

THE CAMP FIRE

A Monthly Record and Advocate of the Temperance Reform.

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25 CENTS PER YEAR

NO!

The Dominion Government Declines to Accede to the Request of the Prohibitionists.

Ottawa, 4th March, 1899.

DEAR MR. SPENCE.—When the delegation of the Dominion Alliance waited upon the Government last fall, to ask, as a consequence of the plebiscite, the introduction of prohibitory legislation, they based their demand upon the fact that on the total of the vote cast there was a majority in favor of the principle of prohibition. The exact figures of the votes recorded were not at that time accurately known, but the official figures, which we have now, show that on the question put to the electors, 278,487 voted yea, and 264,571 voted nay. After the official figures had been made public, it was contended by some of the opponents of prohibition that the margin of difference between the majority and the minority was so slight that it practically constituted a tie, and there was, therefore, no occasion for the Government to pronounce one way or the other. The Government does not share that view. We are of the opinion that the fairest way of approaching the question is by the consideration of the total vote cast in favor of prohibition, leaving aside altogether the vote recorded against it.

"In that view of the question, the record shows that the electorate of Canada, to which the question was submitted, comprised 1,233,849 voters, and of that number less than 23 per cent., or a trifle over one-fifth, affirmed their conviction in the principle of prohibition.

"If we remember that the object of the plebiscite was to give an opportunity to those who have at heart the cause of prohibition, who believed that the people was with them, and that if the question were voted upon by itself, without any other issue which might detract from its consideration, a majority of the electorate would respond, and thus show the Canadian people prepared and ready for its adoption, it must be admitted that the expectation was not justified by the event. On the other hand, it was argued before us by yourself and others, that as the plebiscite campaign was carried out by the friends of prohibition without any expenditure of money and without the usual excitement of political agitation, the vote recorded in favor of it was comparatively a large one. This statement I did not then controvert, nor do I controvert it here and now. I would simply remark that the honesty of the vote did not suffer from the absence of those causes of excitement, and that even if the totality of the vote might have been somewhat increased by such cause, its moral force would not have been made any stronger. I venture to submit for your consideration, and the consideration of the members of the Dominion Alliance, who believe in prohibition as the most efficient means of suppressing the evils of intemperance, that no good purpose would be served by forcing upon the people a measure which is shown by the vote to have the support of less than 23 per cent. of the electorate. Neither would it serve any good purpose to enter here into further controversy on the many incidental points discussed before us. My object is to simply convey to you the conclusion that, in our judgment, the expression of public opinion recorded at the polls in favor of prohibition, did not represent such a proportion of the electorate as would justify the introduction by the Government of a prohibitory measure.

"I have the honor to be, dear Mr. Spence,

"Yours very sincerely,

(Sgd.) "WILFRID LAURIER."

Kindly read this paper carefully. Can you afford to do without it? In the coming campaign you will need the facts and arguments that you cannot get anywhere else. The price is very small. Send us your subscription if you are not a subscriber already.

NOTES AND NEWS.

WEALTH FROM POVERTY.

In Great Britain during the year 1898, thirty brewers and malsters died, leaving estates aggregating in value \$13,619,215. This was an average of \$450,000 each. What an enormous amount of poverty must have been caused by the traffic which accumulated this great wealth.

THE INTERNATIONAL.

At Paris, France, during Easter week, will be held the seventh International Congress against the abuse of alcoholic liquors. The Congress will open on Tuesday, April 4th, and is expected to be unusually large and important. The programme published gives a list of papers to be presented, prepared by leading temperance reformers in many parts of the world.

A GREAT CONVENTION.

Arrangements have been made for holding the next Convention of the World's W.C.T.U. in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1900. It will follow the World's Temperance Congress in London, to be held the first week in June. These two great gatherings will help each other, and result in probably the greatest assemblage of temperance reformers from every part of the world, that has yet been held.

TOTAL PROHIBITION.

A very important official regulation has been promulgated by the Secretary of the United States Navy in the following order, which has been sent to the commanders of all navy yards and war vessels:

"After mature deliberation the department has decided that it is for the best interests of the service that the sale or issue to enlisted men of malt or other alcoholic liquors on board ships of the navy, or within the limits of naval stations, be prohibited. Therefore, after the receipt of this order, commanding officers and commandants are forbidden to allow any malt or alcoholic liquors to be sold or issued to enlisted men either on board ships or within the limits of the navy yards, naval stations and marine barracks, except in the medical department."

PROPOSED LEGISLATION.

A document has been published in Great Britain purporting to be a draft of the forthcoming report of the Commission that has been inquiring into the liquor traffic and the working of the license laws. The most important reforms recommended are a reduction in the number of licenses, the registration of all clubs, the prohibition of the sale of liquor to persons under sixteen years of age, prohibition of the sale of liquor by grocers and druggists, and the introduction of an elective element into licensing boards. The report is not yet published.

THE IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

The British Parliament has before it at the present time a number of bills relating to the temperance question, among them being local option measures for England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, and bills proposing to entirely prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors on Sunday in England and in Ireland. Lord Stanley has introduced a Bill to

legalize the sale of liquor in the Parliament buildings which had been, and still is, carried on without any authority. The bill is a very short one, containing besides the preamble and title, only the following clause:

"Nothing in the Licensing Acts, 1872 and 1874, or any Acts amending the same, or in any enactment relating to the revenue of excise shall affect or apply to the sale of intoxicating liquor in the building known as the Palace of Westminster for consumption therein."

PUBLIC OPINION.

An interesting plebiscite on the question of liquor legislation has just been taken in the Montrose-Burgs in Scotland, which are represented in Parliament by Mr. John Morley. Cards were sent to the voters and collected. The total vote polled amounted to 5,392. The question submitted was as follows:

"Do you wish Parliament to terminate all liquor licenses at the end of a period of years, to be fixed by the Legislature; thereafter the people to have full and complete control of the liquor traffic?"

