

and Scottish press favored the repeal of the law, which would probably be carried. Since the decision in the Hodge case there was no doubt the Council had power to pass such a by-law. He was surprised to find so many people who were willing to sign the petition. He trusted that in this the semi-centennial year this great reform would be carried out.

Rev. Mr. CAMERON, on behalf of the Ministerial Association, said that God had given to the City Fathers the high privilege of effecting this reform, and there was a corresponding responsibility. They had now a grand opportunity to save many a woman. If ever they had an opportunity to do good now was the time.

Mr. POWIS spoke of the grave injustice to those grocers, who do not sell liquor, by giving licenses to others who were tempted to thus increase their business. He besought them to signalize the city's jubilee year by severing the sale of liquors from that of groceries, and thus yield to the opinion of three-fourths of the people of the city.

Rev. Mr. MILLIGAN said that ministers, like doctors, saw the domestic evils arising from the combined sale of liquors and groceries. They simply asked the City Fathers to keep their homes from desolation. Grocers sometimes made gifts of liquor to their customers. He hoped that they would not be afraid to exercise the power they had, and would do honor to themselves by proclaiming a divorce of the unholy alliance.

VIEWS OF ALDERMEN.

Mayor BOSWELL said that Ald. Moore's notice of motion to instruct the Executive Committee to report such a by-law, to contain a clause concurring in the extension of shop-keepers' licenses for three months, could then be considered by a two-thirds vote.

Ald. DAVIES said there were two sides to the question and asked if there were any representatives of the grocers present, but there was no response.

Ald. ALLEN said they had no such power. (Laughter).

Ald. BLEVINS said he could not believe any Government would be so mean as to give them the job of cutting off these licenses.

On motion of Ald. HASTINGS, seconded by Ald. HARVIE, the rule was suspended in order to discuss the motion, which was moved by the former in the absence of Ald. Moore.

Ald. DENISON said that as it involved a financial loss he would move that the motion be amended by adding a proviso that the by-law be reported if the committee deemed it expedient.

Ald. LOBB said there were two sides to the question. His opinion on it was in accord with that of the Dominion Government. It would be only just to give the grocers time to dispose of their business.

Ald. HASTINGS said there should be free trade in licenses to grocers, or none to any of them, and Ald. Davies thought the License Commissioners should be more careful to whom they granted such licenses.

Ald. DEFOE said the Hodge case did not cover the question as to the constitutionality of the Crooks Act, and it was unfair to call on them to pass such a by-law until they knew the voice of the people. The acts of the two Governments might clash.

Ald. SMITH said the Hodge case was not before them for discussion on the motion of Ald. Denison, who withdrew his amendment and moved, seconded by Ald. Lobb, that the question be submitted to the duly qualified electors at the next municipal elections.

Ald. ALLEN said the dirty work should not have been sent to them to do. Grocers told him they would be ruined.

Ald. SMITH said that some of them did a bar business.

Ald. WALKER could not cut them off on three months' notice, when at Ottawa they proposed to give them seven years.

Ald. DENISON amended his motion so as to have the question submitted to the ratepayers forthwith and by ballot.

Ald. HARVIE, as seconder, did not desire to injure the grocers as some had been forced to sell liquor.

Ald. MILLICHAMP thought it would not remedy the evil, as the sale of groceries and liquors was done by canvassing.

Ald. TURNER did not sympathize with the statement of a newspaper that because this question was dodged last year it might be this year. He could not help thinking the legislation was of a cowardly character, and that the Legislature should have decided this question. The tavern and shop licenses had been reduced. They had no power to grant an extension of nine months, and it would involve a loss of \$15,000 a year, but they could raise the license fees to \$200.

Ald. MOORE said this question was an important factor in the election or rejection of the aldermen at last election. The matter

was shelved last year. The amendments to the motion were mere subterfuges to evade voting on the question.

Ald. LOBB demurred to the insinuations of Ald. Moore, and flung them back with scorn.

The amendment was carried, and subsequently on motion of Ald. Denison, seconded by Ald. Lobb, the 25th February was fixed as the day of polling, which will be taken by the deputy returning-officers who acted at the recent elections.

On Wednesday afternoon a largely attended meeting of temperance workers was held at Shaftesbury Hall to discuss the situation. Rev. John Smith presided, and there was a good attendance of earnest temperance workers. A letter was read from Bishop Sweetman, President of the Church of England Temperance Society, stating that that organization would be heartily in accord with all the other societies in the movement. The following committee was appointed to take such steps as might to them seem desirable to put in motion a public agitation in connection with the question: Revs. John Smith, G. M. Milligan, P. McF. McLeod, Robert Wallace, Messrs. Joseph Oliver, N. W. Hoyles, James Thomson, John McMillan, and Thos. Jolliffe. The subsequent action of this committee is shown by the following circular that has been issued:

CIRCULAR FROM THE COMMITTEE OF TEMPERANCE ORGANIZATIONS.

Toronto, February 7th, 1884.

At a meeting of representatives of the various temperance organizations held on Wednesday last, to consider the action of the City Council with regard to the withdrawal of the license to sell liquors from the grocers, it was unanimously resolved, without loss of time, to take the necessary steps towards a vigorous and united effort to secure the passing of the by-law which the Council have decided to submit to the ratepayers on the 25th of February. Accordingly, a committee was appointed to arrange for two public meetings, the first to be held in St. Andrew's Hall, on Tuesday evening, the 12th inst., and the second in Shaftesbury Hall, on Thursday evening, the 14th inst.

At these meetings it was proposed to have the subject fully discussed by representative men, and at the close of each meeting to organize working committees in each ward, whose business it shall be to see that the electors are fully informed of the importance of the question at issue, and brought out on the polling day to record their votes; also to provide competent scrutineers for each polling division.

We then appeal to you as pastors of the various churches in the city, as the representatives of temperance societies, or as good citizens interested in all that concerns the welfare of the people to help us in this crisis in the history of our city, by announcing the above-mentioned meetings in every possible way, by being present at the meetings, and by preparing all whom you can influence to take active part in the work.

It is important that all organized societies holding meetings in the meantime should especially appoint delegates to attend the public meeting who would be ready to act on the Ward Committees.

We have every confidence that if this work be entered upon with vigor and enthusiasm, success will crown our efforts, and we feel that a very serious responsibility will rest upon all who should help us if, through apathy or neglect, our good cause should be defeated. We are, on behalf of the Committee,

JOHN SMITH,
Erskine Presbyterian Church,
Chairman.

JOHN McMILLAN,
G.W.P., Sons of Temperance,
Secretary.

The Temperance Hall, Temperance street, is the head-quarters of the Committee, all communications should be sent to the Secretary at that address.

LAMBTON COUNTY.—A very large and enthusiastic convention of prohibitionists assembled in the Temperance Hall at Wyoming on Tuesday to discuss the situation, and take council as to the advisability of again submitting the Scott Act to a vote of the electors. The hearty response from every part of the county