The Untario Government, fluding that the school meetings throughout the Province take place on December 29th, have changed the dates of the nominations and polling for the Legislature so as not to interfere with such meetings. Nomination day is now fixed for Tuesday, the 21st of next month, and polling day a week later, ou

THE SCOTT ACT.

HOW IT IS WORKING IN THE BANNER COUNTY.

A Most Favorable Report - The Temperance Men Masters of the Field-The Liquor in Business-Increase in Assessable Progle Here.

The following is a synopsis of the report of the Toronto Mail's special correspondent respecting the Scott Act in Halton, which appeared in Saturday's edition. It's a fair and impartial report of affairs as they exist, and is evidently written by an observaut and unbiased correspondent :-

Muron, Nov. 17.-The history of the Scott Act in Halton is full of interest Since its adoption in 1831 by a majority of 81, and its readoption on the memorabl 9th of November, 1884, until the presen time, the working of the Act in this county has attracted more-attention from the in this province. Nowhere has the law been more vigorously and successfully enforced. As the banner Scott Act county, it is frequently held up as worthily hold-ing that position. The courage and unflagging energy of its temperance organizations have incited many a vigilance cemmittee to a healthy emulation; and the generous liberality of the leaders and of the rank and the file in the movement meets reward in a widely expressed public appreciation, as well as in the more desirable derivative success which is obserable. To Halton the honor belongs of being the first county in the province in which the Act became law.

A MEMORABLE CONTEST. Many a thrilling incident occurred in the struggle which preceded and succeeded that victory. It was the battlefield of the whole province. The liquor interest throughout the country was roused and lent its powerful aid in money and machinations, feeling that much depended upon that election. Within the county itself the majority of those holding official and influential positions were anti-Scott, in some cases violently so; and the forty tavern-keepers, relying on these and stimulated and flattered by outside support, were sanguine of success. The other side showed their mettle for determined fight. No effort was spared. The able were willing to spend and the poorer people who could not contribute large sums of money knew the value of their votes, and they organized admirably. They knew also that other counties were waiting anxiously for the result, and that with them to a great extent lay the fate of the measure in those counties. They were encouraged from far and near, and when, on November 9th, 1884, they for the second time declared for the Act by a double majority, congratulations by telegram and letter poured in from places so far distant as British Columbia and the Lower Prov-

EXCELLENT RESULTS. It is with the operation of the law during this second term, and with its working at the present time, I intend to deal in this letter. 'The County of Halton does not cover a large area, comprising the four townships of Nassagaweya, Esquesing, Trafalgar and Nelson. The towns are Oakville, Burlington, Acton, Georgetown, and Milton, the county town. In some of these places the law is better observed than in others, but I am right in saying thats taken as a whole, the law works better in ed. The following may be given as the if they can laugh at nothing. chief reasons for this satisfactory state of

was gained it weakened the enemy. They hold it as a distinct understanding among themselves that it is not a mean thing to This last point has been discussed in their public conventions, and the conclusion arrived at that they were morally bound tolay information_

2. They have a strong Executive Committee, who meet often to review the whole situation, to compare notes, to confer on points and questions arising out of the working of the Act, and to assist the Inspector, who is a member of this committee, in every possible way. A constant agitation is kept up to maintain interest and activity

3. The liberality of the people. The subscribe largely and cordially. As an i stance of their readiness in this respect it tral Committee made a draft on the county. It was apportioned among the towns and villages according to the standing plan, and was collected in a week's time. They were, further, exceptionally favored by the Local Government, who seldom refused them any request they made, perhaps owing to the fact that the representatives sent to both Houses of Parliament are strong temper-

Still another reason for the successful working of the law in this county is found in the fact that the local hotel-keepers do not seem to be prosperous in business and cannot afford so much money as formerly; and as money from outsiders is not given so readily as heretofore, it is more difficult for them to keep their forces up to the fighting point. The law is administered by a police magistrate for the county, who is a salaried officer and was appointed before the change in the law which refers such appointments to the recommendation of County Councils. He is described as being fair and judicial in his decisions and as bringing much experience to his work. So much for the causes of success.

In the towns or rural districts the law s not much infringed. Of the towns, Actor and Burlington are considered to be observing the law fairly well. The drinking, if any be done, is carefully concealed. During 1886 there has not been a prosecution in either of these towns, although they have been fairly well watched.

