

The Churches on Prohibition.

One of the Church of England synods in Ontario recently, adopted the following:—

While heartily sympathizing with all judicious efforts to advance the cause of temperance, and to remove the evils arising from insufficient limitation and restraint of the liquor traffic, they did not feel warranted in recommending the action suggested in the memorial, believing that the country is not yet ready for such a stringent law as total prohibition, and that legislation in advance of public opinion leads to dishonor of the law and retards the attainment of the object it seeks to promote.

An amendment was voted down which affirmed,

That the retail traffic in alcoholic beverages in saloon and other places for drinking is one of the most serious obstacles to the advancement of Christ's kingdom on earth, the elevation of humanity; and the material prosperity of the nation; and this synod heartily endorses the efforts now being made by the several governments to regulate, restrict, and limit this traffic, with a view to its ultimate extinction.

The Presbyterian General Assembly at Ottawa, among other declarations and resolutions, contained in a report of the temperance committee, adopted the following:—

Deliverance.—This assembly believes that the general traffic in intoxicating liquors is the source of terrible and enormous evils; that it blights the prospects, destroys the health and character and ruins the soul of the individual; that it mars the happiness, wastes the resources and degrades the life of the family; that it lowers the moral sentiment and endangers the peace and safety of society; that it greatly increases the number of the "lapsed masses," intensifies every evil and fills the land with crime; that it not only hinders most seriously and in many ways, but antagonizes the church in her work of uplifting the race and winning souls for Christ, and that it is contrary to the teaching of Scripture and the spirit of the Christian religion. Therefore the assembly adopts the following resolutions as indicating the means to be recommended to the people for meeting and, as far as possible, overcoming its influence.

The language of the report was severely criticized by Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, who also disagreed with its spirit. He took the same ground held by him and a few others on previous occasions. He refused to affirm that the liquor traffic was forbidden by Scripture, because he did not believe that it was. He moved in amendment that the first part of the deliverance, beginning with "the general traffic," be struck out and the following substituted:—

"Assembly believes that the general traffic in intoxicating liquors, especially the indiscriminate sale of liquors in barrooms and saloons, is accompanied by enormous evils which blight the prospects, destroy the health, etc."

Mr. Macdonnell protested against what he called the invention of a new sin by the general assembly, and was supported by Chief Justice Taylor of Manitoba. The discussion occupied a part of two days, when the original report was adopted.

General Middleton.

It is not often fortunately that a once esteemed British officer, by his conduct makes himself amenable to such a welcome as that given by the *Farmer* to General Middleton on his visit last week to Fredericton:—

"To-morrow afternoon General Sir Fred Middleton, commander-in-chief of the Canadian militia, will arrive here for his annual inspection of the Royal School of Infantry. There is no doubt the general will find the corps in its usual high state of efficiency, but several things have occurred since his last visit that have not tended to inspire the respect and confidence of the officers and men in the commander. The Middleton fur looting was a most discreditable transaction, and the general very properly received the unanimous censure of parliament. It is a matter of wonder that, after such condemnation, Middleton should be permitted to retain his command, but the opinion seems general that his early retirement is a necessity for the welfare of the militia of Canada. It is a great pity that a man with Middleton's bright record should have sullied it by his exhibition of dishonesty and greed in the Northwest, but having been proved guilty of the charge of looting furs, he ought to be made to feel the punishment of his unsoldierlike act. Much as we have admired the general's many excellent qualities we hope, for the credit of the country, and the best interest of the Canadian militia, this will be his last official visit to Fredericton.

Difference of Opinion

Stanley in an address at Berwick, England, spoke in the most enthusiastic terms of the wisdom of Lord Salisbury as shown in the settlement with Germany of the African question.

By the agreement between the two countries 500,000 square miles of territory were added to the British possessions in Africa. Instead of a dolorous tirade against the Prime Minister, Mr. Stanley said, now is the time to sing in his honor. It is now possible to realize the great dream of those who are concerned in the exploration and civilization of Africa from the Cape of Good Hope to Cairo. In conclusion Mr. Stanley said that God gave Lord Salisbury the wisdom to gain this, and expressed the hope that the Prime Minister might live long and flourish.

