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# The Manitoba Good Templar.

F. S. LEMLEUX, Communes, Ottawa, Ont

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MANITOBA.

VOL. I. No. 1.

WINNIPEG, MAN., FEBRUARY, 1897.

25 CENTS PER YEAR.

**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.**



**GRAND LODGE OF MANITOBA AND N. W. T.**

Chartered October 20th, 1893.

Office of Grand Secretary, 149 River Ave., Winnipeg.

**GRAND LODGE OFFICERS FOR 1896-97.**

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  - G.C.—I. W. Platt, Greenway.
  - G.V.—Mrs. B. Benson, Winnipeg.
  - G.S.J.T.—Dr. E. A. Blakely, Winnipeg.
  - G.S.—Mrs. A. Myrtle Blakely, " "
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  - G.Ch.—Rev. C. T. Baylis, Winnipeg.
  - G.M.—B. M. Long, Winnipeg.
  - P.G.C.T.—Thos. Nixon, Winnipeg.
- The above constitute the Executive Committee.
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  - G.G.—Fred. Leach, Neepawa.
  - G.Sen.—Reuben Cross, Killarney.
  - G.Mes.—Paul Johnson, Selkirk.
  - D.R.W.G.C.T.—T. Nixon, Winnipeg.

### TO GOOD TEMPLARS.

The last quarter of the current Grand Lodge year is upon us. Three months' more work and we shall be called upon again to take stock of our position, progress and prospects.

Earnestly do we appeal to our loyal workers who have stood by our cause through good report and ill report, to do their best to build up and strengthen the great organization which has proved such a potent factor for good.

This is the harvest time for missionary effort. It is the time for holding meetings, developing public opinion, gathering in members and making ourselves strong for the future.

A few months more and the great plebiscite contest will be on. The sentiment of the people will be finding its expression in a vote that means either the speedy de-legalization of the liquor traffic, or its establishing on a firmer basis.

We have the full result. The evidencing more than earnest, faithful support of the large voluntary charities for the benefit of the victims of the drink habit.

ful for what their organization has done in moulding public opinion and paving the way for the triumphal incoming of effective prohibitory legislation.

In view of these facts the coming session of the Grand Lodge will be one of unusual interest and importance. Every lodge ought to be there represented. It is not too soon to begin preparations for this event.

From many parts of the jurisdiction comes news of activity and progress. Lodges that have been dormant are again sending in returns. We have some new organizations reported and others on the way. There is time still for every Lodge to make a record of extension and mission work.

We desire to call special attention to the Juvenile Department of Good Templar effort. This important feature is sadly neglected by too many of our Subordinate Lodges. Compared with the opportunities for work, the work done has been very small.

There is in our Province a vast, comparatively unoccupied field for temperance work among the young. We have the organization, we have the plans and methods, why should we not build up here as we do in other places, a mighty Juvenile Templar Department.

There is no one to lose. Great opportunities are open before us. The need for work is as strong as ever, it has been. Let us loyally meet the responsibilities that are now upon us.

### THE PLEBISCITE.

A great mistake will be made by any prohibitionists who take time at the present crisis to discuss the coming plebiscite from the standpoint of party politics. Whatever may have been its origin, it now affords us an opportunity to crush the legalized liquor traffic in Canada and for that result every effort should be made. In the Dominion Parliament a plebiscite was advocated by both Conservatives and Liberals. Hon. George E. Foster and Hon. David Mills have both been among its strongest advocates. It was however, before the last election, made a part of the declared policy of the Liberal Party, so that when the present Government took office, it was with the definite pledge that a vote of the people would be taken on the question of total national prohibition.

The government is not only committed to the taking of a vote, but by the definite declaration of the First Minister, is committed to the promotion of legislation giving effect to the will of the people as declared at the polls. There is no uncertainty regarding this matter. Such a victory as we expect to win for the cause of prohibition means nothing short of legislation for the total suppression of the traffic in intoxicating beverages.

The liquor traffic recognizes this. Already there is sore anxiety in the ranks of our opponents. They are making preparations for a despatch.

