

The Canada Citizen

AND TEMPERANCE HERALD.

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

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TORONTO, FRIDAY, MARCH 27TH, 1885.

MEN, WOMEN, AND THINGS IN GENERAL.

There are prosy preachers elsewhere than in Toronto, as the following lines, "written during sermon," and entitled "A Moan in Church," show. They are taken from a late number of the London *Spectator*:—

"Dull-featured, leaden-eyed, the preacher stands,
And holds the sacred volume in his hands.
No touch of genius lightens up his face;
No kindly accent speeds the word of grace.
He drawls and maunders in unending drone;
O! for some lightning-flash, some thunder-tone,
Something to show life yet remains on earth,
Sorrow or joy, wild laughter, madness, mirth,—
Something for heart and mind to feel and know,
Not these sad phrases following row on row.
Our souls refuse the weary watch to keep,
And feel "God giveth his beloved sleep."
Grant, Lord, some help from heaven, some spirit-touch,
Now that we feel so little, hear so much;
And, as a set-off to our sins' amount,
Put this day's suffering down to our account."

Why is it that with a message so important the average preacher makes its delivery appear so much a matter of form and course. To this want of apostolic zeal and unction, more than to any other cause, except, perhaps, inconsistency between Christian profession and Christian life, is due the prevalent religious indifference of the day. The pulpit may perhaps be no less a power than at any previous time, but it is certainly not the power it would be if its occupants were more thoroughly imbued with the spirit of their high calling. Reading moral essays from the sacred desk is not the way to convert the world to Christianity, however noble the thoughts, or beautiful the embodying form. So long as æsthetic oratory is the chief aim, just so long will we have organizations like the "Salvation Army," within which there is room for those who are repelled from the so-called respectable churches. Between the Army on the one hand, and the secularists on the other, there is a long list of associations, the avowed object of which is to teach men what they should believe respecting their *post mortem* destiny. Both the army and the secularists are very much in earnest, and have the courage of their convictions. Of how many members and even pastors of churches can this statement be truly made?

The Japanese have invented a simple protection against rays of the sun when they become inconveniently, not to say dangerously warm. The frame work of the screen is of light bamboo and is fastened to the shoulders from each of which rises a bamboo stick, the two supporting a canopy of paper tinted green inside. If this device is found useful to the soldiers in the Egyptian deserts it would surely not come amiss to the ladies in Toronto, and it would certainly be more easily carried than the ordinary parasol. Who will have the courage to try it? If we had a dress reform association the invention might become popular.

ONLOOKER.

THE LIQUOR BUSINESS.

ROWLAND BURR, ESQ.,

OF THE CITY OF TORONTO, PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

made before the Parliamentary Committee appointed to enquire into the subject of Prohibition, a statement as to what he had observed as the result of liquor selling in a number of families.

He stated that he had kept for fifty-four years a record of publicly-known evil results of intemperance in the families of one hundred liquor dealers who had resided on Yonge street in and north of the city of Toronto, and his record made the following awful showing:—

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|---|-----------|
| Number of ruined drunkards in the one hundred families..... | 214 |
| Loss of property once owned in real estate..... | \$234,800 |
| Number of widows left..... | 46 |
| " orphans "..... | 235 |
| Sudden deaths..... | 44 |
| Suicides publicly known..... | 13 |
| Number of premature deaths by drunkenness..... | 203 |
| Murders..... | 4 |
| Executions..... | 3 |
| Number of years of human life lost by drunkenness..... | 1,915 |

Public Opinion.

The liquor deputation to Ottawa did not evidently gain much by their rather doleful journey. They found at the capital that there, as elsewhere, temperance principles are in the ascendancy, and that in the face of the rising tide opposition is almost useless. Their one serious demand—that for compensation—has not even been seriously entertained, and there is little left for them but to wait and see the developments of the popular will upon the subject. — *Whitby Chronicle*.

The liquorites ask the Government to appoint a commission to investigate the effect of the Scott Act on hotel property. Yes! and let there be a commission to learn the value of property depreciated, prisons and asylums built, homes blasted and souls ruined through this accursed traffic. The first commission could call all witnesses needed from the living and report in solid dollars and cents. The second must possess the power to subpoena the spirits of murdered innocents in Heaven and raving drunkards in hell, and its report must be written in letters of blood and fire. The dollar mark must be replaced by human life and real estate by an eternity of torture. — *Canadian Patriot*.

Good breeding is the result of much good sense, some good nature, and a little self-denial for the sake of others, and with a view to obtain the same indulgence from them.

A negro baby was born in Sumpter County, Georgia, which weighed only twenty-two ounces. It's funny how anything so dark can be so light.

A little boy discovered a bee crawling upon his hand. Finally the bee stopped for a moment, and, after remaining stationary for an instant, stung the little fellow. When the cry of pain was over, the little child said to his mamma that he didn't care for the bee's walking about on him, but he didn't like his sitting down.