

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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F. S. SPENCE, - - - MANAGER.

TORONTO FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19th, 1883.

OUR IMPROVEMENTS.

We have to thank the public for the generous appreciation with which THE CANADA CITIZEN has thus far been received. The steady increase of our subscription list, and the kind commendation of the press are very encouraging. We shall faithfully and persistently endeavor, as we have endeavored, to merit this favor. We believe that our country and our cause need such a journal as this, and that our enterprise is one that ought to win the sympathy and support of all who are loyal to the best interests of our Canadian nationality, and favorable to the great cause of moral reform.

In addition to the features that have already made THE CANADA CITIZEN acceptable and interesting, we purpose adding others that will increase its usefulness and attractiveness. We shall make a specialty of our department of General News, carefully culling from our many exchanges items recording every important occurrence in every part of the world, and condensing them into an easily read and comprehended form. We shall also put in our paper, without any extra charge, pieces of THE LATEST AND CHOICEST MUSIC, both vocal and instrumental. Every one of these will be complete and unabridged, and printed with the utmost exactness and care. We have excluded totally from our reading pages everything of an advertising character; we have no space for any humbug or pretence, and are determined to give to our readers the purest, best and cheapest Moral Reform literature that this or any other country can produce.

IOWA AND OHIO.

Before THE CANADA CITIZEN went to press last week, telegrams had announced that the prohibitory amendments had been carried in both of these states. We announced this as the result of the elections, and commented upon it. Later dispatches show that it is probable that our information was incorrect; that while Iowa has been carried overwhelmingly, it is expected that when full reports have been received it will be found that the enormous liquor-vote of Cincinnati and the other large cities of Ohio will leave the prohibitionists short of their desired result. They will, however, come so near to having a majority, that considering the enormous odds against which they fought, they are to be warmly congratulated upon what they have achieved, and they will,

no doubt, at the earliest opportunity renew the contest, in which—unless the progress of truth and right is entirely stopped—they must ultimately succeed.

There is no uncertainty in reference to the result in Iowa. By a grand majority that state has declared that within its borders legalized liquor-making and liquor-selling are things of the past. The temperance workers won a similar victory in this state before, but a technical flaw in their method of procedure, preventing enforcement of the law that was then enacted. We believe, that learning from their past mistakes they have made everything secure now, and we look for glorious results from their noble and persistent zeal.

The world is growing, and the near future will see more glorious victories of benevolence and truth over the allied forces of selfishness and degraded appetite.

TEMPERANCE AND LONGEVITY.

Last week in an article on Temperance Insurance, we commented on the remarkable facts brought out by the record of the Temperance section of the United Kingdom Temperance Provident Association. Our attention has since been called to the obituary record of the National Division of the Sons of Temperance. That organization has no special physical qualification for membership. It is not made up of picked lives. It is usually gone into by comparatively young men and women, but all its members are of course total abstainers. Its death-record is remarkably small, but in addition to this is to be noted the extraordinary average of age attained by those of its members who have been removed by death. Of the male members, in the year 1880-1, there were eight deaths, and the average age of the deceased was sixty-four years and four months; in 1881-2 there were twelve deaths at the average age of seventy-one years and two months; and in the year 1882-3 there were ten deaths at the average age of seventy-one years and six months. The three years' record gives thirty deaths at the average age of sixty-nine years and nearly six months. When we consider that this is the record of a society, not of the last century, with only aged members surviving, but a society in active operation to-day, and every year adding largely to its numbers, we cannot fail to be impressed with the wonderful addition that total-abstinence makes to an ordinary life expectancy.

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

We publish on another page an extract from *The Alliance Year Book*, giving the total results thus far of the voting upon the Scott Act. It will be seen from this table that the county of Lambton voted twice, once when it gave a majority of 215 in favor of the Act, and again when it recorded a majority of 85 against it. It is hardly fair to reckon the same vote twice in an estimate of popular opinion, nor would it be fair to take either voting into account and utterly ignore the other. If we omit Lambton from the calculation we shall find the remaining vote to stand as follows:

For the Scott Act.....	33676
Against " "	16798

Majority for the Act..... 16878

That is, the vote in an aggregate of thirty-four cities and counties is a little more than two to one in favor of prohibition.

Let us understand exactly what these figures mean. It is well known that in all political contests in which temperance is the prominent issue, it is a great deal easier to bring the liquor vote to the polls, than it is to bring the vote of the other side. We can always be assured that the whole strength of the whisky party will come out, but we cannot be equally certain that the sentiments of the better disposed part of the community will be as fully represented. There are many men favorable to our views who do not take any active part in public affairs, some weak-backed voters are afraid of giving offence to their drink loving or drink-selling friends, and every day we hear men asserting that though they will not support measures so defective as they believe the Scott Act to be, they would go in heartily for total prohibition. In addition to these we have the almost unanimous sentiment of the yet unenfranchised female section of the community in favor of prohibition, and our country is full of active young men not yet electorally qualified who