It will be a struggle in interference of the liquor business. The outcome will be perhaps, a blow to the tramway. The result is of life and death.

This is the crucial year. On every Christian woman and man a heavy responsibility rests. Everyone has a duty in relation to the contest in which everyone ought to have a share. Our full strength cannot be exerted unless we act unitedly. We must forget all differences and divisions and go into the contest as one man. The discussion of dead issues is worse than a waste of time. It is a dissipation of power.

In these facts we have the highest kind of incentives to earnest, determined, judicious work. We must let no prejudice or sectionalism interfere with the responsible duty that we have on hand. We must sink out of sight minor differences. We must completely abandon the discussion of side issues and unimportant details. **TOTAL NATIONAL PROHIBITION** is the question to be presented, argued and advocated. Matters regarding which we have differences of opinion, may well lie in abeyance, while we concentrate our energies on winning a splendid triumph out of this providential opportunity.

For the sake of thousands of sin-cursed homes, for the salvation of thousands of imperilled souls and bodies, for the emancipation and elevation of our country and our people, let us go forward in the strength of God with this single inquiry: "What can I personally do to help in this serious crisis?" Let the inquiry be accompanied with decision to fearlessly obey the answer that judgment and conscience dictate. If we face the issue in the right spirit with the right determination, we are absolutely certain to win.

### WHAT THE PRIESTS SAY.

What is it that keeps the Irish people in these low social conditions? The saloon. Thither goes the money earned by the sweat of their brows. Thence do men issue, broken down in health and strength, to swell the list of idlers and paupers. Our disgrace and our misfortune is the number of Irish saloon-keepers.—*Archbishop Ireland.*

I impeach the liquor traffic of high crimes and misdemeanors. . . It is mere mockery to ask us to put down drunkenness by moral and religious means.—*Cardinal Manning.*

We who labor so hard to rid our mother country of landlords and landlord iniquity ought not to become slaves of the rum lord and bow to the iniquity of intemperance.—*Father Conaty.*

The saloon is the recruiting office of the devil, of blasphemy and of infidelity. It is the duty, therefore, of all who love God and the Church to oppose the influence of the saloon.—*Father Burns.*

Let no man say that he is safe enough that he has no occasion to take the pledge. I have seen the stars of heaven fall and the cedars of Lebanon laid low. The pledge which I ask you and others to take does not enslave—it makes free. Temperance brings blessings in both hands—blessings for time and blessings for eternity.—*Father Mathew.*

We do not believe that the Church should leave the field entirely alone to the saloon-keeper to champion our laws. We believe that as long as the saloon dares, with brazen effrontery, to demoralize our politics that the Church, with uprightness, with clear and serene countenance should enter the arena.—*Father*

### GOOD TEMPLARY.

A great league a world wide fraternity—declaring to the world its principles, and proclaiming by these we stand for all time. Such is the Independent Order of Good Templars. Not an Association, not a society into which one may go to-day, and from which one can step to-morrow—not an enrollment for purposes of pleasure or of profit, but a banding together of men and women, stirred by one common impulse, and that the uplifting of the better nature, first within ourselves, and then in all humanity beside.

Our obligation, for life, for nothing short of this can accomplish the work for which we band together. Our pledge, eternal hatred to intoxicants, because intoxicants debase and bring low all we would lift up and develop.

We organize for incessant activity because influence never sleeps, and the laws of our being do not intermit in action. We cover the town, the state, the world, for this day of electric energy knows no bounds and the entire human race are but members of one great family.

The bible our hand book, the central object of our Lodge room, for in it is crystalized all our teachings, from it is drawn all our teachings, and in it, and it alone, the nations of earth have found the law from which there is no appeal in all that relates to humanity's upward progress. No sacred books, no Veda, the Bible, the Bible only is the Good Templar's anchorage.

Bound together by such rock-ribbed principles, impelled, enthused, inspired by such intent, we dare lift the prayer of faith, and expect that from the heart of the world, there shall roll out to us a wave of sympathetic force whose crest will bear us on to higher and to better work.

