

THE CAMP FIRE.

A Monthly Record and Advocate of the Temperance Reform.

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Do not hesitate to take this paper from the Post Office. If you have not paid for it in advance, some one else has done so for you, or it is sent you free.

TO OUR FRIENDS.

Subscribers to the CAMP FIRE are respectfully requested to send in their subscriptions immediately upon receiving notification of their being due. As it would not pay us to keep special accounts with subscribers it is necessary for us to drop names when renewals are not sent. Every number will contain so much matter of interest and value to our workers that not one should be missed.

PROHIBITION WORKERS.

Kindly read this paper carefully. Note the information it contains. Think of the good that its wide circulation would accomplish. Consider the value it would be to yourself if you received it regularly. Then subscribe. You will need it in the coming fight. Get your society to take a number of copies for free distribution. Read the low rates at which it is furnished.

THE ONTARIO ELECTIONS.

We have earnestly entreated our Ontario friends from time to time to prepare for the election that is now upon them. The liquor-traffic is doing its best to capture the legislature. We must defeat it. Many men are in the field who can be relied upon to stand by our cause. It is our duty to stand by them. Let every temperance voter's ballot tell for God and home and country. Remember our often declared policy:—To vote for KNOWN AND AVOWED prohibitionists.

It is a cheap device to brand the Temperance movement as fanatical. Now, I deny that it has a single feature of fanaticism; for it is based upon physiological principles, chemical relations, the welfare of society, the laws of self-preservation, the claims of suffering humanity, all that is noble in patriotism, generous in philanthropy, and pure and good in Christianity.—William Lloyd Garrison.

He was a hundred and a day,
He slyly looked at me;
'Yeth, I have drunk and chewed and thmoked
Through all my life,' said he.

He was a hundred and a day,
And he was sturdy yet—
But, gentle reader, it was in
The poorhouse that we met.

A LESSON FOR CHICAGO.

Chicago will do well to pattern after Toronto in one respect—perhaps in more than one, but this in particular—in that city saloon keepers are not allowed to become members of the City Council. What a clearance there would be in the Chicago City Council if all the liquor dealers should be "with sighings sent" to --- their own place:—*Advance.*

NOTES OF NEWS.

PROGRESS OF THE CEASELESS STRUGGLE.

Items of Interest from many Fields.

St. John, N B.

The police returns for the past year show a total of 1,392 cases dealt with as against 1,357 in 1896. The arrests for drunkenness number 788, an increase of 95. In considering such statistics it must be borne in mind that many other offences besides drunkenness are directly chargeable to the liquor traffic.

Getting Ready.

The Manitoba Branch of the Dominion Alliance is setting about preparation for the Plebiscite with vigor and earnestness. Already a large supply of prohibition leaflets has been secured and distributed. The President, Rev. J. M. A. Spence of Winnipeg, has issued a stirring appeal to all workers all over the province, to drop minor political issues and differences and make prohibition the issue of the hour.

Illicit Whiskey.

Mr. E. Floody, Inland Revenue Inspector, recently captured a large and well-equipped still near the town of Lindsay, Ont., and had the owner thereof arrested. It does not seem that the present rigid excise laws prevent men from manufacturing whiskey illicitly. Yet we are sometimes pointed to smuggling and illicit distillation under prohibition as evidence that prohibitory law is not a success.

Results of Rum.

The City of Charlottetown is already reaping the sad results of Scott Act repeal. A letter recently received from a well informed gentleman there, says "The situation as regards sobriety is at present most deplorable and is the daily comment of the press and the pulpit. In the history of the city there has never been such a condition of shameful drunkenness as exists at present."

A Big Victory.

The township of Mariposa has defeated a by-law for the repeal of local option, the vote standing for prohibition 544, against 273. This township has had a local option by-law in force for three years, not always as well enforced as could be desired, but still accomplishing such results as to commend itself to public opinion so as to secure the strong endorsement which has just been given it, and which may fairly be taken as the spoken opinion of the electorate.

A Welcome Co-Worker

The Grand Division, Sons of Temperance of Ontario, is publishing an attractive eight-page monthly paper, entitled "The Sons of Temperance Record and Prohibition Advocate." J. M. Walton, G.W.P., of Kettleby is editor, Messrs A. Gowler and J. C. McCarthy, of Toronto, are assisting in the management. Special attention will be given to pushing the work of the Sons of Temperance Order, and stirring up the electorate to prepare for the coming Plebiscite campaign. The first issue is attractive, bright and in every way promising. We wish its promoters the fullest kind of success.

A Stirring Debate.

The prohibition question evoked a hot discussion in the Montreal Church of England Diocesan Synod, on January 20th. A report on temperance work was presented urging members to promote the cause by advocating total prohibition as well as by moral suasion and general education. Several clergymen objected to the Synod's going on record as in favor of prohibition, and stirring speeches were made by prohibitionists and license advocates. The report was finally so amended as

to make it optional with members of Church Temperance Societies to advocate prohibition, moral suasion or education. A very able speech was made by Mr. E. L. Bond in support of prohibition. The presiding Bishop also declared himself "an out and out prohibitionist."

