

Acton Free Press.

THURSDAY MORNING, AUG. 22, 1884.

Anti-Scott Act Logic.

An English officer in giving a description of the great Battle of Waterloo, concludes as follows:—Many a valuable man and brave soldier, was restored to life by giving brandy and spirits to the wounded.

The above is clipped from an article by a correspondent in the Morning Post, of August 27th.

Look at the logic—Many a valuable man and brave soldier was restored to life by giving brandy and spirits to the wounded.

—Therefore, license the liquor traffic in Canada. "Some soldiers in the Battle of Waterloo, who were dead, or nearly so, were restored to life by spirits," therefore it is good for men, women and children, who are neither wounded, dying, or dead.

Therefore, license a drink that kills more than war, pestilence or famine. As Mr. Gladstone says, because "whiskey is good to weak and fainting men on the battle field," therefore, open saloons in our country, and put temptation before boys and teach them to drink. Verily, what clear and logical reasoning it is; but it is the best they can do. Liquor saved one man's life yesterday, therefore, let it kill ten to-day. Give us facts, arguments and illustrations, gentlemen, that can command the respect of ordinary common sense.

"Prohibitory laws do not make men sober."

It is certain none can say that license laws make men sober. It is certain, too, that the liquor traffic under license makes men drunk, and license is a grand success.

Under its fostering power, in 1882, in this Province, it caused 3197 committals to the jails and prisons, and in 1883 there were 8885. Query: How long will it take license to stop drunkenness in Ontario, at the rate of 398 increase each year? The Scott Act in this country has made a great many men sober. Many who drank to great excess, now drink more moderately, and many who drank moderately before the Scott Act came are now total abstainers. This is a fact that cannot be successfully contradicted.

"The question is, is it better to regulate the liquor traffic by license or to prohibit by the Scott Act?"

This is a clear cut question. If you regulate by license you have no hope of improvement,—things will never be better. Drunkenness, poverty, crime, disease and death will go on yearly. Every civilized nation on earth is groaning under its fearful burden.

It is cursing the nations to-day as they were never cursed in all the past by war, pestilence or famine. Prohibit the traffic in strong drink and you are sure that its evils will at once begin to grow less. It is too much to expect, and no reasonable man will ask it, that the Scott Act could in two years, cure all the evils of the licensed dram shop. This trade has had its day of ruin in Canada for 70 years. Give the Scott Act a chance. Wherever prohibition has been fairly tried it has been a success.

"The Scott Act prevents a man from buying a glass of ale or wine, and is an unjust interference with the liberty of the citizen."

You will rarely hear one of those lecturers speak of drinking whiskey, brandy, &c., but "his always" a glass of wine and ale. Our readers can easily see through this sophistry. But does not the Crooks Act prevent a man from buying a glass of ale or whiskey when he wants it? If a man wants it on election day, or on Saturday evening, or Sunday, he cannot buy it; or, perhaps drinkers under a license law, never want liquor at such times. Why should the license law prevent a man from getting drunk on Saturday night, or Sunday? It is an interference with individual liberty just as real as the Scott Act.

"The Crooks Act aims at regulating the liquor traffic and keeping it under."

Yes, it "keeps it" but never lets it. It "regulates" the hotels in the city of Toronto to the other day (see daily Globe of August 18th or 19th) so that 60 "drunks" were before the police court at one session.

"We do not say anything against the restrictions of the Crooks Act."

They don't! Is not that magnanimous? How long since it was true? We have some remembrance of the liquor sellers and their friends petitioning the legislature last winter, urging for the repeal of the 7 o'clock closing hour and asking that the time be put later. How very gracious it is of them to come now and tell the people of Halton that they do not say anything against those restrictions. We remember, not very long ago, they were rebuked by one who seems to hold their destiny in his hands, that their proper attitude before the public was "Defiance, not Defence."

They are now wishing to take the Crooks Act just as it is, with all its faults, if the holders will only try them some more. The prohibition in the Crooks Act is a beautiful and admirable thing. The Crooks Act may prohibit us from buying liquor 30 hours in a week and on election days, and there is no "gag" about it. But when the Scott Act says you cannot buy it at any time it is a terrible thing. No man can logically accept the prohibition clauses in the Crooks Act and refuse to accept the prohibition of the Scott Act.

"If hotel keepers do not keep the law, it is not so much their fault as the fault of the officers whose duty it is to enforce it."

This is a faulty statement with the Anti-Temperance lecturers of to-day. Is it the duty of a constable to watch a man he suspects and prevent him from stealing or having stolen to bring him to justice? It is a new code of duty they are teaching. How can an Inspector prevent a man from breaking the Crooks Act? Impossible and absurd. This statement is an apology for all law breakers and especially for the violators of the liquor laws. It is a declaration that no liquor seller will keep the law, Crooks Act or any other act.