Templary is in its infancy. Not half a century and the world has been hand-girted, another fifty years and the constitutions of the nations shall be a record of our principles.—*Official Organ.*

### 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, 1897 inclusive, to any person sending at once ONE DOLLAR to F. S. Spence, 51 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.



PAPERS WANTED.

The editor is desirous of securing copies of the **CAMP FIRE** for June and December 1895, and of **THE ONTARIO GOOD TEMPLAR** for September 1895. Any friend who can send to this office one or more of the papers named will confer a special favor on the publisher.

FINANCIAL LOSS.

How Canada is robbed by the Liquor Traffic.

SOME TELLING FACTS.

The following forcible statement of the financial evils entailed upon our country by the liquor traffic, is condensed from the Minority Report of the Royal Commission on the liquor traffic.

DIRECT COST OF THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

The Commission has made an estimate based on the average annual consumption for the five years ended 1893. Excluding cider and native wines, and taking an average of the retail prices, the calculation shows that the sum of \$39,870,854 is paid annually by the consumers of liquors in Canada. The Commission adds that "as more than one-half of this amount is paid for spirits, to which, it is well understood, a large addition of water is made before they are vended to the public, the total amount is probably considerably in excess of the sum mentioned." In the calculations which follow, the estimate \$39,870,854 is used.

The money thus paid may be fairly said to represent so much diminution of wealth, as the liquor when consumed, leaves the community in no way advantaged. When money is paid for clothing, food, or other commodities, the purchaser is supposed to have value for his outlay. Both buyer and seller, respectively, possess wealth formerly held by the other slightly increased by the exchange. The liquor seller possesses the wealth formerly held by his customer, but the customer-consumer has nothing. The community is poorer at least to the extent of the money spent for the liquor. The annual expenditure of liquor, therefore, may be regarded as so much direct loss to the country.

The amount of grain used in the manufacture of this liquor also represents material destroyed. Part of it was Canadian grain which, had it not been used in liquor-making, would have been available for export or other use. Part of it was imported grain for which the money had to go out of the country. All the grain destroyed in the liquor manufacture has a right to a place in the calculation of loss. The Commission's estimate of the value of the materials used is \$1,189,765, of which \$291,423 is paid for imported articles.

The foregoing figures show only the direct loss in the purchasing transaction—the money paid by the purchasers of liquors for which they have no equivalent; and the value of the grains, etc., diverted for useful purposes.

INDIRECT COST.

There are, besides, other and greater losses caused by the liquor traffic, which are not so easy to put into figures. Few question the existence of these losses, but their extent is not generally realized. The facts are ascertained by estimates. The estimates vary; but all who have made a study of the subject agree that the burdens borne by the people on account of the liquor traffic are very great.

The facts set out in this report make clear that much disease, insanity, idiocy and other things which go to increase the independent classes is due to the liquor habit, and that a very large proportion of the pauperism and crime of the country is attributable directly or indirectly to the liquor traffic. The cost, therefore, of the support of hospitals, insane asylums, police, jails, penitentiaries and the courts, to say nothing of the large sums spent in voluntary charities is rightly chargeable, in considerable part, to the liquor traffic.

Of course, nothing more than conjecture is possible about the large sums disbursed in voluntary charities for the help and support of the victims, direct and indirect, of the drink habit.

COST OF PRISONS, ETC.

So far as facts about such expenditures have been ascertained, they show appropriations in 1891, from the public funds for penitentiaries, jails, insane asylums, reformatories, almshouses and charitable institutions amounting to \$2,238,012.

The figures however, are very incomplete. Only three provinces (Ontario, Quebec and Prince Edward Island) make anything like full or accurate returns. The other provinces seem to be without any reliable records of many things about which information was desired, many of the countries making no returns whatever.

Then, the above figures do not include, for any of the provinces, the cost of the administration of justice, the police expenditure and, possibly, other important items.

It is, therefore, not well to use them as the basis of an estimate of the liquor traffic's share of the responsibility for these expenditures.

The Province of Ontario furnishes the fullest returns.

If the other provinces spend in the same proportion to their population for prisons, reformatories, asylums, hospitals, other charities and administration of law, then the amount so expended annually in all the provinces, Ontario included, is \$5,691,712.