The result of the voting was as follows:

Yes	4,819
No	573

No fewer than 53½ per cent. of the total number of voters on the rolls marked their ballots in the "Yes" column. Mr. Morley, when elected by this constituency, had a majority of 1,993, but the total vote he polled was 254 less than the vote polled in the affirmative in the plebiscite.

EDUCATED DRUNKARDS.

An absurd theory that education will remedy the evils of intemperance is made manifest by Rev. J. W. Horsley in his famous book on "Prisons and Prisoners." Among other strong statements made by this eminent philanthropist are the following:

"Brain workers provide the most hopeless cases of dipsomania. Increased brain power, more brain-work; more brain exhaustion, more nervous desire for stimulant, more rapid succumbing to the alcohol habit—these are the stages that can be noted everywhere among those who had more 'schooling' than their fathers. Australia consumes more alcohol per head than any nation. In Australia primary education is more universal than in England, and yet there criminals have increased out of all proportion to the population. Of much crime, of many forms of crime, it is irrefragably true that crime is condensed alcohol; and it is certainly not true that the absolutely or comparatively illiterate alone comprise those who swell these categories."

THE NEW PARTY LEADER.

Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, the new leader of the Liberal party in Great Britain, expressed himself in his last election address as approving of the Government proposal to authorize localities to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquor. This is in fact a fixed item in the programme of the Liberal party. In the same election contest Sir William Harcourt is reported as expressing his position in the following terms:

"If temperance legislation was unpopular they must make it popular. They must educate the people into seeing what was to their own interest, and into consulting the benefit of the community to which they should belong. The bill for which he was responsible, and for the responsibility of which he was not ashamed, had been called a tyrannical bill, which was to put away every public house and deprive people of proper opportunities of refreshment. That was absolutely untrue. The bill did nothing of the kind. It left the parish, or district, or ward to do what its population desired should be done in regard to the matter. If any change were made at all it must be made by the

people themselves. It was a principle thoroughly Liberal and absolutely democratic. The Liberal principle was the government of the people by the people."

IMPORTANT HISTORY.

Inquiries are frequently made regarding the facts of certain incidents in the history of the prohibition movement in Canada. There is hardly an event that has not been to some extent misrepresented. Garbled statistics have been published regarding the working of the Scott Act in different localities. The brief experiment of total prohibition in New Brunswick is represented as a failure. Many other events are partially forgotten or not thoroughly understood.

It is proposed to publish in the Camp Fire a series of articles setting out accurately the details relating to a number of such events, showing what actually occurred, and making clear the lessons to be learned from their history.

Students and advocates of prohibition will find these papers of incalculable value in their researches and work. The first will be published in our issue for April.

THE SERPENT'S TRAIL.

SOME CANADIAN SPECIMENS.

A married man named Landsley, who had been drinking very heavily, attempted suicide by cutting his throat in Toronto, on Wednesday, Feb. 1st.

A shocking crime was committed at Hamilton, Ont., on Wednesday, Feb. 8th. A man named Parrott, dehumanized by strong drink, brutally murdered his mother with an axe. Punishment will, no doubt, be meted out to the wretched man, while those who made money out of his drunkenness will not be asked by the court to explain their conduct which is authorized by law.

Among the news from Vancouver, B.C., of February 15th, was an account of the arrest of a boy of eight years, who was taken up in a shocking state of intoxication. He was conveyed to his home, but became so violent that his mother requested to have him locked up.

A press despatch from Chesley, Ont., dated February 25th, reports a case of shocking brutality on the part of Charles Haines, a confirmed drunkard, who announced to his family at midnight, his intention of setting fire to their home. His wife and children rushed from the house. A daughter Maggie, aged fourteen, had not time to dress herself, and outside the house she was seized by her father who held her till her feet were terribly frozen. Her mother attempted to get the child free, and was severely bitten by the drunken ruffian.

THE CURSE SPREADING.

Shiploads of rum and beer are being sent to Porto Rico, Cuba, and the Philippines. So say the papers. For this spreading of the liquor curse the United States is directly responsible. Is it to be that our acquiring control of those islands is to be followed by our inflicting the rum curse upon the helpless inhabitants and thereby ruin them, "in the interests of trade," as we have ruined the Indians? Is the greed of the rum power, with its ability to dominate in its own interests, the policy of the Government to make our possessing those islands a curse instead of a blessing to the inhabitants? The Almighty crowned our army and navy with signal victories, and thereby opened for us the opportunity of being the messengers of peace, good will and prosperity to those islands. Shall we disregard His mercies by ungratefully inflicting upon His children the woe of drunkenness and inebriety?—*Religious Telescope.*

The Camp Fire.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL

OF TEMPERANCE PROGRESS.

SPECIALLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
THE PROHIBITION CAUSE.

Edited by F. S. SPENCE

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NOTE.—It is proposed to make this the cheapest Temperance paper in the world, taking into consideration its size, the matter it contains and the price at which it is published.

Every friend of temperance is earnestly requested to assist in this effort by subscribing and by sending in facts or arguments that might be of interest or use to our workers.

The editor will be thankful for correspondence upon any topic connected with the temperance reform. Our limited space will compel condensation. No letter for publication should contain more than two hundred words—if shorter, still better.

TORONTO, MARCH, 1899

THE GOVERNMENT REPLY.

The Dominion Government has sent to the Secretary of the Dominion Alliance a formal reply to the deputation that waited upon it last November. This reply will be read by prohibitionists with feeling of intense disappointment. In a hard fight against heavy odds, with comparatively small expenditure of money, against wealth, fraud and prejudice, they won a splendid victory, securing a majority of 13,916.