Oakville shows a reduction of one in the number of hotels since licensing times. There are still four taverns, and liquor is sold more or less in the town. The effects are seen in occasional drunkenness, but the effort to stamp it out has much promise of success. In three prosecutions straight convictions were obtained, and the fines tell

AGAINST THE ILLICIT DEALERS. It is no difficult matter to get liquor Georgetown, and it is believed the licensed rewery in town contributes to the drinkng facilities. Milton has been always the most difficult place in the county in which to enforce the Act. It is a small town with

four botels, but the support the owners o these receive from a number of count officials and from a local paper, alleged to be conducted by the County Clerk and County Treasurer, has made the struggle against the traffic a bitter one. It is, however, so well sustained that open drinking across the bar is almost outirely abeliahed The alacrity with which prosecutions are started, and the tenacious manuer in which they are followed up, harass the tavern-

crease they lose heart and, as a consequence, many of their cases. The quarterly returns to the Governmen for the last half year bring out a poin which ought to be of interest to inspectors. The return for the first quarter of that period reported five convictions. The return for the second quarter of the sam period reports fourteen. The increase accounted for by the fact that a charge perjury was preferred against a hotelkeeper, from which charge he fled the country, and other hotelkeepers and witnesses, taking

THE LIGTOR PARTY. During the Scott Act regimp many the hotels have changed hands, and more recent owners are not so bold in violating the law as were the old license-hold-Traffic Shattered -A Great Improvement ers. All of the latter who are still in pos session have been fined two or three times party-Interesting Incidents of the Strug- | in fact nearly all are within one conviction of gaol without the alternative of a fine. This rigor is paralyzing the traffic, and as a system it is completely shattered. Drink s being imported into the county packed in crates under the name of glass, in kegs as butter, and in barrels as vinegar; and in

warning, gave a more satisfactory evidence

One thing on which Halton is to be con gratulated is the fact that there is no icense for retail business in the county. Seven or eight physicians of the county signed a round-robin stating that they did not require liquor for medicinal purposes, and that there was no necessity for the druggists' licenses to be continued. . Accordingly they were not renewed last year, and now, with the exception of the two

small portable quantities, which are used

outlawed in the county. Halton has had a small share of the round of outrages and threats of violence common to Scott Act counties. Effigies were swinging from the telegraph wires, windows were smashed and a barn and stables were burned. For the barn outrage the incendiary was sent to the penitentiary for a term of five years. These offences were put down with the strong hand of the law, and now the only serious obstacle to | benefit to any young man, and those also of enforcement is untrustworthy evidence, blow in the determination to prosecute for | to speak in public, and to speak fluently and which, as I have said, has also received a perjury. The most cordial relations exist intelligently should the occasion arise at spector, who is implicitly trusted by them. way in which to attain such a desirable

The oft-repeated but obviously absurd charge that the introduction of the Scott Act must have a detrimental effect on general trade is quite exploded in the case of Halton: Business has increased throughout the county. Georgetown and Milton may be especially mentioned. In the former town it is generally admitted that trade was never more lively, and the ledger shows good balances on the right side in a large number of houses. In Milton there, was never before in a corresponding period so much building as during last summer. The cil that the assessment for the coming year | Prime Minister we could get along swimon assessable property will bring a larger revenue than the largest amount collected in the last ten years. The few persons in social position who still support the traffic do it covertly and find themselves isolatfrom the popular touch, while the struggle for supremacy has closed the temperance ranks and has in a great measure educated the ratepapers as to the power and independent use of their votes.

Argus is Lectured.

DEAR MR. EDITOR: -On behalf of the out so blithely in search of game and gore girls, we again crave your indulgence, as on Thanksgiving Day came back with very we have no other medium of approaching slim bags. If they averaged one wretched Argus, but through your columns. If it is | little rabbit apiece it's the outside. Those not criticising our letter he was, will he | two particular nimrods that generally hunt please tell us what word in the English in company, and have been known as the language expresses the meaning of his long and short of it, west out in the afterremarks? He says there is nothing to noon. I caught a glimpse of them as they criticise, and then again he says he and returned in the dusk of evening, and a more Mrs. Argus laughed and roared and laugh- | sorry-looking couple you could hardly im-Halton than in any county I have yet visit- ed. It cannot take much to amuse them | agine. Not a feather, not a bit of fur.