In addition to the above there is to be considered the cost of the maintenance of the penitentiaries of the Dominion. According to the Statistical Year Book of 1893 their net cost for the year was \$323,483.

Adding these sums it is seen that the annual cost to the country of the institutions named, is \$6,028,195.

It will, however, not be an extravagant estimate to say that, at least one-half this expenditure is fairly chargeable to the liquor habit and the liquor traffic. On this basis, then, the liquor traffic entails upon the country for penitentiaries, goals, asylums, reformatories, almshouses and like institutions, and for the administration of justice, an annual expenditure of \$3,014,097.

LOSS OF LABOR.

In considering the loss of labor and the general interference with industries caused by the liquor traffic, the difficulty of even approximate accuracy is attention, however, has been given the subject to enable your commissioner to present an estimate. The conclusions reached are within the limits warranted by the facts.

Employers who came before the Commission were questioned as to the loss of time by employees, and the loss to their business by the drinking habits of their men.

The general testimony was to the effect that much time is lost by drinking employees, and that work is frequently interfered with, sometimes seriously, by the absence or incapacity of drinking men. The majority of employers expressed a decided preference for abstainers: they would not keep excessive drinkers in their employ, and the majority regard even moderate drinkers with suspicion. Many were asked about the effect of saloons in the vicinity of their factories, and nearly all were pronounced in their objection to them as furnishing a temptation detrimental both to their employees and their business.

The loss to the country is, of course, not at all represented by the mere loss of time by men who are regularly employed. The country loses because of the prevention of the production of wealth on account of the persons in jails, in hospitals, in asylums, out of employment or in any way idle, when intemperance has caused such idleness. It is also worthy of note, having been stated to the Commission by a number of witnesses, that the working of a gang of men in a factory, or any set of persons who work to a certain extent dependent upon each other, is much interfered with by the absence of one or more. This is more and more the case as industrial development progresses, as machinery is being used and work more and more subdivided. In a highly organized manufacturing industry, any interference by absence or incapacity, with one part of the work, affects the operation of the whole. So, not only those who drink lose time and possible earnings, but their fellow employees who do not drink are also losers, and the industry which employs them suffers interference and loss.

There is also the depreciation of wage-earning capacity, of which it is perhaps, not possible to make an estimate.

The net result of the above is that the liquor traffic entails upon the country an annual expenditure of \$3,014,097.

"The loss of productive labor in every department of occupation, is to the extent of at least one day in six throughout the kingdom (as testified by witnesses engaged in various manufacturing operations), by which the wealth of the country, created, as it is, chiefly by labor, is retarded or suppressed to the extent of one million of every six that is produced, to say nothing of the constant derangement, imperfection, and destruction in every agricultural and manufacturing process, occasioned by the intemperance and consequent unskilfulness, inattention, and neglect of those affected by intoxication, and producing great injury in our domestic and foreign trade."

Canada, probably, suffers less. The people are more sober. Hon. G. W. Ross and Hon. George E. Foster have estimated that one-tenth the producing power of this country is destroyed by intemperance. These gentlemen had given much and careful attention to the subject, and were not disposed to make unwarranted statements. The facts gathered in this inquiry seem, in the judgment of your commissioner, to fully justify their estimate.

Let, however, one-tenth might be regarded as an excessive estimate, your commission bases the calculations which follow on a still lower estimate—say eight per cent. or less than one-twelfth. When all the ways in which drink interferes with the regular work, not only of those who drink, but of others also, are considered, it must be conceded that the estimate is quite within the mark.

The following figures are taken from the census returns. Bulletin No. 10 sets out that in 1891 there were 75,768 manufacturing industries in the country, that they employed 367,865 persons, and that the value of their output was \$175,445,705.

Deducting from the value of the output the cost of the raw material, the power used, etc.—\$255,983,219, and the wages paid—\$99,702,411 (an average of \$271.00 per employee), there remains the sum of \$119,740,075 as the net value of the product of the industries—an average of \$325 worth produced by each employee. This amount (\$119,740,075) is capital's share of the product of the industries, as the wages paid the product.

