

Friday, May 27th; 1881

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE Scott act was carried in Colchester County N. S. on Friday by a large majority.

HON. S. H. BLAKE, has resigned his position as Vice Chancellor. The cause of his resigning his position was the raising of the younger members of the Legal fraternity above him as chancellor. It is understood that he will join his old firm which will bear the name of Blake, Kerr & Cassels.

REV MR. BROOKMAN, late pastor of a Baptist congregation in Yorkville has been compelled to resign his position because of ereterodox opinions. It is not now as it was in the days of the apostles. Then the people were guided and govgoverned by the opinious of the apostles and teachers and pastors, but now the pas tors and teachers have come no a' standard of the opinion of the people, or else to use a commonplace term, they have to " dig out."

A LIQUCR TEST CASE.

A CASE was tried in Toronto last woek to test the restriction imposed by the dicence commissions on liquer-and billiard saloons, which require the closing of billiard rooms at seven o'clock, and that lighter shall not be sold to children under tan years old. The case was I nspector Dexter against Mr. Hodge, president of the L. V. Ass. and proprietor of St. James Hotel. Mr. Hodge in the interests of the licenced victuallers purposely violated the law, to test its valadity and the information was laid by Mr. Dexter, and the result was in each case Mr. Hodge was fined \$50 and costs or 30 days it jail. I. is to be carried to higher court, but will probably be sustained.

TEMPERANCE LEGISLATION.

The Cookstown Advocate contains another two column editoral purporting to be on the above subject; but which is very nuch more remarkable for its onslaught on the LIBERAL and prohibitionists generally, than for either its common sense, or representation of public opinion. Like many other journal of its stripe when it has no grounds to sustain its assertions, it starts out with the Cry of "misrepresentation and falsehood " and ends up with a grand plea for permission to have its own whiskey, and yet maintain its respectability, under the gauzy cloak of "individual liberty." Those who have not a personal acquaintance with the writer of the articles in question can form pretty correct opinion of the worth o his judgment on a matter of this kind by the following extract from his : " Misrepresentation has always been the chief stock in trade of the prohibitionists, and if the LIBERAL adopts the same means of defence, it is only acting on the principle of its party," New for us to devote our space in answering arguments advanced by a journal that can hold so little of the respect of an intelligent resepectable and reading public as one that will base its reputation on such statements as the above, would be simply an imposition on the good nature and common sense of our readers. But we can, with congulity and perhaps profit, refer to one or two points advanced by our unscrupulous cotem, especially as the subject is one of public interest. With regard to the Maine Law, and the report of the commissions the Advocate could toss up its hat with triumph over their report, when it first made reference to abstract sentences of it in support of its own arguments but when we gave the complete summing up of those commissioners the bad with the good.after they had gone through there work, the survey says "the LIBERAL quotes several extracts from heir reports as proof positive that the law in that State is a complete success," and then picks out the parts favorable to its own grounds, and comments on them without reference to the infinitly stop all your extravagant and wrong notion in doctoring yourself and family with expenstronger points which favor the success of the law. This, in its-self is one" of the strongest tacit admissions of the 'part of the Advocate of the successof the law. But we challenge the Advocate to give us readers the twelve conclusions arrived '--relv on it. See another column,

at by those commissioners. This the Advocate dare not do, because of the ridiculous plight it would place it in. It would show him up to perfection. Then the Advocate tries to squirm out of the ridiculous position it placed itsself in by asserting that the criminal laws. such as these against murder, felony, &c " were not 'enacted to prevent crime," by saying that the LIBERAL " by a disingenious paraphrase made us to say" &c., while we simply quoted the Advocates own words, which we will quotes again for the benefit of that Journal. Here they are "The law relating murder does not presume to prevent .one man* from murdering another in material sense, but merely provides for the punishment of the murderer," and so on with regard to other crimes. The intelligent reader is capable of judging for himself of the absurdity of the statement. The Advocate then tries to apologize for its utterances by saying, "it must not be inferred tliat we have no faith in the criminal law, or that it does not serve as a preventative in some cases." Here it admits what it, a few sentences previously, denies. A man can have very little faith in his. own creed when he himself has to turn its apologist, and therefore cannot expect others to have much faith in it. To show that all the conservativers are not whiskey men and at the same time show that at least one sensible person will not agree with the Advocate we insert the following communication from the columns of the Globe of April 13th : 14 SIR,-As an old-time believer in the wisdom of prohibiton, allow me to .thank and congratulate you on your conception and carrying out of the original idea of sending two correspondents of different views to investigate the important and much-disputed question, " Is the Maine Law a success or failure," and with all the attempt at redicule by those opposed the facts have never more clearly stated both pro and con, and to all fair-minded people prove :---1. That the great mass of the respectable, law-abiding people, after so many years' trial support the law and approved of it. 2. That it has driven the liquor traffic into dens where only criminals and those who "know no law "gather together. The letter containing an account of the interview with Govenor Plaisted, who is no fanatic, giving his knowledge and experience as Attorney-General of the State, together with the report or County Attorneys, is the most convincing and authoritative statement on the question ever made in this country, and will carry conviction to the heart of every fair-minded man. Those who have been there for any length of time (the winter included) know that the statements made by paid advocates of the liquor trade are garbled and incorrect, and that they draw from them false conclusions. As the question of prohibition is moving rapidly to the front in politics in this and

other countries, as a Conservative I wish to enter my timely protest against the party I belong to becoming in any way indentified as opposed to prohibition. I is well known amongst our neighbours that Democrats and the liquor interest don't mean two, and some Reformers in Canada hint sometimes in that direction about "Tories" but I claim without cause, and hope if will continue so; and while one of those who hold firmly the wisdom of " Canada for the Canadians, in short protection to native industry, 1 also hold more fit ourselves from all that tends to lower us as a nation, either in material prosperity, intellect, or morality. The temperance people of our Dominion thank you for the interest you have created in this question at the present juncture of affair, so ably assisted (?) by your Conservative contemporary, and many renders will join me in saying that the interesting and unique style of the correspondence has been a source of pleasure as will as information.





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I am, respectfully,

PROHIBITION CONSERVATIVE.

With regard to the plea of " personal luberty " raised by the Advocate against prohibition, our space will not permit our entering into an entire dissection of it in this issue, but we shall be happy to deal with it in the near future. We cannot help saying however, that our idea of personal liberty, wheteer it be looked at from a Scriptual, British, rational or humane point of view, is, that every man should be permitted to do as hs pleases as long as he does right, and does not endanger the well being of either himself or his neighbor.

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Toronto, January 10th, 1881.