1. The temperance people have always left out of "phraseology," but whether it was plastering of swamp muck from waist to shown a determination to fight the traffic, a typographical error or our own carcless. toes. They looked as if they had been mired realizing the fact that whenever a victory ness we are unable to say. We would not like that tishing quartette of last summers. attempt to coin words, nor even use a word we did not know the meaning of, much inform against a man who violates the law. less not know how to spell. Anyway, we thought it too small an error to mention. Really we thought Mr. A. knew that " It is a note of upstart greatness to observe those triffles which noble minds neglect."

We suppose his remark about the "digni-

ned (?) piece of composition " was meant for | carry the prohibition banner. sarcasm. What a struggle he must have had to get it off, and how relieved his over charged brain must have felt! We would just remark here for the edification of Mr. | county, is given elsewhere in this issue. men that they need hope for no cessation A. that the said piece of composition did All things considered, the law is working of the enforcement of the law. occupation is teaching the young idea how to the intelligent zeal of the local temperto shoot; nor does she wear the biggest hat ance men. - Toronto Mail. may be stated that quite recently the Cen- in town. We would just like to know what his occupation is that leaves him so much time to take note of what the ladies wear. If we might judge from his past writings, we would say his chief occupation consisted | the nation. It has assumed the proportions in spubbing Mrs. A. and admiring himself. of a great political issue. Its progress We sincerely hope the little A.'s do not take | threatens the annihilation of the liquor after their dear Pa. If they do we tremble trade as a legitimate calling. These are for their futures. We are afraid whoever | facts too patent to admit of argument.' taught his young idea how to shoot did not | Pretty strong admission for so bitter an teach him to shoot very straight, as the opponent of the question. large hats are the only things he has hit yet,

and we presume that is on account of their size. This seemed to tickle him so, he had to give them another shot last week. He ! did not hit the mark, however, this time. Whoever informed him that the birds had their beaks tied up must have been out of the county and come homerather muddled.

We think in some of his previous epistles he makes a remark to the effect that we worship the goddess Fashion. We would just like to know who but the men foster such a worship? We always take particular notice that it is the most stylishly dressed lady who commands the most attention and respect from the male sex. If paper combined. It has 82 folio pages and he doubts our word, just let him go into a

We quite forgive Mrs. A. for her little criticism. She would hardly dare have an opinion of her own, ridiculous or otherwise. We do not write whole columns about

a chance, but just suggest to him that it would be more appropriate to sign himself,

'Miss Nancy." ONE OF THE GIRLS. Acton, Nov. 23rd, 1886.

stove, cheap. S. A. Secord,

ARGUS' WEEKLY NOTES. His Opinion of the Newly-Organized Liber al Temperance Union.

A MOOK PARLIAMENT.

Our smart little town was greatly honor ed, so they say, last week by two important events. I refer to the visit of that disciplo keepers very much, and as convictions inof the immortal Wiggins, yelept Moses Oatus, and the formation of a branch of that most illustrious (?) organization known as "The Liberal Temperance Union," save the mark.

> -Whether the visit of the embryo weather seer had anything to do with the formstron of the above mentioned branch or not, remains to be seen. At all events they both took place on the same day.

-The meeting was held in the had attached to the Rossin House, and was graced by the presence of some (less than a doxon, I believe) of the sliining lights of the town, who have chiefly attained their present degree of shineness by the absorption of light through the bottom of a tumbler!

Officers were elected in due form, consisting of a President, two vice dittos, and Secretary-Treasurer. The branch is to be known as the Acton Brauch of the aforesaid Union; its chief object being to fight the Spott Act and to drink nothing but puro unadulterated liquor. Water, of course, to boused for the purpose of ablution only. In this connection it is to be sincerely hoped that at least some of the members will use more for this purpose than hitherto, considering the fact that from this out they

are not supposed to drink any. Liberal Temperance, forsovoth! Liberal Temperance, under such outward guises of respectability does that hydra-headed monster strong drink -- that fearful reef on which many an honest man's hopes and life, yea his very soul, is wrecked-steal into our midst, encouraged and patted on the back by men who should know better and are capable of better things.

-I was much pleased to read "Alpha's letter in last week's issue, and trust it will be the means of starting a literary or, better still, a debating society. It is of vast more muture age for that matter, to be able between the temperance people and the in- any time, and I know of no more efficient knowledge than a debating society. I say a debating society, because one that is called a literary society is very apt to degenerate into a mere reading room, or a weekly meeting for ordinary social chat, into which, sooner or later, the inevitable gossiping chit-chat and scandal will creep.