The Government bases a refusal to grant prohibition, on the ground of the smallness of the prohibition vote. This excuse comes rather late. When Hon. Sir Wilfred Laurier promised definitely on behalf of the Government, to obey the mandate of the people as expressed at the polls, he could not be understood as meaning to obey the mandate of the people who gave no mandate. The people whose opinion was to be respected were the people who expressed that opinion.

Quebec is the only province of the Dominion that voted against prohibition. The great majority recorded in favor of the liquor traffic by that province was largely the result of misrepresentation and fraud. Yet, it was wiped out and over-balanced by the English-speaking provinces, which gave a majority of 107,947 in favor of prohibition. The decision of the Government cannot be accepted by the prohibitionists, and an appeal will doubtless be made to Parliament for fairer treatment than the Government seems disposed to grant.

PLEBISCITE FRAUDS.

In other columns of this paper will be found references to the Quebec vote in the prohibition plebiscite, charging that gross and widespread fraud existed in the making of returns, and that the great majority against prohibition, polled in the Province of Quebec, is not a fair expression of public opinion, but was obtained by ballot-stuffing of the most shameful kind.

These charges are made by gentlemen who are thoroughly reliable, conscientious and careful. They would not make them unless they had definite knowledge that what was stated was true.

The matter was discussed at the annual meeting of the Quebec Branch of the Dominion Alliance, held on the 2nd inst. We understand that an appeal is to be made to the Dominion Government for a thorough inquiry

into the matter. It is to be hoped that the Government will make a thorough investigation of the matter, enabling us to some extent to estimate the extent of these frauds, and thus make it clear that the honest vote polled throughout the Dominion, was even more overwhelmingly in favor of prohibition than has been supposed.

CANADA'S LIQUOR CONSUMPTION.

The report of the Commissioner of Inland Revenue for the year 1898 shows a remarkable falling off in the quantity of spirits entered for consumption in the Dominion of Canada.

The average quantity of Canadian spirituous liquor paying duty annually for the past thirty years has been 1,010 gallons per one thousand of our population. The average annual quantity for the five years ending 1875, was 1,874 per 1,000 population. The average quantity for the five years ending 1898 was 658 gallons. The quantity entered for consumption in 1898 was 536 gallons.

This falling off was to be expected, inasmuch as the quantity of liquors entered for consumption in 1897, and the revenue collected thereon, were much above the average, a great deal of spirits being taken out of bond in anticipation of a change in the duties. The total revenue accruing on Canadian spirits in 1897 was \$4,772,369. The revenue for 1898 was \$3,593,980.

The total quantities of intoxicating liquors entered for consumption in 1898 for each 1,000 of our population was as follows:

Spirits.....	536 gallons
Beer.....	3,808 "
Wine.....	82 "
Total.....	4,426 "

This shows a per capita consumption of intoxicating liquor of about four and a half gallons, which is about one-fourth the quantity consumed in the United States, and about one-seventh the quantity consumed in Great Britain.

SECOND OFFENCES.

In the License Acts of nearly every province, and also in the Canada Temperance Act, is to be found an important enactment in the following or some similar form:—"A conviction may in any case be had as for a first offence, notwithstanding that there may have been a prior conviction or convictions for the same or any other offence."

Under the Scott Act the penalty for selling liquor is for a first offence a fine of Fifty Dollars, and for a third offence imprisonment for two months. Under the Ontario License Act the penalty for selling liquor without a license is a fine of Fifty Dollars to One Hundred Dollars for a first offence, and imprisonment for four months for a second offence. In many places magistrates persistently treat all offences as first offences under the provisions above quoted, thus making a fine the penalty for every offence.

Where officers are not diligent, convictions are few, and offenders escape with fines that they can afford to pay, because of the profit they make. This system practically licenses liquor selling in Scott Act counties, and licenses diving in other places.

It may be said that this evil results from the abuse of their power by magistrates and prosecuting officers. Where power is abused systematically and continually, the simple remedy for the abuse is the taking away of the power. Matters have come to such a pass that it seems absolutely necessary to secure some modification of the clause quoted.

There is the more necessity for this change in view of the probability of our having prohibitory legislation at an early date. We want prohibition that will not be at the mercy in any locality, of any magistrate who prefers to use it as a means of licensing liquor selling.

PUBLIC OPINION.

A great deal is sometimes said and written to the effect that it is absolutely necessary to have an overwhelming public opinion in favor of prohibition before a prohibitory law can be enforced. To a certain extent public opinion assists law enforcement, but laws are frequently well enforced and thoroughly effective in communities in which there is no public opinion in their favor.

The effectiveness of law enforcement is determined by the integrity and activity of the officers who have charge of its enforcement. The cases in which private citizens make personal sacrifices of either money, time or convenience to assist these officers, are very rare.

In ordinary cases policemen and other law-enforcing officials, are expected to diligently watch for evidence of law violation, and use every effort to detect and punish offenders. There seems to be in the minds of some people an idea that in the case of liquor laws some other people should do the work of the officials, or that the official's duty is simply to wait till other people bring him evidence or information of wrong-doing.

In certain parts of the United States law-enforcing officials are periodically elected by the people, and therefore reflect in their personal sympathies the opinions of the community in which they work. Such a state of affairs does not exist in Canada, and public opinion is not generally a factor in law enforcement, except in so far as it may influence men who are more anxious to stand well with their neighbors than to do their duty. Fortunately, most Canadian law-enforcing officials are responsible to higher authority, less influenced by local sentiment and more in harmony with public opinion as a whole.

Active hostility to a prohibitory law would come from exactly the same elements that are now hostile to the restrictive provisions of license law. Prohibition is naturally easier of enforcement than license. There will always be effort on the part of a few to defy any law by the violation of which they can make money. These offenders will not be kept in check by the opinion of a community. They can only be prevented doing wrong by honest officials. The personal character of law-enforcing officers is what decides whether or not a law is enforced.

A WARNING.

The desperate efforts made by the anti-prohibitionists in the Plebiscite campaign shows forcibly that they feel the weakness of their position and the strength of the movement for the total suppression of the liquor traffic.