The proportion of the population engaged in various employments is slightly over one-third (see Census Bulletin No. 18), or more than 1,600,000. If eight per cent. of the working and earning power of the country is made ineffective by drink, the loss to the country is equal to what 128,000 earners would produce, namely, (1) wages, at \$271 each, \$34,688,000; and (2) increment at \$325 each, \$41,600,000; a total loss of \$76,288,000.

SHORTENED LIVES.

That there is much drink-caused mortality has already been shown. The estimate that annually in Canada 3,000 lives are cut short by intemperance is moderate. By the death of each of these 3,000, several years of productive power are lost to the country. Ten years has been estimated as the average loss in each case; but, supposing it to be not more than eight years, the total is equal to the annual loss of 24,000 workers whose work, on the basis of the calculation already made, would have produced \$14,304,000.

MISDIRECTED EFFORTS.

There are engaged in the various branches of the liquor traffic about 13,000 men.

These men are not only not producing anything which adds to the wealth of the country, but are creating conditions which increase the public burdens, while they, themselves, draw upon the depleted resources of the country for maintenance.

One item, not the largest, of the loss to the country by the misdirected effort of these 13,000 men is the loss of their productive labor, which, according to the estimates herein used, would be \$7,748,000 annually.

A SUMMING UP.

In this connection the fact must be noted that a proportion of the national, provincial and municipal revenues is derived from the liquor traffic. The total amount thus contributed is estimated by the Commission at \$8,473,316.22, the details of which are given below in the table below.

This is the amount which the liquor traffic pays for the privileges granted to it. It is right that it should pay for the loss, which it causes, to the country.

COST OF THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

Amount paid for liquor by consumers.....	\$39,870,854
Value of grain, etc., destroyed .....	1,888,765
Cost of proportion of pauperism, disease, insanity and crime chargeable to the liquor traffic.....	3,014,097
Loss of productive labor ..	76,288,000
Loss through mortality caused by drink .....	14,304,000
Misdirected labor .....	7,748,000

Total..... \$143,122,716  
RECEIPTS FROM THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.  
Revenues.

Dominion Government .....	\$7,101,557
Provincial Governments.....	924,358
Municipalities.....	420,107
	\$8,455,022

Net loss .....

\$134,667,694  
In the foregoing table the items charged to the liquor traffic are moderate estimates, and many things, which might properly be included, are omitted because of the difficulty of putting them into dollars and cents. Your commissioner has no doubt that were fifty per cent. added to the above balance against the liquor traffic, it would not then be excessive. At the lowest, it is so large that it may well engage the attention of even those who take no other view of this question than the business one.

AN ANNUAL CHARGE.

It must also be kept in mind that the enormous balance chargeable to the liquor traffic represents only one year's waste. For many years, like burdens in proportion to the population, have been imposed upon the country. These facts make it easy to appreciate the truth and force of the statement made, in 1884, by Hon. Mr. Foster. Under a table prepared by him, showing the cost of liquor consumed in Canada from 1808 to 1882, inclusive, to have been \$473,200,000, he wrote:—

"One can scarcely grasp the awful significance of the above figures. The immense quantities of grain that have been worse than wasted would have liquors for one year exceed the whole revenue of the Dominion of Canada. The cost per head has been fully twice as much as the total cost per head of all our customs dues since Confederation. The total amount spent in the fifteen years above tabulated aggregates, without counting interest, nearly \$500,000,000. This would have defrayed all our cost of government, built our railways and left us without a shadow of national debt. To all this we must add the incalculable cost of citizens slain, labor destroyed, pauperism borne and crime watched, restrained and punished. 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. Surely it is the part of all good citizens to see to it that such a frightful source of waste and destruction is dried up. Prohibition is the only effectual cure."

BOYS AND GIRLS  
MEN AND WOMEN

Would you like to make a little effort to help the Temperance Cause?

Would you like to receive absolutely FREE, any of the following articles?

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## Selections.

