrate to take her away.

Patrick Grimes, fireman on a steamer, fell off a wharf in Charlottetown, P. E. I., the other day, while drunk, and was drowned.

IN THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH at Creignish, Cape Breton, on a recent Sunday, the Antigonish, N. S., *Aurora* says the gratifying sight was witnessed of the whole congregation rising as one man, in response to an earnest appeal from the Rev. Father McKenzie, and taking the total abstinence pledge for one year. The same paper says similar edification was given in the Antigonish Cathedral, when the Rev. Father Gillis appealed strongly to his congregation to practise the virtue of temperance.