A determined attempt was made to secure the submission of a question that would have been misleading and unfair. An attempt was also made to induce the Government to declare beforehand that a simple majority of votes polled would not be sufficient to warrant prohibitory legislation. Falsehoods regarding the utterances of the Dominion Premier were freely circulated. A most ingenious and to some extent successful attempt was made to persuade friends of the Liberal party that a vote for prohibition might be an

injury to the present Liberal Government.

When the voting was completed, it was admitted that prohibition had carried. Returns were incomplete. Despatches from different points of the Province of Quebec, however, made it clear that that Province had declared against prohibition. A carefully calculated estimate of the probable majority was published. Curiously enough this estimate was increased from day to day during the interval between polling and the official publication of the vote. The Government announcement of the Quebec vote when made, showed a majority of about double what the anti-prohibitionists had at first claimed.

It is very improbable that the early estimates could have been so far astray. Quebec prohibitionists claim to have evidence of frauds which explain this increase, and confidently assert that their Province has been misrepresented and is not as hostile to prohibition as the reported figures would indicate.

All this is a warning to prohibitionists. It ought to impress them with the fact that they are dealing with an enemy absolutely unscrupulous, desperate in its fear of overthrow, and financially strong enough to make a tremendous fight. The contest has only begun. When Parliament comes to deal with the question of legislation every effort will be made to thwart the friend of right and to prevent the carrying out of the will of the people. One of the most important duties of prohibitionists at the present time is to let it be distinctly understood that they will stand by the men who stand in Parliament for what is right, and will unhesitatingly oppose, regardless of any partisan prejudice, all who side with the liquor traffic against the people. We owe this to our friends in Parliament, and to the cause upon the triumph of which so much depends.

LICENSE FEES.

The Ontario Government has introduced into the Legislature a bill providing for an increase in the fees to be paid for licenses to sell strong drink. The increases are on a sliding scale culminating in the highest addition, which is made to the fees charged in cities of 100,000 population. The only city of this class is Toronto. Liquor sellers there will have to pay \$150 in addition to the \$350 that they are now charged, making the Toronto license fee \$500. The increase proposed in other cities is less, and in towns less still.

Temperance people are not very much interested in this question. It is not likely that the change to be made will diminish the number of licenses. The same business will go on, the same evil will be done, the same prices for liquor will be charged, the Government profit on the transaction will be a little more, the liquor sellers' profit will be a little less, the community will suffer just as much.

The whole theory of the license system is wrong. No Government has a right to authorize an evil business for a money consideration. The amount of the price does not affect the nature of the transaction. It seems to us that there is little moral difference between the action of the man who commits a crime for the sake of \$100 and the man who commits a crime for \$1,000. The liquor men are strongly objecting to pay more than they pay now. Temperance people are not interested in the division of the plunder and will probably leave the Government and the liquor sellers to settle it between themselves.

Selections.

STRIKE.

Up the hill-side, down the glen,
Rouse the sleeping citizen;
Summon out the might of men!

Like a lion growling low—
Like a night-storm rising slow—
Like the tread of unseen foe—

It is coming—'t is night!
Stand your homes and altars by;
On your own free thresholds die.

Clang the bells in all your spires;
On the grey hill of your sires
Fling to heaven your signal fires.

O, for God and duty stand,
Heart to heart and hand to hand,
Round the old graves of the land.

Perish party—perish clan;
Strike together while ye can,
Like the arm of one strong man.
—Whittier.

SAVE ME.

O, Brothers! I am wounded,
Rum hath stretched me on the field—
I have fought, but he has conquered,
For you offered me no shield.
There are many down beside me,
Who must die ere aid can come.
But, O heed the drunkard's pleading!
Save our future men from rum.

Listen, voters, I am dying!
'Tis the drunkard's dreadful death;
I would whisper you this morning,
With my foul, rum-laden breath,
Let not the love of office,
Or fear of murderous hand,
Keep the voters from removing
This dread foe from our land.
—The Issue.

THE BAR.

BY MRS N. F. STOUGHTON.

Why call it a bar? Say, whence is derived
This name for a depot of spirits of evil?
Was the name by some sly friend of
virtue contrived,
Or, like the thing named, did it come
from the devil?

Be this as it may, 'tis a capital name,
Short, easily said, and of meaning
most pregnant;
And I rather suspect from the devil it
came;
For 'e'en to his friends he is slyly mal-
ignant.

But what is its meaning? Why call it
a bar?
Because *prima facie*, it bars from the
liquor;
But that's not it's full, honest meaning,
by far;
Just jingle the money, the rum fol-
lows quicker!

I'll tell what it means—'Tis a bar to all
good,
And a constant promoter of every-
thing evil;
'Tis a bar to all virtue—that's well
understood—
A bar to the right and a fort for the
devil.

'Tis a bar to all industry, prudence and
wealth,
A bar to reflection, a bar to sobriety;
A bar to clear thought and a bar to
sound health,
A bar to good conscience, to prayer,
and to piety.

A bar to the sending of children to
school,
To clothing and giving them good
education;
A bar to the observance of every good
rule,
A bar to the welfare of family and
nation.

A bar to the hallowed enjoyment of
home,
A bar to the holiest of earthly
fruition;
A bar that forbids its frequenters to
come
To the goal and rewards of a virtuous
ambition.

A bar to integrity, honor and fame;
To friendship and peace and conju-
gial love;
To the purest delights that on earth we
may claim;
A bar to salvation and Heaven above!
—Union Signal.

THOMAS JEFFERSON ALLEN.

Josiah Allen's children have been brought up to think that sin of any kind is just as bad in a man as it is in a woman; and any place of amusement that was had for a woman to go to, was bad for a man.

