

[illegible]

The action of individuals connected with the Prohibition question the present session, taken upon the Temperance portion of the report of the Dominion the responsibility of keeping alive the agitation and of accumulating the pressure of public opinion on the subject.

Mr. Thompson wants more light on the character and results of the traffic; touching the financial embarrassments that will actually accrue from the establishment of prohibition, and the mode of relieving that embarrassment.

The St. John Freeman is quite correct in saying—

"We are glad that the time has come when those who are honestly opposed to Prohibition should raise their voices and make their opinions known. They should not, as so great majority of our people do at present, sit idle, wait until they were forced into resistance to a law, the enactment of which the plain expression of their opinion might have prevented."

And there are some points well worth consideration in the following suggestions made by the Ottawa Citizen:

The duty of the Government of the day is to speak out plainly in this matter—to state candidly, (1.) That Prohibition means no trade, no commerce, no industry, no agriculture, and no importation of liquor penalties would destroy millions of vested capital and vested rights. (2.) That thousands of men would lose their jobs and their families would starve. (3.) That the annual revenue would be reduced by fully six or seven millions of dollars. (4.) That it means the appointment of hundreds of inspectors to enforce the law, and that every seaport town, bay, cove, or inlet must be guarded against smugglers. These facts should be laid before the House of Commons, and the people of this country fairly. No Premier, if he is honestly working for the public welfare, can maintain silence upon a most important social question. He must take up his position of authority. We favor total abstinence, live in temperance—and we believe the people of Canada are doing so. The Minister of Finance has admitted the existence of Prohibition or non-Prohibition. No issue should be allowed, but the course should be informed by the leader of the Opposition, Mr. Mackenzie Bowden, in relation's resources, if liquid traffic the revenue arising from the liquor traffic. Perhaps the worst fact prohibition would put upon the shoulders of the Government is the loss of dollars to make up a deficit in the receipts upon millions of dollars to license the brewer, the distiller and the importer by bearing only one side of the story and disposing—in fact to do what is absolutely impossible—to do in order that prohibition become a statutory enactment. We speak freely by hearing only one side of the story that a wrong is being done by those in authority in not speaking out. Good Temperance and in all favor of total abstinence are better than anything else. It is the duty of the Opposition in this case to speak out. Our opinion is that both sides should be presented, and then if a full House of the people's representatives vote for Prohibition let the people say whether or not they wish to pay by ballot in order to give their opinion freely and honestly. It is the fault of many who speak in favor of temperance to be afraid of making the mistake of talking too frankly; but we fear that in our classes, in other circles of society we mouthed it in favor of Prohibition last night, and we are now in a position to see that practice that its influence is doing us every grade of society, and that where poor man spends one dollar, the rich squanders twenty in the purchase of liquor consumption, either to himself or his friends. What is needed now is a discussion of the financial aspect of Prohibition; we would urge the leader of the Government to take up this question, and to speak in it all its phases. The public mind even those who favor total abstinence, need the necessity of approaching the measure with the same calmness and soberness as they seek prohibition will not bear the heat of investigation, and will not stand the pressure of all the arguments and details of the case. If the fair minded people on either side, then they can not and should not prevail; it is time, however, the balance of the facts should be struck and a determinate conclusion arrived at.

Certainly Temperance advocates should not fail in their duty as to informing the public mind of the views of the Government and Legislators through their quires.

The first and most tangible data in the report seems to be the extent of the trade and its apparent influence on the revenues.

The report of the Indian revenue department of the Dominion for 1876 shows that \$423,331 proof gallon spirits is the estimated actual consumption in the Dominion for the year ended 31st June last, on which duties were collected amounting to \$3,493,751. Of this sum \$1,055,000 was paid for liquor consumption. Duties estimated at \$570.

In the latter articles the estimated consumption was less by 307,641 gallons and in the former about eight per cent in excess of the preceding two years.

According to the "Navigator," the returns we find that last year over five million of imported liquors entered for consumption 3,418,730 gallons; value, \$2,026,273; duties, \$1,912,554. Showing that in all 19,099,462 gallons of liquor was presumably consumed by the say 4 millions of inhabitants of the Dominion equal to \$189,954,102, or adding profits, making in round numbers three millions of twenty-eight and a half millions of dollars.

Of which, we regret to say, a large proportion of quantity was consumed, and sold at a cost of \$100,000,000 by the liquor drinkers of New Brunswick and of the Dominion.