Halton Ready.

The annual meeting of Halton County Prohibition Association was held at Milton on January 18th. A good turn-out of representatives was present. Arrangements were made for the coming Plebiscite campaign. Officers were elected as follows:—Pres., Dr. Robertson, 1st. Vice-Pres., David Hartley, 2nd. Vice-Pres., Johnson Harrison, Sec., W. J. Armstrong, Asst. Sec., Miss Clara Hollinrake, Treas., Geo. Wooding, Chap., Rev. H. A. McPherson. An Executive Committee was also selected, composed of the officers named and the following, E. F. Earl; R. White; Rev. D. W. Snider; Rev. A. Mahaffy, of Milton; H. P. Moore, of Acton; H. W. Kennedy, of Georgetown; W. H. Young, of Oakville; E. H. Cleaver, of Burlington; H. N. Cook, of Trafalgar; C. Newell, of Nelson; C. P. Preston, of Esquesing; Thomas Moore, of Nassagaweya, and the presidents and secretaries of temperance organizations.

A Fearful Record.

Elizabeth Watts aged twenty-eight, was recently charged in the London, England, South Western Police Court, with drunkenness and disorderly conduct. It was her 221 appearance. She was sentenced to one month's hard labor.

A Scotch Rally.

Preparations are being made for a great Scottish Temperance Convention to be held in Dundee from April 2nd to 7th. The Rt. Hon. Lord Overtoun, D.D., will preside. Every temperance society in Scotland is invited to send representatives.

Third Party Conference.

The Prohibition Party of the United States held a big conference at Cincinnati commencing January 26th, a feature of which was a banquet. Inspiring addresses were delivered by many prominent workers. Full reports have not come to hand.

Non-Partisan W.C.T.U.

The National Non-Partisan W. C. T. U. held its eighth annual Convention at Columbus, Ohio, commencing on Saturday, January 8th. Encouraging reports of the progress of work were received. Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—President, Mrs. Annie Wittenmeyer, Sanatoga, Pa.; Vice-President, Mrs. T. B. Walker, Minnesota; General Secretary, Mrs. Ellen J. Phinney, Cleveland, Ohio; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Etta B. Hurford, Iowa; Treasurer, Mrs. Howard B. Ingham, Cleveland, Ohio; Editor of *The Temperance Tribune*, Mrs. J. D. Weeks, Pittsburg.

A National Convention.

The American Anti-Saloon League held its third National Convention at Columbus, Ohio, commencing on Tuesday, January 11th. The attendance of delegates and visitors was about 800. Hon. Hiram Price, of Iowa presided. Organization in eighteen states was reported. A great mass meeting was presided over by Rt. Rev. John A. Waterson of Columbus, and addressed by Judge C. A. Pollock and others. Plans were laid for further pushing non-partisan work against the saloon. The principal officers which were elected unanimously, are as follows:—Pres., Hon. Hiram Price; Sec., James L. Ewin, Washington, D.C.; Treas., J. W. Cummings, New York.

Massachusetts Voting.

The cities and towns of the State of Massachusetts vote every year upon the question of license or no-license.

The thirty-two cities have already voted, and in March the town elections will take place. The term "town" in Massachusetts corresponds with the term "township" in Ontario. The result of the voting in cities was a total poll of 125,408 for license, and 103,786 against. The license vote shows a slight increase over that of 1896 and the no-license vote a slight falling off. Licenses are issued or withheld in each town or city according to the local vote. The cities that have not carried for prohibition are Beverly, Chelsea, Everett, Fitchburg, Malden, Midford, Newton, Salem, Somerville, Quincy, Waltham and Woburn. The cities of Brockton, Gloucester and Haverhill before under prohibition have gone over to license.

Prohibition Works.

The State of Kentucky has very large areas under total prohibition through the operation of local option legislation. The fact that the law is not a failure is forcibly illustrated in the following paragraph clipped from a recent issue of the *Free Weekly Advocate*, published in Danville in the state named:

"Last week a Danville girl was visiting in a city not over fifty miles from her home. She is about fourteen years and has been reared within sight of the town of Danville. During her visit away from home she was walking down street with her friend, and noticing a great many men going in and out of strange looking houses with queer signs upon the doors, she asked (What do they sell in these stores where those men are going?) What stores asked the other girl. (Why those stores with saloon on their signs.) And then the little maiden from Danville was given a description of the uses and purposes of the first saloon which she had ever seen."

CAMPAIGN EQUIPMENT.

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 arguments, 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.

The Camp Fire is a neat four-page monthly campaign journal, specially published for campaign work. It summarizes the latest news about the prohibition reform, and presents an array of live, pithy articles and brief statements of important and helpful facts and incidents. Subscription, 25 cents per year.