## IS IT PEACE OR WAR?

Is it peace or war? from a million throats  
Ever rises the anxious cry.  
As in stately hall, and in nameless hut,  
All ranks and conditions die.

Is it peace or war? when throughout the land  
There are foes that are deadlier far  
Than a million men and ships might be  
In a bloody unrighteous war?

Is it peace or war? when this mighty realm,  
With a past that is full of praise,  
Is beaten and blanch'd with one great vice,  
While the wondering nations gaze?

Is it peace or war? though our fleets are still,  
And our soldiers are free from blood,  
If foes that can laugh at powder and shell  
Are robbing our land of God?

Is it peace or war? when a brother man,  
For a life of inglorious ease,  
Will sell us the poison that robs our life,  
And smile at the ruin he sees?

Is it peace or war? when in many a home,  
With an agony never expressed,  
The hope and the love and the light have gone  
By the breath of the virulent pest?

Is it peace or war? when a mother strives  
With sleepless effort and pain,  
To ward off the curse from her husband's head,  
And restore him to manhood again?

Is it peace or war? when a father flies  
From the sight of an imbecile wife,  
And the more than motherless innocent bairns  
Bear the weight of that woe through life?

Is it peace or war? when the godly pair,  
Who have never disgraced their name,  
Are killed by a blow of unspeakable grief  
O'er a child they have lost in shame?

Peace there is none! It is war! wild war!  
O men from your dreams arise,  
Sleep on, and the nation will surely die;  
Fight now, it will reach the skies.

—Thomas Love, in the Voice.

## "PAPA, BE TRUE TO ME."

The following lines were written by Henry J. Coggeshall, a New York State Senator, and recited by him under peculiar circumstances. At an informal dinner given by one of his fellow-senators at Albany, he was observed to leave his glass of wine untouched. On being asked the reason, he answered:—

What makes me refuse a social glass?  
Well, I'll tell you the reason why,  
Because a bonnie blue-eyed lass  
Is ever standing by:  
And I hear her, boys, above the noise  
Of the jest and merry glee,  
As with baby grace she kisses my face,  
And says: "Papa, be true to me."

Then what can I do, to my lass to be true,  
Better than let it pass by?  
I know you'll not think my refusal to wine,  
A breach of your courtesy:  
For I hear her repeat, in accents sweet,  
And her dear little form I see,  
As with loving embrace she kisses my face,  
And says: "Papa, be true to me."

Let me offer a toast to the one I love most,  
Whose dear little will I obey;  
Whose influence sweet is guiding my feet  
Over life's toilsome way.  
May the sun ever shine on this lassie  
Of mine,  
From sorrow may she be free,  
For with baby grace she has kissed my face.  
And says: "Papa, be true to me."

## SIGNING THE PLEDGE; OR, HOW JIM RUSSELL DID IT.

"I went home drunk the night before, no doubt of it," said Jim Russell, as he took his knife from his pocket and began to trim his finger nails.

"I guess I had gone home just as drunk lots of times, but I never was half so mean. I had hit my wife before and kicked her, but never hurt her much. She told me lots of truth when I came home full, but this time she said not a word and that made me madder than ever. I struck her a terrible blow on the cheek. She fell and didn't get up. When my little boy Winnie came to plead for his mother, I kicked him half way across the room. I didn't stop for supper but went to bed with my boots on.

"When I awoke in the morning I heard not a sound in the house. I first thought my wife and baby were dead or gone. Then I commenced thinking. At last I raised my head. There sat my wife with the boy in her lap. I saw a fearful bruise on her cheek.

"Breakfast is ready," said Maggie, as pleasantly as ever woman said it. Before I left the bed I made up my mind what I would do and did it.

"I got up, sat down at the table and said not a word. All we had for breakfast was potatoes and pigs feet, and I could have eaten every bit myself, but didn't. There was another thing I didn't do, and that was to look my wife in the face or tarry at the table.

"You may talk all you are a mind to about Pharisees and hypocrites, when I want a genuine article I go to the meetin' folks every time.

"There was old Deacon Swift who always had a good word for me, drunk or sober, so I started for him that morning. I found him in the kitchen whittling out a handle.