THE LAST JOURNALS OF DAVID LIVINGSTON.—Ware in receipt from Messrs. Thompson & Co., of advance sheets of the above work. It is an octavo of about 450 pages, profusely and beautifully illustrated with full page engravings, portraits of the "illustrious dead," valuable additions to the book contain the history of the great explorer's life during the seven years which elapsed from his arrival at Zanzibar in 1866 to his death in the fen-country of Bangweulu in November 1873, the facts being gathered from his diary. There is also a narrative of his last journey down the Nile, written by him from his faithful servants Chumuk and Sisi. In the preparation of the book the author's aim appears to have been to tell everything necessary to the continuity of the narrative and a full unvarnished account of Dr. Livingstone's travels, adventures, discoveries, and sufferings, and all else which would be likely to interest the intelligent reader. The author is Horace Walker, F.R.G.S. The work is published by subscription only, and furnished at a very low price. Subscribers to the "Geographical Magazine" by Thompson & Co., to whom all applications for Agency should be addressed. Mr. Inglis Hovey is local agent for work.

A telegram from Frederick gives the very gratifying information that the bill has passed the Assembly authorized the issue by the Government of debentures for \$25,000 to aid in building bridges at Woodstock.

Our friends and representatives at thanks to the Government of the Province. Issue of debentures for \$65,000, purchased St. John Suspension Bridge also authorized.

Two of our prominent citizens engaged in a game of fictitious, on the public street, on Wednesday last. At the close of the game, the winner contributed \$5 to the Town funds in order to heal the breach of peace committed. Verdict of the public, served the right.

must have thinned out rather, as on important question the other day vote was 27—25.

PARTIES DESISTING OF purchasing pure and unadulterated—had been read the advertisement of Mr. C. Smith.

Our Fredericker correspondent writes that the House will prorogue next day.

The snow is rapidly disappearing and the water fast rising in the river streams.

BUTTER is 10 cents per pound Brockville, Canada.

J. W. Cudlip, Esq., Inspector of Comms, is in Town.

BOOK NOTICES.—A Valuable New Book of the present age is the difficult useful information. The appearance of this work, which bids fair to come on the masses still more fully, upon any particular subject, should be regarded as reason for its purchase by all who are desirous therefore to call the attention of our readers to Dr. P. Pierce's forthcoming book "The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser." This work will contain about nine hundred pages, will be well bound, illustrated with two hundred wood cuts and colored plates, and may be mailed to any address for the unprecedented low price of \$1.00. It will be ready for delivery early in April. The Author has long and favorably known to the public through his Family Medicine, and as the author of the World's Dispensary at Buffalo, N.Y., published for the treatment of Chronic Diseases, and now ventures to appear in the new world as authorship. From previous experience we believe the book is calculated to be eminently useful. It embraces a wide range of subjects of their bearing with more or less directness upon the maintenance of health. It treats Physiology, the Cerebral Functions, the Temperaments, and Hygienic Treatment of various diseases, and also contains chapters on their relative importance demands. Physical Mental Culture, Ventilation, Sleep, Clean Food, Beverages, Dressing, and Exercise, and many others, treated in a practical manner. Use of Water as a Remedial Agent receives attention which it deserves. Under the heading of "Familiar Remedies," are given the most useful indigenous medicinal plants, with their properties and uses and pictures of them. It is noted in a practical manner. The appropriate dose of each remedy given. After a suitable introduction we give Part Fourth, Diseases of the Female Sex, and professional to prescribe. Chronic ailments receive special attention. A chapter on Accidents and Emergencies, and their Remedies, is given. In short, much miscellaneous valuable information is given, which will be a genuine "rude medicine"—a convenient reference to all classes of people. The work has been lost from the lack of just the ledge which this work impacts. All those who cordially commend it as worthy of a place every family.

Fashions.—Ladies' fashions are ever changing, and better than then again were worse. We are happy to see that this brings beautiful changes. We have just received from Paris, France, the latest fashions, and it is full of overhauling of old and beautiful designs, and we must say have not seen so equal in literature, and in the art of dress-making, since the Authors of short sayings. It is a world most interesting and varied. It would be worth the trouble of reading it, and prior to every other magazine in point of change, in appearance and reading matter. Lady readers will find it very profitable. It is a value—one being only one dollar and ten cents. Those who would like it, should send to the publishers, Messrs. J. B. Rogers & Co., Broadway, New York City. He gives a premium, also, to every subscriber.

The Maritime Trade Review.—This excellent publication, which is published with the March number, which is now published. We recommend it to all interested in maritime commerce.

The April number of The Illustrated Household Magazine is an especially interesting. The contents are at once, varied, interesting, and instructive. It is a work of the highest quality, and is well worth a place in every family. Household Publishing Co., 41 Park Row, New York City. Price, \$1.00 per annum.

The Maritime Monthly.—April Number. Among the most noticeable articles this issue is "Livingstone's Ethnological Notes on the Slave States of the School," to Longfellow. Address Maritime Mo. St. John; terms \$2.25 per annum.

[illegible][illegible]