-Why not organize a mock parliament We could get, perhaps, same of the Councillors to take a hand in and give us necessary points on the management, &c. And announcement is made in the Town Coun- if "Alpha!" himself would only pose as mingly, I'm sure.

> -- The thing is worthy of a second thought. friend "Alpha," and I hope to see you float

-With reference to combining it with the usual weekly choir practice, that won't do. There are many reasons against it. Want of space prevents giving more than one, which is, the church is emphatically not the place for that sort of thing at all. --- The hunters, one and all, who started

absolutely nothing to show for their tramp, We were well aware that the "r" was I save barked shins; wet feet, and a liberal

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

It seems settled that Mayor Howland will be a candidate in Toronto for the Local Legislature. Mr. Howland will not come out as a party candidate, but will

A very interesting letter regarding the working of the Act in Halton, the banner

In a recent editorial the Wine and Spirit Review says:-" Probibition sentiment is alive and active in every voting precinct of

To Our Readers.

We cannot too strongly urge upon our readers the necessity of subscribing for family weekly newspaper of the first-classsuch, for instance, as The Independent, of New York. Were we obliged to select one BARGAINS publication for habitual and careful reading to the exclusion of all others, we should choose unhesitatingly The Independent. It is a newspaper, magazine, and review, all in one. It is a religious, a literary, au educational, a story, an art, a scientific, an agricultural, a financial, and a political 21 departments. No matter what a perball-room or crowded street car and see for son's religion, politics or profession, may be, no matter what the age, sex, employment or condition may be, The Independent will prove a help, an instructor, an educator. Our readers can do no less than to send a postal for a free specimen copy, or for thirty cents the paper will be sent a more critically. Its yearly subscription is \$8.00, or two years for \$5.00. Address

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THE CRADLE: -At Toronto, on the 18th inst, the will of James L. Hughes of a daughter.

THE GRAVE. McDuxally-In Nassagawoya, on the 28% inst., John W., son of Mr. Poter Mollonald, aged 6 years 8 months and 15 days

TENDERS WANTED. TENDERS will be reselved by the undersigned until Tuesday, soth Nov., for the use of the Skating Rink for the coming winter.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

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ROBERT KENNEDY.

CARD OF THANKS.

HE UNDERSIONED desires herein to express his heartfelt thanks to the many kind friends and neighbors for their cheerful and unremitting attention and very practical and acceptable assistance during the long illness from which I am very thankful to say I have almost entirely recovered. These many kindnesses will over be remembered by Mrs. Mann and myself with grateful hearts. ALLIAN MANN.

leton, Nov. 2hd, 1886. TAX COLLECTOR'S NOTICE.

THE COLLECTOR OF TAXES for the Muni-MONDAY, 29th DECEMBER. to receive taxes from ratepayers. All whose taxes are now uppaid will please call and settle on the day named, without fail.

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Guelph to this year. -A Toro this week for season. -Turkeye innings. out skating several of th

-The ta:

home" at th day to recei -Hiram pringe, has l for violation -A fine a in wedding ceived at the -No one is, but it is s merchant ha tise. The m other makes -The Pre Mills is abou about 58x36 the whole co already been -A class organized

Church, Ma Rev. Mr. D number of p will commen -Rev. R opening serv Millbank, a f Mr. George pied the p acceptably. Lost.-On street, Acto which was t gold brooch on the road overcoat.

> leaving at th THE Which ar

Ricked By a On Thank James Nick house, was l was leading bone of the teeth were k was badly on Dr. Lowry daily impro Halton Farn A meeting be held by the iu- Milton Farmers gen in the Inst under its aus much pract

farmers upor and its succe Removed to Mr. P. J. of his blacker Teskey, left he has accep Targe shop. smith and er of the people many ways change will n prospects. The Harvest Local hap this week : f

tinuous, and out by the FR scarce, but in market; mu with prospec interests cer shot guns at hares likewis The Municir Council m only busine was the ador tion :- Move by John Car fines impose Daff for viol upon the ter letter of Gat this Council the Beeve, b G. T. R. Acco The G. T.

Saturday an with a number ly enjoyed. a new passer the site of th yards. In t be built on il

and a new sw Western divi G. T. R. dep the overflow for the G. P.

Grand Trun the proposed