The two great books above named, will be sent postage pre-paid, and also **THE CAMP FIRE** to December, 1898 inclusive, to any person sending at once **ONE DOLLAR** to F. S. Spence, 52 Confederation Life Building, Toronto.

With these three sources of information, any pulpit, press or platform worker, will be *fully equipped* for the great plebiscite campaign.

The number of books available for the purpose named is limited. First come, first served. Don't miss the opportunity.

The Camp Fire.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL
OF TEMPERANCE PROGRESS.

SPECIALLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
THE PROHIBITION CAUSE.

Edited by F. S. SPENCE
ADDRESS - TORONTO, ONT.

Subscription, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS a Year.

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, FEBRUARY, 1898

IMPORTANT.

Read this paper carefully. Then subscribe for it. You will need it in the coming plebiscite campaign. It will supply workers with facts and arguments they need. It will be the best kind of literature to circulate. It will make votes for prohibition. Kindly help us to get it into every corner of the country.

Read our offer headed CAMPAIGN EQUIPMENT

A WARNING.

The Dominion Parliament will open in a few days. It is anticipated that a Bill providing for the taking of a prohibition plebiscite will be introduced at a very early date.

Friends of prohibition will act wisely in watching for and carefully studying this bill. It is to be hoped that in it the direct question of prohibition will not be complicated with any other issue. The liquor men are specially anxious to have some such proposition as direct taxation put into the question to be submitted. Should this or any similar suggestion be presented in Parliament, we must promptly and vigorously protest.

The present Government has been placed in power with the distinct understanding that the opinion of the people on prohibition would be taken at an early date. In the minds of the electors there was a clear idea of what "a plebiscite" meant. The legislatures of different provinces had already taken votes on the question of prohibition. The questions submitted in the different cases were similar. The electorate took it for granted that the Dominion Parliament would submit the prohibition question as it had been submitted in the provinces.

Moreover, there is no danger of the public failing to consider, before voting, all the possibilities and probabilities of the situation. They will hear fully discussed the questions of revenue, enforcement, compensation and all other considerations which are urged as arguments against prohibition. These statements will be met by those who advocate the change. Before voters go to the polls they will have laid before them the strong arguments for and against prohibition from every standpoint. The injustice of putting any of these arguments in the official submission of the question is forcibly set out by the Toronto *Daily Globe* in the following terms:

"The safest and fairest way is to allow the people to vote squarely on prohibition and nothing else, leaving advocates and opponents of the measure to make out their case elsewhere. It is hardly fair that after both sides have done their best, and the voter goes into the booth to mark his ballot, he shall be confronted with an argument on one side of the case, printed on the ballot paper, and thereby vested with a sort of official sanction."

Read our offer headed CAMPAIGN EQUIPMENT

THE GRANT LETTERS.

Principal Grant's assault on prohibition has called forth many thoughtful and forcible replies, and has thus, no doubt, indirectly helped the cause of prohibition, securing the attention of the public to a controversy in which the arguments which he advanced have been utterly demolished.

Some of the most effective exposures of Principal Grant's unfair methods have been made by Mr. W. H. Orr, Treasurer of the Dominion Alliance, in a series of letters to the Toronto *Evening Star*.

Principal Grant had given figures intended to show that the State of Maine contained vastly more persons who were blind, deaf and dumb, and idiotic than did the Province of Ontario. He argued that prohibition in Maine had driven people to the consumption of obnoxious drugs, from which consumption these deformities resulted.

Mr. Orr has called attention to the fact that Principal Grant quotes for the State of Maine the census figures giving the whole of the idiotic, blind and deaf and dumb population, while for the Province of Ontario he only takes the figures of idiots in the Orillia Asylum, deaf and dumb persons in the Belleville School, and blind persons in the school for the blind of Brantford.

If the reverend gentleman imagines that all the people of Ontario who are afflicted in the manner mentioned are to be found in the institutions named, then he must be so obtuse and ill-informed as to make his opinions absolutely valueless. If he knew that he was really misleading the people by making the unjust comparisons given in his letter, then his conduct is absolutely inexcusable.

He must accept either one position or the other, and no matter how he explains the misrepresentation, of which he has been shown to be guilty, he utterly discredits his own reliability.

Mr. Orr's forcible letters are well worth preserving and will be found of much interest and value in the coming contest.

EXTENT OF THE DRINK TRAFFIC.

A Blue Book on the drink traffic of the world has just been issued by the British Board of Trade, containing tables compiled from fiscal statistics issued from the Governments of European and American countries.