"Prohibitory laws were a failure in Michigan and Massachusetts and were repealed."

This is another specimen of Anti-Scott Act logic—therefore the Scott Act will be a failure in Canada. The law for the protection of life and property is a failure in Mexico, therefore it must be a failure in Canada. All this cry of prohibition is the same and the circumstances and education of the people are the same. It implies that the principle of prohibition wherever found and under the most favorable circumstances must always fail. This is not true. The principle of prohibition inheres in all government and forms part of all law. It is not true that prohibition has always been a failure and must be. It is not true that the Scott Act in this country has been a failure.

"Drunkenness and crime have increased in the State of Maine under the Maine Law."

Still another specimen of logic. Therefore drunkenness and crime must increase in Canada under the Scott Act. It is not true that drunkenness and crime have increased in the State of Maine under the Maine Law. There is very much less drunkenness in Maine in proportion to the population than in Ontario. If the Maine law is such a curse to Maine as the Anti-Temperance men say, would they throw the whole question upon the people now, and seek to put it in the constitution of the State. Maine votes for the prohibitory amendment on the 8th of September, one day before the vote in Halton. Maine will sustain the law by a large majority. Let Halton stand by the Scott Act and rebuke the hired advocates that are sent into this County to persuade the people to vote for whiskey.

"Temperance Hotels have been a failure wherever tried."

What follows? Therefore, the sale of liquor is necessary to make a hotel pay. Great effort is made to make the people believe this. Hotel keeping and whiskey selling are not the same. The one is not necessary to the other. Hotels can be conducted and are being made a success without the sale of liquor. It is entirely incorrect to say they cannot be.

"Give us a general prohibitory law for the Dominion or Province, and we will vote for it."

Some say this, and so they will vote against the Scott Act. This is not consistent. Voting for the Scott Act is the only way we can show that we want the general prohibition. If a man will not vote for the Act we have, it is more than possible he would not vote to get one we have not.

AN OPEN LETTER.

To the Free and Council of the Village of Acton.

GENTLEMEN:—While this season has been one of considerable depression in all business departments, and while it is generally known that the financial condition of our village is not of the most encouraging nature at present, we find you carrying on the affairs of your office in such a manner that I feel called upon to ask the reason of such a wasteful expenditure of our funds, especially at the hands of your Street and Sidewalk Committee.

Referring to report of this Committee showing estimated expenditure on streets and sidewalks for the present year—see Free Press April 17th—I find the following work recommended by the Committee and agreed to by the whole Council, viz:—63 rods sidewalk on Yonge street from W. Ismond's residence eastward; 23 rods sidewalk on John street, from Church to Agnes street; 73 rods sidewalk on Bower street, from Willow to Wilber streets, besides other work, such as culverts, crossings and seven street lamps. The Committee asked for a grant of \$400 which sum was placed to their credit.

Now, gentlemen, an analysis of this work shows us that the sidewalk on Yonge street extends from Councillor Ismond's residence nearly to Councillor Cameron's. The sidewalk on John street extends to Councillor Ismond's property. The building of these sidewalks—so nicely placed for the convenience of the members of your Street and Sidewalk Committee—while so much other necessary work such as grading and draining our streets, has been left undone, is, in my opinion, a base misuse of public money. Surely Councillors Ismond and Cameron, especially the former, must be contemplating an early retirement from municipal life, to so openly spend our money in such an extravagant manner.

The sidewalk on Bower street is doubtless a necessity, although it is a fact that the property benefited is principally owned by the other members of the Council. The culverts and most of the crossings were necessary, but where the necessity arises for putting three street lamps on Yonge street is more than I can imagine. Perhaps this also is a "pap" to your Street Committee.

Again, if reports of your proceedings are carefully published in the Free Press, I ask where the Chairman of your Street and Sidewalk Committee obtained his authority to build a new sidewalk from Church street to Col. Allan's property, as I see no instance where Mr. Ismond presented a supplementary report to the Council asking permission for the necessary expenditure, and this to benefit one man and one who is always opposed to anything likely to advance the interests of the Municipality you have the honor to serve.

To sum up the whole, you have expended in sidewalks and lamps, which benefit scarcely anyone but yourselves and Col. Allan, according to your own estimate, about \$300. This will entail an extra supplementary report to the Council asking permission for the necessary expenditure, and this to benefit one man and one who is always opposed to anything likely to advance the interests of the Municipality you have the honor to serve.

