

Now, consider how many thousands of our fellow-citizens there are of whom most, if not all, these things are true. As a direct consequence of the use of alcoholic liquors, they are wasting their surplus, or failing to gain a surplus; by their failure to fulfil their contracts, they are devouring the gains of their neighbors; they are ruining their health and bequeathing physical and moral disorders to their children, and entailing upon society that curse of curses, hereditary pauperism; they are appealing to their neighbors for charity, and crowding the hospitals and the almshouses; they are committing assaults, robberies, murders—all manner of offences against the public peace and welfare.

Look at the subject from another point of view. The official reports of the United States Government show that at least six hundred millions of dollars are expended in this country every year for alcoholic liquors. That a considerable portion of this is used productively, in the arts, and innocently, or without any social injury, for drinking purposes, may be admitted.

Let us concede that one-half of it is used in this way. Half of all this amount must then be expended in such a manner as to produce those very effects of which we have been speaking. That is to say, we are paying out every year three hundred millions of dollars in the purchase of want, and pauperism, and vice, and disease, and insanity, and crime. So much money ought to procure a large quantity of these staples, and it does. Nobody can deny that we get our money's worth.

Look at it from another point of view. A low estimate puts the number of persons engaged in the sale of liquor at five hundred thousand. We have admitted that these persons render some service to the community; let us admit that half of the number would be required to dispense the amount of liquor that could be consumed without social injury. We have left an army of a quarter of a million of liquor-sellers, to whom we are paying three hundred million dollars every year. Society is rendering to them a pretty valuable service. What service are they rendering to society? They are devoting their energies to the destruction of society. They live wholly upon the ruin of their fellow men. The whole tendency of the employment for which society pays them so large a sum is to reduce their fellow citizens to those conditions of want and disease and moral degradation in which society becomes impossible. We are safe in characterizing this as a highly unsocial proceeding.

I have not intended any exaggeration in these statements; I believe that I have kept far within the truth. Neither have I any nostrum for the cure of this disease, nor any faith in those most commonly advertised. My own belief is that the roots of this evil run very deep, and that it will take many generations to eradicate them.

Nevertheless, it is well for all students of human welfare to keep distinctly before their minds the unsocial effects of intemperance—the large number of persons who, through this vice, become violators of the organic law of society, either as its burdens or as its foes.—*Century*.

Scott Act News.

GUELPH.—Mr. W. Watson, of Guelph called at this office a couple of days ago, and gave us a very encouraging report of the state of the work in that city. Preparations are being made for the circulation of petitions, and the prospects are for a grand victory in Guelph for the Scott Act.

PEEL.—From the *Brampton Conservative* we learn that the following resolution was unanimously adopted at the Brampton Financial District meeting of the Methodist church, which met at Streetsville on Wednesday last, and was ordered to be published:—

Resolved.—That this district meeting cannot separate without expressing its deep sympathy with the people of the county of Halton in their Scott Act agitation, and expresses its hope that all Methodists in the said county will use their utmost endeavors to do all in their power to further the success of the agitation now progressing to make the Scott Act an undoubted success; and the meeting also urges all Methodists in the county of Peel who may be voters in Halton not to fail to record their votes on the right side at the approaching election, and render what pecuniary help the committee may require.

JOHN F. GERMAN, M.A., District Superintendent.
EDWARD BARRASS, M.A., Financial Secretary.

NORFOLK.—There was a fair attendance at the Springfield Blue Ribbon meeting last Friday evening to hear the Rev. W. G. Brown lecture on temperance. His lecture was very interesting as he depicted the liquor business in all its phases. First, the immense profits made by the sale of intoxicating liquors, stating that one hotel keeper in St. Thomas had made over \$21,000 in seven years. Second, the misery in a drunkard's home, and the number of young men ruined by the use of it; and third, urged as the duty of all to do all they can to drive it from our midst. Ample opportunity was given to opponents of the Scott Act to discuss the question but was not taken advantage of. Where are the Antis! None seem to have the courage to come to Springfield. Are they ashamed of their cause?

The majority of the ratepayers in the town of Simcoe have signed the petition in favor of the Scott Act.—*Alma Express*.

WATERLOO.—In reply to a circular inviting the friends of temperance to a meeting or convention on Tuesday afternoon in the Town Hall, Berlin, a large number of leading temperance people put in an appearance. Something like thirty clergymen were amongst those who were present and took part in the meeting, Galt, Hespeler, Preston, Ayr, Dundee, Elmira, St. Jacobs, Breslau, Conestogo, Montrose, Winterbourne, Bloomingdale, and most every village and neighborhood in the county were represented by one or more of its leading people. Rev. Mr. Neugent was elected chairman, and Mr. Thos. Hilliard, secretary. On motion it was decided to form a Waterloo County Temperance Association, each male member of which to pay an annual fee of \$1, and each lady member 50cts. Something in the neighborhood of 100 names were put down as members. Addresses, highly encouraging to the temperance workers, were delivered by a number of the gentlemen—ministers and others who were present. The meeting seemed specially interested with the address of the Rev. Mr. Phillips, Galt, who is one of the leading temperance platform speakers of this Province. The thoughts of most of the speakers were apparently on the County of Halton where a vote in the repeal of the Scott Act is to be taken next Tuesday, and the prayers and sympathies of all Christians and Temperance workers were earnestly solicited for those who are laboring there to sustain the act. It was in this connection that one of the members of the W. C. T. U. of Berlin, said they will hold an all day prayer meeting on Tuesday next in the Methodist Church, and the Christian ladies throughout the county are cordially invited to unite, and participate in the said object. In the evening another meeting was held when the hall was filled by a larger crowd than could be seated. A number of able addresses in German and English were delivered, and the "Temperance Choir," led by Mr. Peter E. Shupe, gave a number of very spirited and rousing musical selections. The following are the officers of the County Association:—President, F. E. Neugent; 1st vice do., J. Y. Shantz. 2nd do., S. L. Umbach; Sec-Treas., T. Hilliard. A large number of local secretaries were appointed, some of whom are as follows:—Rev. Mr. Boyd, Crosshill; Mr. Copeland, Zion; Mr. Oakley, Hespeler; E. P. Clement, Berlin; Geo. Beavers, Elmira; S. Ried, Strasberg; J. L. Weidman, St. Jacobs; Dr. Passmore, Conestogo; J. Wing, New Dundee; E. G. Woodward, Hawksville; Mr. Toms, Doon; Ezra Eby, Bridgeport; Mr. Cavers, Galt; John Dunlop, Ayr; Joel Good, Waterloo; Rev. Mr. Teskey, Linwood.—*Weekly News*.

RENFREW.—The petitions to the Government to submit the Canada Temperance Act to the electors of this County have received considerably more than the required number of signatures, and will, according to notice previously given, be filed in the Registrar's office at Pembroke on Saturday. The total number of names on the Voters' Lists of the various municipalities of the County, for 1883, is about 5,800,—of those entitled to vote at Dominion or Scott Act elections. Of these however a considerable number are non-residents, or are the names of voters who have property in many different townships or polling sub-divisions, but who can only vote or sign the petitions once. Probably if all the possible votes in the County were polled, the total would not be much over 4,500. But this estimate is far in excess of any number that has hitherto been polled. In the election of 1883,—one of the liveliest campaigns,—only 2,048 electors in the North Riding voted for Murray and Deacon; and in South Renfrew, only 1,768 for Dowling and Devine. This totals up to 3,816, and as there are over 2,000 signatures to the Scott Act petitions, the prospects are good for the success of the