"Good morning Jim," said the deacon, "I am glad you come, I want some one to help me fix up the barn for winter."

"All right, said I, that's what I have come for. There is another thing deacon, I want to sign the pledge and be a man again. I've got sick of the way I've been doing.

"Good," said the deacon, dropping his hammer and getting pen and paper. He wrote an iron clad pledge and I signed it.

"We went out to work and by 9 o'clock I shook so I could not drive a nail to save my gizzard.

"About this time out came Mrs. Swift with a pitcher of coffee. No whisky ever tasted half as good to me. This kept my nerves steady till noon.

In the afternoon I had no trouble. At night the deacon loaded up a buggy load of provisions for me and carried me home. I had been thinking all day about what Maggie would say or do. I never used to think of her when I was in the barroom. I did not want to see her faint away, so I thought I would break the matter to her softly.

It was dark when I got home and after piling the plunder up by the gate I went in. Gracious Peter, you ought to have seen Mag eye me. No cat ever eyed a mouse half so sharp.

I remarked quite indifferently that I had not been to the Starley's to-day.

"I see you haven't," said she. I've been at work for Deacon Swift, said I.

"We will have something to eat then," said she.

"But," said I, "Maggie"—

"Well, what is it, Jim, out with it," said she.

"Well," said I, "I have signed the pledge." Laws of Moses, you ought to have seen her hop. With one skip and jump she landed with both arms around my neck. She half laughed, half cried and kept kissing me all the time. She pulled me over till I thought her feet touched the floor, but she kept pulling till her knees touched and then she said, "Oh Lord, help my husband to keep the pledge." Amen, said I. Why, it fairly scared me, for I never said amen to any-body's prayer before in my life.

Since then I have got to be a meek chap myself. I read the Bible every day and pray. Providence has giggles in my face. I bought my old house back, then a farm, then another, and still I am laughing. I pray again and vote for prohibition.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

ABOUT THE GREAT CURSE AND THE GREAT REFORM.

## CANADIAN.

## A SAD ENDING.

A press despatch dated February 5th, tells of the sudden and sad death of a financial agent at St. George, Ont. who had been drinking very heavily for some time. He leaves a large family.

## SENT TO JAIL.

At Barrie, Ont. on Feb. 8th, a man named Livingstone was sentenced to jail for six months and was also fined \$100 for manufacturing whiskey unlawfully. Is the License Law a failure?

## DRINK AND DEATH.

A telegram from Ashcroft, B.C. tells a sad story of the death of a Toronto man who was seized with delirium tremens in that far off place, rushed into the woods and remained there until he was so badly frozen that his death speedily followed.

## MAKING THEM PAY.

The town of Summerside, P.E.I., reports a net revenue after payment of local expenses of \$700.84 for 1896, from fines imposed for violation of the Canada Temperance Act. This looks as if there was a good deal of law violation, but it is also evidence that the authorities are making vigorous efforts to have the law carried out.

## THE PROVINCES WIN AGAIN.

The Privy Council of Great Britain has dismissed the appeal of the Brewers and Malsters Association against the Ontario Government. The Brewers objected to pay license for the privilege of selling liquor in Ontario, claiming that their Dominion License was sufficient authority. The Privy Council sustains the contention that they must be authorized by the Provincial Government to enable them to sell their product.

## THE SCOTT ACT WORKS.

The Charlottetown P.E.I. Guardian made an enquiry recently into the jail population of the city. There were at the time 28 prisoners under arrest. Twenty of these were convicted violators of the Scott Act. This looks as if prohibition were being enforced and also makes it appear that the presence in the jail of the would-be liquor sellers, was accompanied by an absence of the class offenders that usually are found in such places when the liquor sellers are out loose.

There is an effort being made to induce the City Council to employ, as a permanent officer to enforce the Scott Act, a man who has recently been very successful in making cases against offenders under the auspices of a private prosecuting organization of temperance workers.