France stands first on the list of wine producing and consuming countries. Bavaria leads in beer-drinking, the consumption being about fifty gallons per head. Germany consumes more spirits than any other of the great nations. The quantities per head in gallons of liquors consumed in four leading countries are as follows:—

	Wine.	Beer.	Spirits.
United Kingdom	0.40	30.7	1.01
France	20.50	5.2	1.85
Germany	1.06	25.5	1.94
United States	0.22	12.7	0.83

The figures are for the year 1896. It must be borne in mind that the consumption in beer in the United States is increasing with great rapidity. The total amount consumed by the four

countries already named in the above order, are as follows:—

Wine.	Beer.	Spirits.
15,776,000	1,211,529,000	40,076,000
1,137,224,000	199,122,000	70,181,000
55,198,000	1,333,090,000	100,780,000
15,578,000	900,161,000	59,186,000

It is estimated that in the United States the government derives about thirty per cent of its revenue from the liquor traffic, in Germany nineteen per cent, and in the United Kingdom thirty-five per cent.

A CALL TO ARMS.

In an article dealing with the approaching plebiscite, "Forward" the official paper of the Nova Scotia Sons of Temperance gives the following timely advice to prohibition workers:

We must have a majority so large that although politicians are credited with nerve for almost anything, no politician will be found in the whole of Canada who will have nerve enough to stand up in his place in parliament and vote against Prohibition. No trouble to get this majority if the temperance and Christian people of the land will do their duty. Where would the opposition to the prohibition of the liquor traffic be if this duty was done? Simply nowhere, and this in the face of our boasted civilization.

Let the Christian people of this land then rise in their might and not allow it to be said that they allowed this opportunity of striking for God and home and native land to pass without doing all in their power to stamp out the greatest curse that God's people stand face to face with to-day. And you temperance people who have for years and years been struggling with this mighty foe of mankind, see to it that you do your duty. The eyes of Canada and the world are upon you.

Read our offer headed CAMPAIGN EQUIPMENT

NEW ZEALAND'S DRINK BILL.

Rev. Edward Walker, of New Zealand, has made a careful computation of the amount of intoxicating liquor consumed in that colony for different years, and gives the following as the total. The fiscal year for the colony ends with March 31st.

Year	Gallons liquor consumed.	Cost to consumers.
1896	5,740,482	£2,120,119
1897	6,241,432	£2,265,900

The total population for the colony for the year ending March 31st, 1896-7 was 743,214, for the last year 757,563.

It will be noticed that the consumption for 1897 is about eight and one-quarter gallons per head, and the cost to the people over \$14.00 per head.

THE GRANT-LUCAS DEBATE.

A discussion on the question of prohibition was held in Kingston on the evenings of January 27th and 28th, between Rev. Principal Grant, of Queen's University, and Rev. Dr. Lucas. The question urged was whether or not "A law passed by Parliament prohibiting the importation, manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, would promote temperance and public and private morality."

The discussion was opened by Rev. Dr. Lucas who urged in favor of the rightness and effectiveness of prohibition, giving illustrations of its success.

In reply, Dr. Grant argued that prohibition promoted perjury and hypocrisy. He charged prohibitionists with denouncing those who could not agree with them. While in favor of temperance, and believing in total abstinence, he did not think the sale of liquor was a sin. Men of British breed would kick against restrictions on their personal liberty, and prohibition would therefore encourage drinking. Prohibition has failed in the Scott Act and would increase drunkenness, put the liquor traffic into bad hands, increase illicit sale, encourage contempt for law, bribery, etc. He trusted more in the gospel than in the policeman.

On the second evening Principal Grant spoke first, dwelling at length on a comparison of the arrests in the

city of Fredericton under the Scott Act and the city of Berlin under license. Fredericton having a worse police record for drunks. He claimed that public opinion was opposed to the Fredericton law as shown by the lenient treatment of offenders while in jail. Prohibition would interfere with the revenue and prevent desirable emigration. He thought the right method of promoting morality was to lead men to resist temptation not to endeavor to abolish the temptation.

Dr. Lucas claimed that the Fredericton jail story was exaggerated. In reply to the argument about perjury he stated that we must not fail to do right because of unpleasant consequences. Perjury was committed in efforts to evade many laws. He quoted from different authorities to show that prohibition was effective in Maine and Kansas. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian church and other religious bodies endorsed the proposed measure. He presented much forcible evidence of the benefits conferred by partial prohibition and argued that national prohibition would be still more effective.

CAMPAIGN LITERATURE.

TORONTO, 1897.

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 in the plebiscite campaign to inspire workers and make votes.

The contest upon which we are entering, will be largely a literature campaign. Printed matter tells. It does its work continuously, silently, fearlessly and well. 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 ransacked 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 uninterrupted, 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,
F. S. SPENCE,
51 Confederation Life Building,
Toronto

Selected.

THE DEAD MARCH

Tramp, tramp, tramp, in the drunkard's way
March the feet of a million men;
If none shall pity and none shall save,
Where will the march they are making end?

The young, the strong, the old are there
In woful ranks as they hurry past,
With not a moment to think or care
What is the fate that comes at last.