Now, when Thomas Jefferson was a little feller, he was bewitched to go to circuses, and Josiah said: "Better let him go, Samantha; it hain't no place for wimin or girls, but it won't hurt the boy." Says I: "Josiah Allen, the Lord made Thomas Jefferson with jest as pure a heart as Tirzah Ann, and no bigger eyes and ears, and if Thomas J. goes to the circus, Tirzah Ann goes too."

That stopped that. And then he was bewitched to get with other boys that smoked and chewed tobacco, and Josiah was just that easy turn that he would have let him go with 'em. But, says I: "Josiah Allen, if Thomas Jefferson goes with those boys, and gets to chewin' and smokin' tobacco, I shall buy Tirzah Ann a pipe."

And that stopped that. "And about drinkin'," says I, "Thomas Jefferson, if it should ever be the will of Providence to change you into a wild bear, I will chain you up and do the best I can by you. But if you ever do it yourself, turn yourself into a wild beast by drinkin', I will run away, for I never could stand it, never! And," I continued, "if I ever see you hangin' round bar-rooms and tavern doors, Tirzah Ann shall hang too." Josiah argued with me, says he, "It don't look so bad for a boy as it does for a girl."

Says I, "Custom makes the difference; we are more used to seein' men. But," says I, "when liquor goes to work to make a fool and a brute of anybody, it don't stop to ask about sex; it makes a wild beast and an idiot of a man or a woman, and to look down from Heaven, I guess a man looks as bad lying dead drunk in a gutter as a woman does." says I: "things look differently from up there, than what they do to us—it is a more sightly place. And you talk about looks, Josiah Allen. I don't go on clear looks, I go onto principle. Will the Lord say to me in the last day, 'Josiah Allen's wife, how is it with the sole of Tirzah Ann—as for Thomas Jefferson's sole, he bein' a boy, it ain't of no account?' No! I shall have to give an account to Him for my dealin's with both these soles, male and female. And I should feel guilty if I brought him up to think that what was impure for a woman was pure for a man. If man has a greater desire to do wrong—which I won't dispute," says I, lookin' keenly onto Josiah, "he has greater strength to resist temptation. And so," says I, in mild accents, but firm as old Plymouth Rock, "if Thomas Jefferson hangs, Tirzah Ann shall hang, too."

I have brought Thomas Jefferson up to think that it was just as bad for him to listen to a bad story or song, as for a girl, or worse, for he had more strength to run away, and that it was a disgrace for him to talk or listen to any stuff that he would be ashamed to have Tirzah or me hear. I have brought him up to think that manliness didn't consist in having a cigar in his mouth, and his hat on one side, and swearin' and slang phrases, and a knowledge of questionable amusements, but in layin' holt of every duty that come to him, with a brave heart and a cheerful face; in helpin' to right the wrong, and protect the weak, and makin' the most and the best of the mind and the sole God had given him. In short I have brought him up to think that purity and virtue are both feminine and masculine gender, and that God's angels are not necessarily all she ones.—From Sweet Cicely.

CRUELITIES OF THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

Drinking alcoholic stimulants is not a natural passion, it is an artificial one. The stomach in a healthy condition rejects alcohol. Alcohol is positively injurious to a man in health. How, then, can a Christian claim he has a right to take his moderate drink, especially when he knows that alcoholic stimulants are the fruitful cause of three-fourths of all the physical, social, and spiritual desolations of the world.

A Christian who says fanatics have no right to ask him to give up the pleasure of his favorite glass, should go to the burying-ground in the sad autumn when the leaves are falling from the trees, and behold the widows in crape and the orphans in tears as they kneel on mounds prematurely made by the doctrine of the moderate glass. Let him accompany these bereaved and

sorrowful ones into their homes of desolation and want, and behold the ravages of strong drink there. Once this home was radiant with the smiles of love and the rippling laughter of innocence. God and the angels came into it with the greetings of the morning sunbeams, and infinite peace abounded everywhere during the day as the duties of each hour were rapturously filled without rest and without weariness. The lullabies of night prayer, and the consciousness of having toiled with God, peacefully closed the daily scenes of this lovely and ideal Christian home. The accursed intruder, strong drink, invaded this delightful home of peace and happiness. The cheeks of the sorrowful and broken-hearted mother, once ruddy and radiant with the smiles of love, are pallid and furrowed with grief. The ringing laughter of the innocent and loved little ones, that used to make the home musical and angelic, is for ever stifled in the throats of childhood. The sorrows of strong drink have fallen like a dark pall on that home, and the souls of all are sad and shrouded with grief. The father died prematurely of strong drink, the mother is a helpless widow, the little ones suffering and sorrowful orphans. The scene is not yet over. Behold this hard-working widow, forced to toil for bread for little orphans from early morning till late at night. Ten years later see her at the death-bed of a drunken son, and hear her sobbing out from a heart that has been pierced by the double sword of social cruelty.

Tell me not of the cruelties of dark and barbarous days, when defenceless women and helpless babes were mercilessly slain. They were kind and merciful days to the cruelties that are practised now-a-days on the wives and mothers and children of this generation.—Selected.

A SERMON ON WHISKEY.