On the other hand the *Chronicle* declares that by his concession to Germany, Salisbury has fixed on the brow of the Imperial Unionist party an indelible brand of ignominy. It adds "Unless Parliament stops the government's headlong career of capitulation to Germany, there is no reason why Italy should allow us to keep Malta or Spain, Gibraltar."

At a banquet to Sir John A. Macdonald at Kingston, Ont., on the 20th, the veteran statesman was in his happiest mood. He spoke in high terms of Mr. Mowat as a warm personal friend. At the ceremony of laying the corner stone of a dry dock, at an earlier hour of the day, Sir John put his arm about the neck and kissed on the cheek an old lady friend who was on the platform.

Miss Willard.

Of Miss Willard, who is really one of the wonderful women of the age, a writer says:—

It is almost impossible to give an adequate idea of the amount of work Miss Willard has accomplished during the past ten years. She has sometimes had no less than ten secretaries at work—herself writing nearly all her speeches, very often upon the cars while travelling from place to place; she has visited every town in the United States of 10,000 population, and most of these with only 5,000, organizing branches of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. She has delivered on an average a speech a day for ten years. In 1883 Miss Willard founded the World's Women's Christian Temperance Union, the influence of which is felt from Canada to Japan. In organizing this society great credit is due Mrs. Mary Clement Leavitt, of Boston, whose efforts for the cause of temperance have been as unselfish and as enthusiastically made as those of Miss Willard. In this same year Miss Willard, accompanied by her private secretary, visited every State and territory over which the Stars and Stripes wave to strengthen and reorganize the Women's Christian Temperance Unions, and also to promote the interests of the social purity societies, of which she is superintendent, and in the cause of which she has spoken in all the larger cities of the Union.

A man and his wife, named Little, near Elgin Corner, Westmorland, were killed in their house, by lightning or as the result of lightning on Wednesday of last week. A report from Moncton says:—

The house was struck by lightning and in a moment was in flames. Neighbors arrived at the scene as quickly as possible and were horrified at the sight they witnessed through the window. Mr. Little and his wife, (latter could be seen lying on the floor,) had apparently been paralyzed by the shock and were unable to make any effort to save themselves, while the fire was in such an advanced stage that the neighbors were unable to do anything whatever towards rescuing them. The building was quickly reduced to ashes, and the charred remains of Little and his wife were found among the debris. They were buried to-day at Elgin Corner.

Monument Items.

June 24, 1890.

Look here, old lady. We have every sympathy for your advancing years and frequent infirmities, that are coming upon you towards the close of a long, active and hitherto useful life. But don't you think, you are now "going it" rather a little too fast. Do you, a mother, who have realized in your own experience many of the trials of life, really wish to see many of the young men of your neighborhood indulging in habits, which in many cases culminate in a man's ruin. We know you do not. Be entreated to put on the brakes, before it is too late. Stop selling at once, and people will bless you.

Kirkland Items.

June 24, 1890.

Mrs. James Bell (nee Olive Debec) who lately arrived in the Province from Westminister, B. C., where she and her husband have been residing for the last twenty-four years, on a visit to her sister Mrs. Samuel Yerxa, Greenville, is at present here visiting her sister-in-law Mrs. Charles Macdougall and family, and her brother-in-law and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bell. She will return to the west in due course.