Tramp, tramp, tramp, to a drunkard's doom,
Out of a boyhood pure and fair—
Over the thoughts of love and home—
Past the check of a mother's prayer;
Onward swift to a drunkard's crime,
Over the plea of wife and child,
Over the holiest ties of time—
Reason dethroned, and soul gone wild.

Tramp, tramp, tramp, till a drunkard's grave
Covers the broken life of shame—
Whilst the spirit Jesus died to save
Meets the future we dare not name.
God help us all, there's a cross to bear!
And work to do for the mighty throng!
God give us strength, till the toil and prayer
Shall end the day in the victory's song!

—Mary T. Lathrop.

WHAT IS THE W.C.T.U.

'Tis the hand that rocks the cradle,
Reaching out to save the world,
Flinging to the breeze the banner
Of the home, by love unfurled:

'Tis the mother-heart that beats time
With man's noblest thought to-day;
Aye! and mother-will that sternly
Puts the nation's sin away.

Never sound of martial music
Rose as rises Home's new song;
For two hundred thousand women
Make her first grand army strong.

Never smoke of any battle
Rose so high as rise their prayers;
And their field is wide as duty,
But their tactics are home cares.

Not *house* cares alone, but *home* cares,
That reach out the wide world o'er,
Wheresoe'er the home hearts wander,
Oft to come back nevermore.

In a thousand homes this moment,
Worse than dead some loved one lies:
It is *outside* work that claims, then,
Women's prayer and sacrifice?

How cares drive her to this struggle,
And, though ranks may fall unknown,
There is nothing that can conquer
Love, when battling for its own.

Lo, the future, in the cradle
Of to-day, claims woman's care;
And her lullabies are war songs:
Battling evils, everywhere.

And there's hope for men and nations,
With home's modest flag unfurled,
For, from out that guarded cradle
Comes a new millennial world.

—Lydia H. Tilton, in the *Union Signal*.

THE LION'S DEN

"Ma, who's that sitting in the fence corner?"

The blacksmith's wife finished pinning the heavy sheet on the clothes line and then pushed back her bonnet.

"That man yonder?" she nodded contemptuously. "What's the matter with you, child, that you don't know old Sam Denby? He's dead drunk, that's what he is; that's what he generally is, poor wretch. I do pity him for a fact."

"Why, Ma? He don't have to drink; it's his own fault," said the blacksmith's daughter, Silvy; she was helping her mother to hang out the Monday's wash.

Mrs. Forbes shook her head. "It was his fault once, of course, but he's in the lion's den now, an' he can't git outen it himself, no more nor Dan'el could."

"God sent his angel, and shut the lions' mouths," suggested Silvy.

"Po' Sam ain't seen no angel though; he sees t'other sort—devils is what Sam sees, when he has 'lirim tremens."

"Maybe God means people to help Sam, seein' there ain't no angels 'round," suggested Silvy again.

"Much good any one can do Sam," said the blacksmith's wife; "there ain't nothin' left to tek hold of."

"Did you ever try, mother?" "Here! Ketch hold and move this here basket," cried Mrs. Forbes, sharply, "and don't jaw me so much. I never could work and jabber same time."

Silvy obeyed and the work went on quietly, except for the flap, flap, of the damp clothes in the breeze. But when the basket was empty the girl leaned her bare elbow on the fence and looked at the man lying in the grassy corner. He was dirty, and ragged, and unkempt, but her mother was mistaken—he was not drunk, and Silvy was startled at hearing herself spoken to by him:

"You are the girl who sings in the choir at the Methodist Church, ain't you?"

"Yes," said Silvy. "Do you go to church?"

"Sometimes I slip in and hear the singin'," said the man: "I used to be a good hand at a tune myself. There's one you sing that allus makes a baby of me,"

And in a quavering, but not untuneful voice Sam began to sing:

"The Lord's our Rock, in him we hide,
A shelter in the time of storm."

"That's 'bout all I know of the words," he said. "cept the chorus:

"Oh, Jesus is a Rock in a weary land,
A weary land, a weary land;

"Oh, Jesus is a Rock in a weary land,
A shelter in the time of storm."

"Wait a minute," said Silvy, with a flush on her face, "I'll get my Gospel Hymns, and sing you the rest."

But it was not for the hymn-book alone that she sped back into the little cottage. Her father had come in from the forge, and she stood pleading with him and her mother for some plan which had suddenly formed in her young heart.

"What's the use of our singing 'Throw out the life-line' if we never do it, father?" she exclaimed, tear-drops running over, while she looked into his face appealingly.

"That's true," said Forbes. "Well, girl, you can try, it looks like a wrist like yourn couldn't hold any life-line, after you'd throwed it."

Silvy was already back at the fence. She sang one after another of those precious hymns, standing there under the old walnut tree, at the end of the village street. It was the far end, and there were few passers-by, but if there had been many, Silvy would not have noticed them; her whole heart was centered in this new venture.