## NO COMPROMISE.

The City Council of Halifax appointed a temperance committee some time ago to confer with representatives of temperance societies regarding amendments to the liquor license law. The temperance societies refused to attend the meeting stating that they were opposed to any kind of license legislation and therefore could not consider amendments to the law. It is expected that a bill for provincial prohibition will be introduced into the Legislature when it assembles.

## A TIMELY WARNING

We cordially commend to our readers the following official forecast of the probable outcome of the approaching plebiscite which is at the same time a wise warning as to what we may expect to follow. We shall be helped to the best results in the approaching conflict if we enter it with a full realization of what it involves. Every word of these paragraphs ought to be weighed. They are taken from the January issue of *Forward*, the official organ of the Nova Scotia Sons of Temperance.

"We are to have a Dominion Plebiscite. The results we hope for are an overwhelming affirmation of the principle, followed by adequate legislation to be submitted, not to the popular vote for ratification, but to the test of time and effects. We dare hope and expect that much.

version of the law will follow. There will be a flood-tide of misrepresentation with which they will seek to vilify the operation of the law, to obscure the benefits, magnify the inconveniences and imperfections unavoidable at first in a law involving such important changes in business and usage as the suppression of the liquor traffic.

"If we have not profited by the lessons of the experience of bitter, persistent, unscrupulous warfare waged wherever such laws operate effectively, if we have not discerned the necessity for eternal vigilance, then success will be succeeded by reverses, and final victory is afar off.

"Make ready for a protracted, desperate war. It is to be no miniature sham-fight. Never in the world's history was there such an array of wealth and influence standing in the pathway as a deadly menace to its civilization, a foe to Government, law and order. Canada for prohibition!"

## FOREIGN.

## THE PROHIBITION PARTY VOTE.

The official statement of the Prohibition Party vote of the United States shows that 130,403 votes were cast for Levering, the prohibition candidate. The number cast for Bidwell, Prohibition Party candidate in 1892, was 270,710.

## LIQUOR SELLERS BARRED OUT.

The Grand Lodge of Free Masons of the State of Minnesota, has debarred liquor sellers from members of the Order in its jurisdiction, and has also ordered that persons who are members and who may hereafter sell liquor, be expelled.

## A TERTOTAL ATHLETE.

Edward Payson Weston, over sixty years of age, recently walked at the New York Ice Skating Palace, 103 miles in twenty-four hours. He attributes his powers of endurance to the careful temperate habits which he has always practiced, never using intoxicating liquors of any kind.

## HOLDING THEIR OWN.

The different cities and towns of the State of Massachusetts vote every year on the question of license or no-license. The voting in December last makes no change in the number of license cities. One prohibition city has gone back to license and one license city has changed to prohibition.

## INTEMPERANCE AND INSANITY.

Mr. Horace G. Waddin, Chief of the Bureau of Labor Statistics for Massachusetts, has recently made a careful investigation covering a year, into the results of the liquor traffic. His report recently published, shows among other things, an enquiry into the cause of lunacy in the cases of 1836 patients in the State Asylum. Of the cases concerning which full information was obtained, Mr. Waddin reports that in over twenty-five per cent the insanity was due to intoxicating liquor, that in fifty-two per cent the intemperate habits of ancestors led to the insanity, and that in nine per cent the intemperance of other parties was to blame for the disaster.

## THE NEW ZEALAND VOTE.

Some papers not favorable to the temperance cause have been endeavoring to make it appear that prohibition recently received a serious set back in the colony of New Zealand. This statement hardly coincides with the facts of the case. At the general elections in 1894 a poll was taken on the question also of local prohibition. The question submitted was whether or not licenses should be continued in the same number as before, or reduced in number, or entirely abolished. An elector could if he chose, vote for both reduction and no-license or might vote for any of the three proposals. The results of the voting on March 21st, 1894 and on December 4th, 1896 respectively, are shown in the following table:—

	1894	1896
Continue	41,095	136,675
Reduce	15,751	92,272
No-license	48,000	95,823

It will be seen at once that the difference in the results is largely due, to the fact that in 1896 the electors marked their ballots on the liquor question to a much greater extent than they did in 1894. In the later election about three times as many voted for license, and about twice as many for prohibition as in the former case.