An aged colored man rose to a standing position and a point of order, the other night, with a tremulous voice and a feeble mien, and combated a sentiment adverse to the crushing out of old King Alcohol. Said he: "Mind me, my bredern an' my sistern, of a nanne-cot I wonee heard when I was nigh about a pickinniny. Dar was a sho't ho'n kalf a rambling ob hisself down a shady lane, when wot should he see but Mr. Snaik a-lying on the ground wid a big rock on his head. Says Mr. Kalf: 'Wot de matter ob you?' Says Mr. Snaik: 'Please, Mr. Kalf, to take dis stone off my head.' 'Dunno,' says Mr. Kalf: 'spec you'll bite me.' 'Deed no,' says Mr. Snaik: 'you take de stone off an' sure I'll nebbber bite you.' So Mr. Kalf he knocked de stone off Mr. Snaik's hed. 'Which way you gwine, Mr. Kalf?' says Mr. Snaik. 'Down dis way,' said Mr. Kalf, 'so dey started off togedder. Bime by, Mr. Snaik says, 'Mr. Kalf, guess I'll bite you.' 'Why,' said Mr. Kalf, 'you said you wouldn't bite if I turned you loose.' 'I know dat,' says Mr. Snaik, 'but I kain't help it; it's my nature.' 'Well,' says Mr. Kalf, 'we'll leave dat queschun to de fust niggah we meet.' 'Well, de fust niggah dey met was a fox.' 'Mr. Fox,' says Mr. Kalf, 'I tuk a stone off Mr. Snaik's hed awhile back, an' he promised he wouldn't bite me; an' now he wants to bite, anyhow.' 'Well,' says Mr. Fox, 'de only way dat I can arborate de matter is to see de rig'nal persishuns on de parties.' So dey went back, an' Mr. Snaik laid hisself down, and Mr. Kalf put de stone on his head. 'Now,' says Mr. Fox, 'dat am de rig'nal persishuns ob de sputants, am it?' Dey boff said it was. 'Well,' said Mr. Fox, 'Mr. Kalf, you just go 'bout yo' his'ness and Mr. Snaik won't bite you.' Dass it, my bredern, dass it. You mus' put de stone on de hed an' gwine about yo' his'ness, and de Snaik won't bite you.'—Pittsburg Chronicle.

ONTARIO GRAND COUNCIL.

The Grand Council of Ontario, R.T. of T., held its annual meeting at Stratford on Feb. 21st, 22nd and 23rd. There was a good attendance of members, and many interesting reports were received, showing the Order to be in strong, flourishing condition. The report upon Political Action recommended the carrying of the prohibition question into party caucuses and conventions, and also appointed a committee to ask the Ontario Provincial Government to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors as far as in the power of that body. Nearly all the principal officers were re-elected. An organization to be known as the Junior Royal Templars of Temperance was approved. A handsome address and clock were presented to the Grand Secretary, Brother McMillan, who has recently been married.

IMPORTANT.

TORONTO, 1890.

DEAR FRIEND,—

You are respectfully requested to carefully examine **The Camp Fire**, a neat four-page monthly Prohibition paper, full of bright, pointed, convenient facts and arguments; containing also a valuable summary of the latest news about our cause. It is just what is needed to inspire workers and make votes.

The victory won last year was only the opening of a campaign in which the liquor traffic will do its utmost to block, delay, and if possible prevent our securing the enactment and enforcement of prohibitory law. We have plenty of hard fighting ahead of us. We must keep posted and equipped, knowing all that is being done by our friends and foes, and sophistry and misrepresentation that will be advanced.

The Camp Fire will be one of the best aids you can have in the struggle. It will contain nothing but what you need. Every number ought to be preserved. You cannot afford to be without it, and the subscription price is only nominal, **Twenty-five cents per year**.

While a necessity to every prohibition worker the **The Camp Fire** will also be of special value for distribution. Literature won the plebiscite victory. We must keep up the educating work. Printed matter tells. It does its work continuously, silently, fearlessly and No form of literature is so generally read and so potential as the up-to-date periodical. It comes with the force and interest of newness and life. For this reason the form of a monthly journal has been selected.

This journal will be in every respect reliable and readable. Every article will be short, good and forcible, containing nothing sectional, sectarian or partizan. The literature of the old world and the new world will be ramsacked for the most helpful and effective material. The price is very low.

Such literature will convince many a man whom his neighbors cannot convince. It will talk to him quietly, in his own home, in his leisure moments, when he can listen uninterruptedly, when he cannot talk back and when the personality of the talker cannot interfere with the effect of the talk.

It will ply him with facts, arguments and appeals, that will influence, instruct and benefit him. It will set him thinking. This is half the battle. Its wide circulation will swell the victory that we are about to win. This is its object.

Your help is asked in this great work. Every society should subscribe for and distribute hundreds of copies. This is the easiest and surest plan of making prohibition votes. Look at the terms:

Twenty copies will be sent to any one address every month for six months, for ONE DOLLAR, payable in advance.

On no other plan can a small investment be made to produce so much of educative result. One hundred and twenty copies may be placed in as many homes, and have more than HALF A THOUSAND readers. One dollar will cover this placing of the claims of our cause before five hundred people. Ten dollars may reach FIVE THOUSAND. WILL YOU HELP US?

Address,

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Toronto

THE PLEBISCITE.

THE QUEBEC VOTE.

A circular has been issued by the Quebec Branch of the Dominion Alliance, setting out some important facts relating to the voting last September in that Province. One of the most serious matters with which it deals is the improper practices which seem to have been common in many places. It will be remembered that at the interview of the prohibitionists with the Dominion Government, this matter was mentioned by Major Bond, and referred to also by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who did not think there was any general dishonesty. Major Bond again refers to this matter in a statement signed by him in the Alliance circular. He says:

The Premier then referred to the charge of fraud, and while disposed to admit that frauds may have been committed in the large cities, yet he was of the opinion that the rural vote was absolutely honest. I can only say that a careful investigation, since my statement was made, warrants me in making the assertion that if the Government investigation, which must necessarily be asked for, be granted, I believe that some of the most outrageous and widely extended frauds that were ever perpetrated in a campaign will be unearthed in the rural municipalities.

From the circular we take the following further interesting statements:

The Executive repudiate at the outset any idea of offering excuse or apology. They are satisfied with the splendid work performed by the temperance people in the Province, work done under most adverse circumstances, entailing labor and self-sacrifice that calls for the warmest recognition.