"Mr. Denby," she said, after she had shut the book, "father says you are to come around to our house to-night, and sing some with us, to my melodeon."

Sam Denby burst into tears. Perhaps they were maudlin, but they were signs of shame, and, however weak, of repentance. He would not promise, though the girl coaxed him; but when the evening shades fell, and the glow was dying out in the forge, they saw him hanging around in sight of the cottage, and the blacksmith went out and brought him in to the neat sitting-room, where Silvy's little melodeon stood.

The "life-line" had been thrown out, but, alas, the hands of the poor drunkard had lost their grip. His desire to be decent might be strong, but that terrible thirst was stronger still. His fear of consequences might sometimes torture him, but that was nothing to the torture of the drink-devil within him. There was no earthly help for Sam, and he knew it.

No "earthly" help; but gentle hands were drawing, drawing, drawing him within reach of that divine help, upon which he had for a lifetime of sin been turning his back. For it is one of the blessed characteristics of Christian endeavor that it multiplies itself like leaven. If you make one effort to save the perishing, lest you throw away that one effort you will make another, and another, and another. It is contagious, too, when you begin really to see a lost soul, in God's earnest, you do not wait, like the people in the parable, to call in your neighbors to rejoice with you over its recovery; oh, no; you call them in to help you in the search.

For a few times Sam Denby came to the blacksmith's cottage and joined in the hymn singing. He was pleased enough, poor fellow, to find himself in decent company, to be called "Mr. Denby," and he loved music with all the soul whisky had left him.

But in a short time he was lying in the gutter, all the more beastly drunk, perhaps, because of his short abstinence.

Well, our little village maiden learned then, shedding bitter tears over the lesson page, that it is no child's play to "throw out the life-line." But it only cast her more upon the great Helper, whom perhaps she had fancied she could do without, in her first success. The little bedroom above the kitchen became a place where she wrestled like Jacob of old, in secret prayer; and when she went to the League meetings, it was with one entreaty: "Pray for Sam; oh, pray for Sam."

And now the poor drunkard began to be girdled about with praying neighbors. Their faith was not larger than a grain of mustard seed; they were more surprised to see Sam sober than to see him drunk; but since they had promised Silvy to pray for him, they no longer passed him by like a cast-off. If he was sober, they encouraged him; if he was drunk they looked after him; other places besides the blacksmith's offered themselves to him for an evening resort, and everybody, with one accord, urged him to come to church. When he did come, they gave him a hearty welcome, from the dapper young usher to the old preacher; the very children put their wee fingers in his, taught by tender-hearted mothers.

And one night when God's Spirit was present in great power, moving sinful hearts to come to the Saviour, a bent and feeble form presented itself for the prayers of God's people, and a great wave of emotion swept over the congregation—it was Sam Denby, the drunkard!

"Lord, thou has promised that those who come to Thee shall in no wise be cast out. Fulfill that promise, Lord, to this poor sinner! Thou hast promised that they who look to Thee for strength shall tread upon the lion and the adder; that the young lion and the dragon they shall trample under foot. Lord, make Thy work good to this man whose temptations are fierce like the lion and poisonous like the adder. Heavenly Father, didst thou not send thine angel to shut the mouths of the lions which roared against Thy servant Daniel? O, God of Abraham, of Isaac and of Jacob, defend this brother of ours from evils worse than wild beasts."

So the old preacher poured out his heart to God, with his hand on the bowed head of the poor drunkard; and the people wept aloud. But the little maid in the choir did not weep; she was standing on a mount of vision; her face beamed with triumph, and over and over she whispered to her father: "God has sent his angel to shut the lions' mouths."

Was it strange if the blacksmith should fancy that God's angel must look like his daughter, Silvy.—*Elizabeth P. Allen, in the N. T. Advocate.*

Neither may we gain, by hurting our neighbor in his body. Therefore, we may not sell anything which tends to impair health. Such is all that liquid fire, commonly called spirituous liquors. All who sell them in the common way are poisoners generally.—*John Wesley.*

STRAY ARROWS

The sensible man gives the grog shop a wide berth.

The drink traffic is the greatest criminal known to civilization.

There is no room for neutrality in the fight against strong drink.

When reason rules the appetite obeys.

When appetite commands the pocket pays.

Alcohol is the same everywhere—in the grog den, in the fashionable club, and on the communion table.

Liquor drinking has never improved a man's character, nor increased the happiness of his wife and family.

Truth is mighty, wrong expiring.

Onward then, there's no retreat,

Millions to the right aspiring.

God and angels all admiring.

Faith in victory complete.

Two men had a sharp discussion. One was an abstainer; and the other was not. Said the latter: "Depend upon it there is nothing like beer. Why, when I get home at night, and have drunk a quart or two, I feel as if I could knock a house down." "Ah," replied the other quietly, "but since I

have been a teetotaler, I have put two houses up, and that suits me better."