Bears! Bears! Bears! The Bruin family are becoming a perfect nuisance here. If measures are not speedily taken to wage a war of extermination against the depredators, our sheep and lamb pastures will be depopulated—and that at no very distant date—and grain crops will be considerably injured. Some portion of the stumpage 20,000 dollars, sacrificed by "The Dictator" to secure the prolongation of his lease of power, might have been invested with real advantage and profit to our people in bounties to bear slayers. Why the fact of the matter is, our roads, in many places, are becoming positively dangerous to children going to school. Scarcely a day passes now, but the brutes put in an appearance. We give only two or three instances out of many. As Mr. Thomas Kennedy was returning home, the other evening, just as he was passing road leading from Richmond road to Mr. Thomas Slater's farm, he encountered a grenadier bear, taking his usual evening promenade. After the salutations, usual in such trying circumstances, a dispute arose between the parties as to the right of way. The bear was evidently in no mood for entertaining conciliatory measures, and prepared to show fight. Mr. Kennedy's blood was up in a moment to the boiling point. So flourishing his "sheelalah," and shouting "Fagh-a-ballooh," the famous battle cry of the Royal Enniskillen Dragoons, he made a sweeping onslaught on the sheep-stealing tramp, which quickly made tracks for the woods. Within an evening or two of the time of the above incident, Mr. (we're a' John Tamsan's bairns) James Muir, Mr. John Kennedy's hired man, was returning home from North Lake, about 10 p. m., with his team, and gaily whistling, "The girl I left behind me," to beguile the tedium of the way, when his tender reminiscences were somewhat rudely interrupted by his horses, as if responding to the charms of music, suddenly attempting to take a short turn at "The Highland Fling." Looking ahead he faintly descried through the murky gloom a huge black shaped mass, squatted by the side of the road, and growling like mad. He was uncertain at first what it was, but finally concluded it was a "bar." His horses became for a time unmanageable; but after the usual quantum of yelling and shouting, bruin floundered into the bushes and disappeared. The horses speedily regained their equanimity, Jehu once more tackled on to his love ditty, and it was all serene. On another evening an ursine burglar forcibly entered the sheep preserves of Mr. Andrew John Slater and gobbled up a fine ewe and promising lamb. Lastly, shortly after Mr. John Knowlton had consigned to their last resting place the remains of an old and faithful horse, between two logs, in the immediate neighborhood of which Mr. Isaac Blackie had set a bear trap of cunning workmanship, one of the gang, no doubt attracted by the savory smell, drew near to enjoy a regular feast, but, just as he was speculating on the glorious feed he was about to gorge, he was grabbed by the darbies. The ground smeared with blood gave evidence of a desperate struggle. He succeeded in wrenching the trap from its moorings, and bore it off for some distance in triumph, finally freeing himself (supposing it of course to be a he-bear) from its iron claws. The trap was recovered by

Mr. Blackie, who was spreadily on the bear's trail, but bruin *non est inventus*. So you see we are having quite a time of it—to say nothing of the scare that almost paralyzed Mr. Charles Carter and his young hopefuls, the other day, when, on their way to their fishing ground, they came across fresh tracks, showing that one of the ugly brutes was only a short way right ahead of them. In all probability Mr. Bear cleaned out the stream, as our friends got only a very small string of very small fish, almost as minute as Barnum's celebrated dwarf, which the great showman once advertised as so exceedingly microscopical, as to require a man to look a couple of days intently at him with a large magnifying glass, before he could see him.

Mr. Charles Simpson of Amity, came across a splendid bull-moose, the other day, on Mr. David Slater's farm. The antlered monarch of the woods politely wished the gentleman a "good morning," and, presenting his tail to him to kiss, gracefully retired. Mr. George Blackie likewise had a friendly interview with two deer on his premises, and arranged for a subsequent hunt. Mr. James Hilley attempted to bring a beautiful representative of the same family to terms, but was unsuccessful. The deer was fleet of foot than he.

As a striking instance of how even naturally shrewd people will be imposed upon by showy appearances, and often misled by false glitter, Master Albert Dickinson, one of the smartest boys in South Richmond, coming to school the other morning, saw before him on the road, what he at first took for a pretty little dog, running towards him. He spoke kindly, encouragingly, lovingly to the little pet; but on coming to close quarters, his sympathising disposition was inexpressibly shocked, when he discovered what older people often find out to their cost, when alas! it is too late, that the fair masque was only a contemptible skunk, to be shunned by all men, christian or unchristian. Beautiful and costly furs do not always cover valuable she-animals—pretty feathers do not always make fine hen-birds—and often, too often, it is to be feared

"Heids are turned—hearts are broken
Buildin' castles in the air."