The problem placed before the Executive was one that had challenged the wisest counsels of the Dominion Alliance at its different sessions during the past five years. At the last annual meeting in Toronto, it was pointed out most clearly that the temperance forces in the Province of Quebec could not possibly be expected to protect the whole territory without financial aid from the other Provinces; but such aid was not forthcoming. Each Province had all it could do to take care of itself. The Province of Quebec was regarded as "A forlorn hope." It was freely granted that it would be hopeless to expect a favorable vote. The only question was how far could the opposition be held down.

The factors of the issue were:—

First: Preponderance of the French. The English population in the Province is about one-seventh; the French population in the Province is about six-sevenths. Roman Catholics number about 1,488,500; all others, 196,800. Now, while the French, more particularly in the rural districts, are most moderate in the use of alcohol, chiefly due to the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church—of which faith practically all the French Canadians are—yet the more radical question of prohibition had never been placed before the people as a live issue.

Secondly: The advisability or possibility of placing prohibition before the French rural electors in the short time between the adoption of the bill and the vote; and

Thirdly: The funds at the disposal of the Executive and the large territory to cover.

Regarding the first factor named, it was found we could only expect voluntary help where Protestant churches were established, as apparently all prohibition work had crystallized round these churches. In the purely French districts the Church of Rome taught temperance only, but with the splendid result according to the testimony of the Comptroller of Provincial Revenue before the Royal Commission, that over one-third of the municipalities of the Province were under "no license" system; but while fully recognizing the value of this system, it should not be overrated from a prohibitory point of view. Liquor, chiefly whiskey, could be freely and legally obtained, as importation was not controlled, and some of the serious crimes that have taken place recently in the Province are traceable directly to liquor.

Regarding the second factor, our first step was to approach the Roman Catholic Bishops of the Province, with the request that they would endorse the movement, and use their influence

towards having their people vote in favor of the act. After full consideration of the matter, the decision arrived at by the Bishops was not to interfere, but to allow their people to vote as they chose. It is well known that the only way to reach the French rural population on a subject such as prohibition would be to follow the custom of the country, and address meetings in front of the Church after services on Sundays. But, even if we had had the large staff of speakers at our disposal that would have been necessary for such a process, the question of advisability was one that required careful consideration; and the best advice we could collect throughout the Province was almost unanimous in being adverse to such a course. It was finally decided to address every priest in the Province by circular, a copy of which is printed herewith.

Closely connected is the third factor—that of the money at the disposal of the Committee. Notwithstanding the earnest appeals that were sent out when considering ways and means, about one month prior to the vote the Treasurer of the Central Committee was not able to report more than one thousand dollars in sight. It is true this was considerably augmented before the close of the campaign, but too late to be of service in the way of preparatory work.

The Committee were, however, able to secure the services of two competent French Canadian Roman Catholic gentlemen, one taking the north shore, and going as far as Quebec; the other taking the south shore, starting at St. Hyacinthe, and going as far as Rimouski. These gentlemen went to the central points in each county, and for the first week sent encouraging reports. They found many parish priests favorable to the movement, and quite a number of people willing to watch the polls so as to prevent fraud. However, about ten days before the vote was taken, the whole situation changed. Parties who had promised to watch the polls withdrew, and the tide set overwhelmingly against prohibition. The chief reason given for this was the active entry of four Dominion Cabinet Ministers into the field against the movement, and the report industriously spread that Sir Wilfrid Laurier wished all his supporters to vote against prohibition, and unless this was done the party would be endangered. An appeal was promptly made to Sir Wilfrid, who repudiated the use of his name in this connection; but the damage was done. Apart from this, even a greater factor was that of organized fraud. There is prima facie evidence of ballot-stuffing, both in the City of Montreal and in the rural districts, sufficient to cause the gravest doubts as to the correctness of the vote in the Province of Quebec.

QUEBEC R. T. OF T.

The annual meeting of the Quebec Branch of the Dominion Alliance was held on March 2nd, in the Y.M.C.A. building of Montreal, J. R. Dougall, the President, occupying the chair. The principal theme of discussion was the recent plebiscite and action to be taken following up the same. The delegates were unanimous in their demand upon the Dominion Parliament for legislation in obedience to the mandate of the people. A good deal of discussion took place over the question of fraudulent practices on the part of the liquor party during the voting, of which there was much evidence. Mr. J. R. Dougall was re-elected President, with a large and influential staff of vice-presidents and general committee. The appointment of Secretary was left to the Executive, deep regret being expressed that private business had compelled Mr. J. H. Carson to resign from that position which he had occupied for many years to the satisfaction of prohibition workers, and the great benefit of the cause.

A MANITOBA MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Manitoba Grand Council, R.T. of T., was held in Winnipeg on Feb. 11th and following days. Reports were very cheering. It was shown that the Select Degree had made an increase of about one hundred and fifty per cent. The report on Political Action called upon the Dominion Government to carry out its pledges by the enactment of prohibition following up the plebiscite. The Grand Councilor elect is S. H. Healey, of Virden; Grand Secretary, Dr. Beath, of Winnipeg.

FACTS AND FIGURES

FOR THINKERS AND SPEAKERS.

THREE BEERS A DAY, OR

1 Barrel of flour,
50 Pounds of sugar,
20 Pounds of corn starch,
10 Pounds of macaroni,
10 Quarts of beans,
4 Twelve-pound hams,
1 Bushel sweet potatoes,
3 Bushels Irish potatoes,
10 Pounds of coffee,
10 Pounds of raisins,
10 Pounds of rice,
20 Pounds of crackers,
100 Bars of soap,
3 Twelve-pound turkeys,
5 Quarts of cranberries,
10 Bunches of celery,
10 Pounds of prunes,
4 Dozen oranges,
10 Pounds of mixed nuts,

FOUR BIG BARRELS HEAPED UP! and in the bottom of the last barrel, a purse with two pockets. In one pocket a five dollar gold piece marked, "a dress for mother," in the other pocket a ten dollar bill, marked, "to buy shoes for the children."