The old Scotch woman understood the value of reducing the number of places where liquor is sold, when she said about her drinking husband as she tried to get him home sober, "I can get him past seven places, but I canna get him past fifteen." There is something of pathos in that remark, that will come home to many a poor aching heart.—*Selected.*

The public house and the private house cannot both thrive. The earnings of working men are not sufficient both to supply the wants of their own homes, and support an army of lazy landlords and well-fed land ladies. One must go the wall.

—*Rev. Dr. Arnot.*

MARRYING A MAN TO REFORM HIM

The most subtle and deceitful hope that ever existed, and one which has wrecked the happiness of many a girl's life, is the common delusion that a woman can best reform a man by marrying him. It is a mystery to me how people can be so blinded to the hundreds of cases in every community where tottering homes have fallen and innocent lives have been wrecked, because some young girl has persisted in marrying a scoundrel in the hope of saving him. I have never known such a union—and I have seen hundreds of them—result in anything but sadness and disaster. Let no young girl think that she may be able to accomplish what a loving mother or sympathetic sisters have been unable to do. Before there is any contract of marriage there should be convincing proof that there has been real and thorough regeneration.—*D. L. Moody, in Ladies' Home Journal.*

THE DRINKING HABITS OF WOMEN.

An English writer in *The Glasgow Herald* says: These are sadly on the increase in our midst. You may shake your dear head in unbelief, and point to the records of drunkenness at the police courts for denial of my horrid assertion, for it is horrid, and I paused ere I made it, but having made it I keep to it in spite of all the statistics in the world, for the evils which I mean rarely come to court. These excesses are hid in the home, and concealed by the love and the shame of the home people. Only in the shattered households do you find them in all their blasting realities—fiends that creep into a man's house unawares, to wreck all he holds dearest, to haunt his every waking moment with dread, to make his sleep hideous with foreshadowings.

The intoxicating cup is of the devil, and leads to hell, and we will neither touch, nor taste, nor handle the poisonous liquid, nor have any fellowship with those who fatten on the woes and miseries of mankind by its sale or manufacture.—*General Booth.*

THE DANGER OF ONE GLASS.

There are eight hundred thousand men working on our railroads, and one glass of beer with any one of them at a critical moment may mean death and destruction to a train. Millions more are running the mills and factories of the land, and so intimately does one man's work dovetail into another's that one visit to a saloon is apt to bring disturbance to a whole department.—*N. T. Voice.*

Brome, P. Q., in line.

An annual meeting of the Brome, P. Q., County Temperance Alliance was held at Sutton on January 11th. The meeting was large and enthusiastic. Plans were laid for work in the coming contest. Officers were elected as follows:—Pre., W. W. Smith, Sutton; Vice-Pres., W. G. Purriington, E. Furnham; Sec., Dr. F. A. Cutter, Sutton; Treas., L. E. Dyer, Sutton. A number of W.C.T.U. workers were appointed as vice-presidents for different localities, each to act in conjunction with a local committee of seven other workers. A well attended and very enthusiastic meeting was held in the evening, addresses by Judge Foster, Col. Patterson, W. A. Wells, W. W. Smith, Rev. E. T. Capel, Mrs. T. French, L. E. Dyer and others.

The National-Revenue Question.

The actual amount of revenue accruing to the Dominion Government from the liquor-traffic in every form for the year ending June 30th, 1896, is set out in the following table:

EXCISE DUTIES.		
On Canadian spirits	\$4,029,359	
On malt liquors	6,748	
On malt	775,354	
		\$ 4,811,461
LICENSE FEES.		
Distillers' licenses	\$2,500	
Malsters' licenses	6,200	
		\$ 8,700
CUSTOMS DUTIES.		
On imported ale, beer, wines, and spirits of all kinds	\$2,242,763	
On imported malt	8,391	
		\$ 2,251,154
Total revenue.....		\$ 7,071,315

This amounts to about \$1.37 per head of our population. It is estimated that about 32 cts. per head is for spirits used for medicinal, mechanical and scientific purposes, and that the revenue from the liquor-traffic for beverage purposes is about \$5,400,000, or about \$1.05 per head of the population.

In leaflet No. 1 of this series, it is shown that consumers of liquor pay for it the sum of \$39,879,854, and that the country is impoverished by the full amount of the money paid for liquor. If this traffic is stopped, the people at large will be richer at the

2 THE NATIONAL-REVENUE QUESTION.

end of a year by \$39,879,854 than they would have been if the traffic had continued. In ten years the change will make a difference of more than \$400,000,000 in the wealth of the community.