A number of young ladies and gentlemen of this village will give a concert and dramatic entertainment in Henderson's Hall, on the evening of Monday the 30th; the proceeds to be devoted to the purchase of an organ for our flourishing Sabbath School. All the musical talent of Debec will be levied on, for the occasion, and the dramatic proclivities of our amateur performers, which are so well known, and become so widely famous will have full scope for display. Great care and wise discrimination have been exercised in the selection of appropriate pieces, and much study and labor have been expended in preparation. Indeed we can confidently assert that our patrons, who may honor us with their presence, will be treated to such a musical, literary and artistic exhibition, as is seldom to be met with here or in similar communities. When the praiseworthy object of the gathering is remembered, the cultivation and improvement of sacred music, we are assured, that all the friends of Sabbath Schools, those admirable institutions which are the nurseries of the Christian Church, in which our "olive plants" are reared and trained, that they may afterwards become "plants of renown" and "trees of life"—places of instruction, where the minds of our children are early imbued with those sacred principles of our holy father, which alone can preserve them from the evil that is in the world and keep them by God's almighty power unto everlasting life—and are as moral and religious discipline, where the illustrious examples of the beautiful, the good and the true, whose virtues are reflected from and deeds of glory are emblazoned on the sacred page, are held up for their imitation, will by their presence and contributions on Monday evening, give us their countenance and lend us their aid in promoting the laudable object we have in view. We earnestly hope, that this our appeal for concerted action will be gladly and liberally responded to by all true friends of the young. There will also be a pie social in connection with the evening's entertainment.

Debec Items.

June 23, 1890.

This is emphatically an age of wonders, and ours is a village of agreeable surprises. We have the fastest horses, the finest cows, the pluckiest dogs, the sleekest cats, the plumpest poultry, to be met with anywhere. Of late, the products of the Debec and surrounding district henneries have come to the frnt, and challenge competition anywhere or everywhere. Not a doubt of it, gentlemen. If you doubt this, just step on board the cars and take a run out here, and give Mr. George Johnston, merchant, a roar-up, and you will see on exhibition at his store the most wonderful egg of the 19th cent. Strange to say it is very nearly what mathematicians would call a *prolate* or *oblong spheroid*—a figure generated by the rotation of a semi-ellipse round the transverse axis. To convey an idea of its extraordinary dimensions to the unmathematical intelligence of some readers, it may be sufficient to state that it measures 9 inches round the long way, and 7 inches round the short way. And remember, it is not a goose's egg, nor a turkey's egg, but a real *bona fide* hen's egg, and laid on the square. It beats any thing we ever saw. The famous Roe's egg of the *Arabian Nights* is nowhere beside it. There is a great amount of speculation among the Debec naturalists, as to how many chickens it would probably hatch out—some fixing the number at three, and some at half a dozen. Any naturalist on the scientific staff of the SENTINEL, would greatly oblige us, by giving an opinion of what would be its possible, if not probable outcome. The father and mother of the egg are the property of Mr. W. Knowlton, a well known great poultry fancier and gallinaceous financier. It is proposed to pickle it and send it to the next great European International Exhibition. So mote it be.

Grand Falls Items.

June 25, 1890.

The pulpit of the Mission Church was occupied last evening by a young theological student of the Baptist denomination, and his sermon was much appreciated.

Several of the Ordnance lots were offered for sale by the agent Mr. Bertram Comier, and found ready purchasers.

The logs are again running thickly in the river. Connor's drive is out of the Madawaska and should be here in a few days. Yerxa's drive is the last this season and will likely reach here this week.

The mission church is almost painted on the outside and presents a very nice appearance. The work is being done under the supervision of W. Herbert Turner.

The R. C. Bishops, of Portland, Me. and Chatham N. B. were in town last week.

Mass is being celebrated in the new R. C. church here. Rev. J. J. O'Leary, pastor.