Working men! Look at that list. What is it? That's what three beers a day for a year would buy. Do you hear that, drinking men? Three beers a day would buy that whole list, and a five dollar dress for mother, and ten dollars' worth of shoes for the children thrown in. Every drinking man that buys three beers a day could send to his home such a Christmas donation every year.

Fathers, look at that list.

Show it to mother.

Show it to the children.

Ask them how they would like such a donation for Christmas next year.

Three beers a day will buy it!—National Advocate.

NEW YORK'S LIQUOR BILL.

No one will accuse the New York press with being otherwise than friendly to the liquor interests. According to one of its reports, the men of this city during 1898 spent for wines, liquors and cigars, \$109,000,000. This is \$34,000,000 more than the entire annual clothing bill of the city; \$6,000,000 more than the amount spent by all the people for groceries. Men paid \$20,000,000 more last year for liquor and cigars than was spent in the city for boots and shoes, coal and wood, gas, car fares and hats. The liquor and cigar bill of the men folks of Gotham was \$89,000,000 more than the women spent for jewellery, dresses, hats, cloaks and capes, entertainments, perfumery and cosmetics, candy, ice cream and soda water. The women spent for these articles, \$40,484,305.

The whole city government of Greater New York cost, during 1898, \$77,559,332 or \$32,000,000 less than the drink and cigar bill of the city.

There were built in the city, in 1898, 5,312 residences, valued at \$91,075,404. The money spent for the articles drank and smoked last year would have built all the residences put up in the city for the housing of families, and 1,000 just like them in addition.

The increase in real estate values in 1898 in the city was \$63,180,317, just \$40,000,000 less than the liquor and cigar bill.

The \$109,000,000 spent for liquors and cigars would have paid the regular wages of 30,000 carpenters, painters, stone masons, tailors, women coat-makers and bootmakers, for a whole year.

Last year the public schools of the greater city cost \$12,003,611, about one-eighth of the amount spent for liquors and cigars.

These figures are compiled from statistics furnished *The World* by Carroll D. Wright, of the National Labor Bureau; the Controller of New York, and the heads of the Bureau of Vital Statistics, of this city.—Exchange.

THE GREAT DESTROYER OF THE ANGLO-SAXON RACE.

Mr. T. W. Russell, member of the English Parliament, in an address at Belfast, Ireland, referred to the history of the members belonging to a young men's society in County Tyrone, thirty-five years ago, and declared that every one whose life had turned out a failure had been ruined by drink. He described the appearance of the most brilliant of the youthful band laboring on a wharf at New York, brought low by the mecker. Drink had the country by the throat. When A. M. Sullivan

lay on his death-bed he sent for the speaker, pointed out to him that the Irish party was going to be captured by the drink-power, and charged him never to give up the battle. The public house had become a more potent force in politics than church or chapel. The apathy of Christian men and ministers was astounding. The scorn and vengeance of a trade grown rich by widows' tears and children's cries were almost enough to make one quail. Drink was the great destroyer of the Anglo-Saxon race; Satan's prime agency in the unmaking of men. The lecturer had changed some of his views, but those on the drink question he had never modified in the slightest degree.—N. Y. Advocate.

"IT NEVER PAID ME BETTER."

In an address at the recent annual meeting of the United Kingdom Alliance, held at Manchester, England, Rev. Charles Garrett said:

"I met with a brewer, a good man in his way, who had been a member and office-bearer in our church for years. He was a man kindly, generous, ready to help anybody in distress, and with a kindly word for anybody in trouble. He met me; we had a hearty shake of the hand. He said: 'Well, Mr. Garrett, I suppose you are as earnest in teetotalism as ever.' 'Yes,' I said, 'rather more.' 'Well,' he said, 'it's all right, you know; it pleases you and it doesn't hurt me. The fact is, I was never doing better than I am doing now.' Not long afterward I saw his second son coming out of the yard in delirium tremens with three men struggling with him, a fine young fellow and broad-chested. I saw them as they wrestled with him; his veins standing out like ropes on his forehead, and his eyes flashing. I saw him fall; they carried him in. Half an hour afterward I heard a whisper, 'he is dead,' and I went in to try and comfort the family; and when I entered the room, there was the body, and on that side was the mother drunk, and on the other side the brother drunk. As I stood and looked on that horrible scene I heard that father's words again, 'It never paid me better.'"

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"Temperance in a Nations" is an interesting and important work, based upon the World's Temperance Congress held at Chicago during the great exhibition.

It is in two handsome cloth bound volumes, comprising over 1,100 pages, containing a verbatim report of the proceeding of the Congress, together with a great collection of papers and addresses that were presented, dealing with various phases of the temperance reform and the liquor question. It is practically a statement of the position and a history of the progress of the temperance movement in every part of the world.

A few copies of this valuable work are now at the office of the CAMP FIRE. The publishers' price is Five Dollars. We can send a set post paid to any address in Canada for TWO DOLLARS.

CAMPAIGN EQUIPMENT.

There is a hard struggle ahead of Canadian prohibitionists. They will obtain magnificent results from the victory won at the polls in September last. There is, however, hard fighting ahead of us before the people's mandate is embodied in legislation, well enforced.

Anyone who wants to be well equipped for this campaign will act wisely in sending to the CAMP FIRE office One Dollar, and in return being credited with a year's subscription to this journal, and also receiving by mail, postpaid, the two valuable works named below.

The Vanguard, all numbers issued, in neat cloth binding, is the most important Canadian contribution yet made to the literature of the temperance and prohibition reform, containing over 650 pages full of invaluable argument, facts and statistics, all reliable, fresh and good, fully and carefully indexed.

The People vs. the Liquor Traffic, a set of lectures by the late Hon. J. B. Finch, is one of the most forcible and comprehensive arguments for Prohibition ever made. Special Canadian edition, 240 pages. Fine cloth binding, price 40 cents.