Here lies the answer to the question "What about the revenue?" It is hard to collect money from people who are poor. We make revenue-raising easier by making people better off. The Toronto Globe of May 19th, 1897, states the case forcibly in the following paragraph:—

Taxation paying power depends not on the number of items in the tariff, but on the number and wealth of the people. Consequently the fiscal result of Prohibition is to be judged by the answer to this question: "Will it increase or diminish the taxable wealth of the people?" If wealth is increased, the expense of Government, as of everything else, can be more readily borne

The liquor traffic robs us of much more than the amount which the liquor consumed costs. It has been shown that through intemperance we lose yearly more than \$100,000,000 additional in various indirect ways. Prohibition would enrich our country, and the richer country would yield a richer revenue.

Much of the money saved from drink would be expended for other goods that pay duties, and here would be new revenue at once. An English Parliamentary Report shows that in the years of the Irish famine when the Government closed the distilleries, the people of Ireland bought more tea, sugar, clothing, hardware, etc. than in the years of plenty and a greatly increased revenue was collected on these goods. When the great Father Matthew temperance revival reached its height the yearly revenue from liquor was vastly reduced, but the total yearly revenue collected was £90,000 sterling above the average.

It might be needful for Parliament to plan to meet the revenue deficit for a year or two, but soon we would find a rising revenue flowing in from a happier and wealthier people. It is easy to pay taxes when there is plenty of money to pay with.

Various methods have been suggested by which the revenue now derived from the liquor traffic may be at once replaced when prohibition is enacted. It is not the purpose of this tract

to advocate any special plan. Parliament may be relied upon to adjust its revenue-raising so as to make it as effective as possible, and at the same time as easy as possible to the people. Some of the suggestions that have been made are however, here submitted as information:—

The whole amount might be raised by direct taxation, in which case people would have to pay about one-sixth of the amount they now pay for liquor, retaining the remaining five-sixths and leaving them as a whole more than \$30,000,000 better off than they are under the present plan, a new \$30,000,000 being added to their wealth each year. Direct taxation is however, only one of the available methods of revenue-raising.

A tax of one half-cent per pound on sugar, seven cents per pound on tea, coffee and cocoa, and sixteen cents per pound on tobacco, levied on the quantities of these articles now used, would make up the amount named, \$1.05 per head, or \$5,400,000 on the whole.

The Government might take over the liquor-traffic remaining for permitted purposes, carry it on and retain all the proceeds. It is estimated that this would give a revenue of about \$4,000,000. It would be the safest way of supplying pure liquor for medicine, etc.

If the plan just mentioned were adopted, the balance of \$3,000,000 to make up the whole temporarily displaced revenue, could be secured by an extra excise duty of thirty cents per pound on the quantity of tobacco now consumed.

The same amount could be secured by a special customs duty of four and one-half per cent. on the value of all imported goods that now pay duty.

On the preferential duty plan it could be obtained by an extra duty of seven and one-half per cent. *ad valorem* on the quantities now imported of all other than British goods, leaving the duty on all imports from Great Britain unchanged.

As it is clear that the deficit would only be temporary and that a richer country would soon make up the missing revenue, the temporary deficit might be met by a special loan as in the case of some other national emergency.

All that has been said to the effect that under prohibition our people would be richer and our national revenue really

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helped instead of hindered, is forcibly corroborated by statements made by many of the world's ablest financiers. The following paragraphs are taken from speeches made by two eminent British Chancellors of the Exchequer.

W. E. Gladstone. Gentlemen, you need not give yourselves any trouble about the revenue. The question of revenue must never stand in the way of needed reforms. Besides, with a sober population, not wasting their earnings, I shall know where to obtain the revenue.

Sir Stafford Northcote. If the revenue diminishes from increased habits of temperance the amount of wealth such a change would bring to the nation would utterly throw into the shade the amount of revenue that is now derived from the spirit duty; and we should not only see with satisfaction a diminution of the revenue from such a cause, but should find in various ways that the Exchequer would not suffer from the losses which it might sustain in that direction.

Sir A. T. Galt, Sir Leonard Tilley, Hon. Geo. W. Ross, Hon. Geo. E. Foster and many other Canadian statesmen have as forcibly expressed the same views. The last named gentleman on one occasion, after setting out the vast drain that the liquor-traffic had made upon the country during a number of preceding years, added these words:

The wonder is that with such terrible waste our country enjoys any prosperity. If this waste could be made to cease, Canada in ten years would not know herself, so prosperous and wealthy would she have grown.

Speaking on another occasion of the probable results of Prohibition upon the national revenue, he said:

Although direct receipts from this traffic would certainly be expunged from our revenue, still the improvement in the general commerce of the country, the improvement in the general welfare and well-being of our community, would be so great that the receipts in all other branches of our revenues would be increased correspondingly, and there would practically, after the first year or so, not be any diminution whatever in our revenues from our tax-payers.

PROHIBITION PAYS.

Issued by the Dominion Alliance for the Suppression of the Liquor Traffic.

Above is one of the Prohibition Leaflets issued for the Plebiscite Campaign. They are sold far below cost for free distribution. Twenty kinds now ready. Address, F. S. SPENCE, Toronto.