Had you spent this amount in properly grading and draining our streets you could go to the polls next January feeling that you had done the village some service, adequate to the amount spent, but how your Street and Sidewalk Committee dare again ask the suffrage of the people of Acton, in the face of these extravagancies, is a problem I for one cannot solve. But perhaps the gentlemen think we have placed them in the Council to spend our money in such a manner as will best suit their own private interests.

Other matters, as grave as these, also demand our attention, of which you will hear more anon.

I remain, Yours truly, L. L.

Acton, Aug. 25rd, 1884.

Scott Act News.

A special correspondent of the Toronto News closes his communication as follows:—"Before I close this correspondence I want to make a prophecy. When the vote is taken on Sept. 9th, the Scott Act will be sustained. Mind, now, I tell you. Just mark this, please."

Christian voter, the issue is squarely before you this year; you cannot possibly dodge it. You must vote with the supporters of the Scott Act against the liquor traffic, or with the whiskey party in support of it. Which will you do? It is a question of conscience.

The Scott Act supporters in the county of Halton have the sympathy of the entire temperance party throughout the Dominion. They have already received substantial tokens of good will, and there are more of the same sort to follow. "God speed the right," say we, and let there be no relaxation of effort until the Act is re-affirmed by gallant little Halton—Brampton Banner.

An attempt made to repeal the Scott Act in Moncton, N. B., was defeated by a majority of 280. The Act was submitted to the people there in 1879, when the total vote polled was 1,022 for, and 299 against. The vote for repeal was 1,044, and against, 1,774. So the vote to retain the law is greater than the combined vote for and against it in 1879. The people of Moncton have apparently found what they have been seeking for. The Scott Act has never yet been repealed. Let Halton electors pull a big majority against repeal.

Field Lighting. There are but few that have never suffered almost intolerable pain from Toothache, Neuralgia, or like acute pains. To them such an instant relief as Field Lighting is an untold blessing in time of trouble. No disgusting offensive medicines to be taken for days. One application of Field Lighting cures. Sold at J. E. McGarvin's Drug Store.

SOBEY'S CORN KILLER. Dr. Starr's Corn Solver! The Wonderful Corn Remover, it is safely applied causes no pain and will positively remove the most obstinate corns in 3 to 6 days. Sold in Acton by J. E. McGarvin, Druggist. Price 25 cents.

JOHN WARREN, Esq., August 26th 1884.

A consistent christian will support his principles and his prayers at the polls.

THE NEW PATENT DUST PROOF CASE.

FOR SALE BY W. S. SMITH, The Watch & Clock House OF GUELPH.

Extra facilities for Repairing the Finest and Best WATCHES.

WM. S. SMITH, GUELPH.

10c. will buy a package of the Triangle Dye, containing sufficient dye of any color for 1 to 4 pounds of any goods, according to the shade wanted. Sold by J. E. McGarvin.

Beckie's Atomic Salve. The best salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, if money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by J. E. McGarvin.

\$600 worth of home \$7.00 outfits free. Pay absolutely free. No risk. Capital not required. Reader, if you want business at which persons of either sex, young or old, can make great pay—21 the time they work with absolute certainty. Write for particulars to H. HALLET & Co., Portland, Maine.

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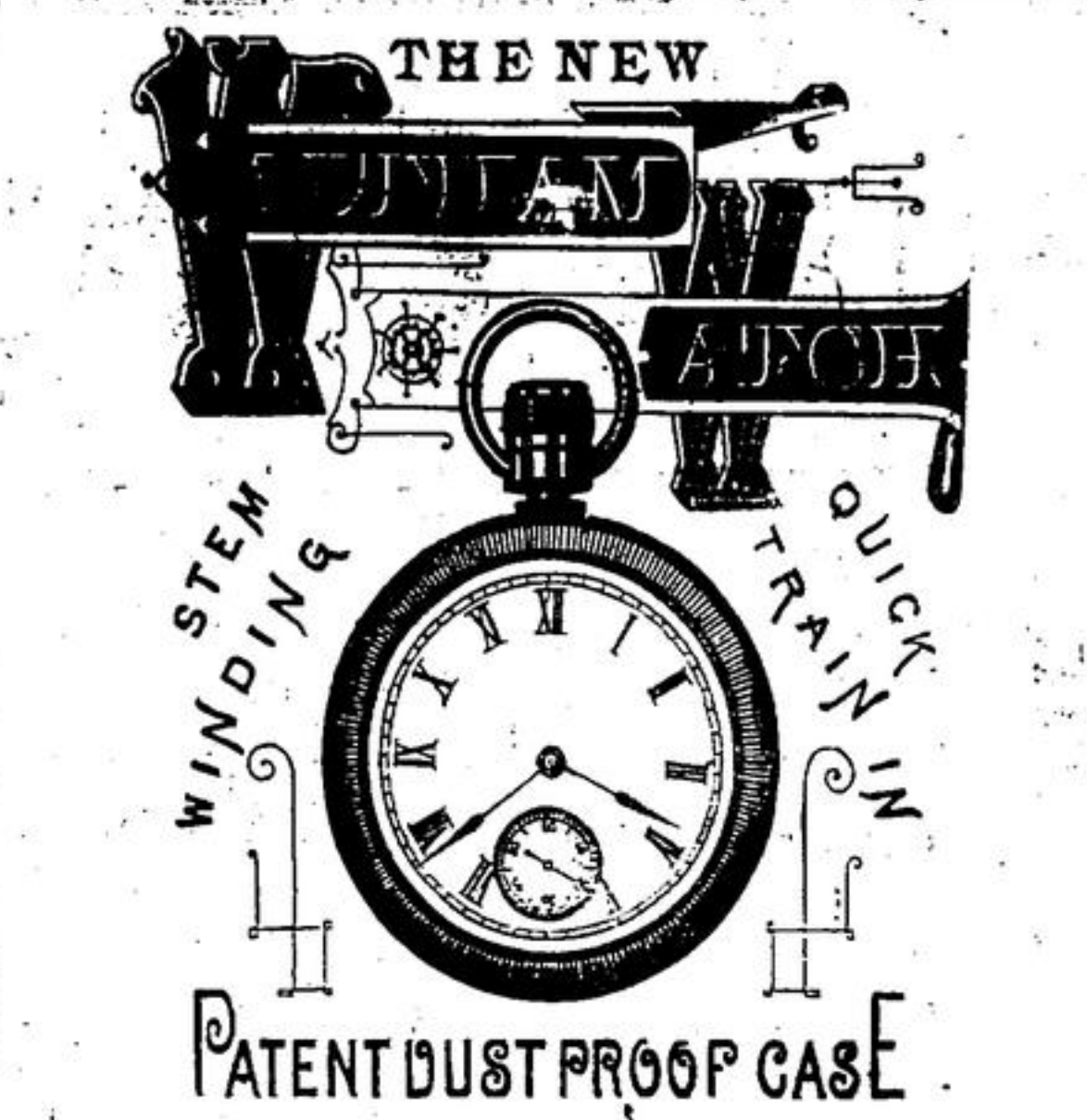
WATERDOWN HIGH SCHOOL. This long established and thoroughly reliable Institution re-opens on 1st SEPT. 1884. Classes organized for participation in Arts, Law, and Medicine, also for Intermediate and Teachers' Certificate. Preparation of Teachers a Specialty. RECORD OF SCHOOL FOR PAST THREE YEARS: 23 passed successfully—1882, 25; 1883, 31; 1884, 32. The majority passing the higher grades. All who write at the University and Professional Teachers' Examination were particularly successful. No High School in Ontario has better Records. Teaching staff in principal departments graduates of Toronto University. Pupils may enter at any time. Good board in private families at \$20.00 per week.

D. H. BUSTER, B.A., Head Master. Languages & Literature—H. T. FRANK, B.A., Mathematics and Science.—W. T. FRANK, B.A., Music and Drawing.—W. S. STREVEY, (Prov. Cert.) Grad. Ont. Art School. Reading and Rhetoric.—M. FRANK, (Prov. Cert.) For further particulars apply to Head Master.

AUCTION SALE OF Valuable Farm! In the Township of Nassagaweya, in the County of Halton. THERE WILL BE SOLD, ON MONDAY, The 22nd day of September, 1884, at one o'clock in the afternoon, at THE DOMINION HOTEL, IN THE VILLAGE OF ACTON, by virtue of a Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage which will be produced at the Sale, the following property, under Mortgage from ANSL CORNOR the younger, the west half of Lot No. Twenty-nine, in the Sixth Concession of the Township of Nassagaweya, County of Halton, containing one hundred acres, more or less, and except one acre sold for School Site. The following improvements are said to be on the premises:—90 acres cleared, and well cultivated. The property is accessible by good roads, with markets convenient.

TERMS:—One-tenth of the purchase money to be paid down on the day of sale. For balance, terms will be made known at the sale.

For further particulars apply to JONES BROS. & MACKENZIE, Solicitors, Masonic Hall, Toronto, Or to WILLIAM HARKNESS, Esq., Toronto, August 23rd, 1884.



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In Black Cashmeres We claim to show the Best 50 Cent Line in the market. Just opened to-day, a full range of KNITTED SHAWLS, for every wear. Special Values. Every lady should secure one.

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