

opposed the introduction of intoxicating liquors among the Indians, and have excluded it from all those sections of the country where they have exclusive control over the trade. The influence of this regulation has already proved highly salutary, in the improved conduct of the Indians, and the increased safety of travelling among them. The Legislature of Upper Canada has also enacted a law forbidding the use of ardent spirits by our traders among the Indians, whether by sale, or gift, or any other manner whatsoever. By that practice, thus at last abolished, we have debased, and degraded, and well nigh exterminated the aboriginal inhabitants of this land, who might, by kind treatment and Christian instruction, have been moulded into a noble and virtuous population.

The eager desire to amass wealth, and the determination to do so, without regard to means, has been productive of another evil which requires to be noticed,—the careless exposure of borrowed capital. When a zealous votary of Mammon, after exhausting his own resources, is either compelled by difficulty, or tempted by hope, to avail himself of the aid of borrowed money, it not unfrequently happens that he engages in more hazardous speculations, and with greater temerity than before. Instead of being more cautious, he is less so, because he has greater means at command; and being eager to redeem himself, or rapidly to acquire a fortune, he fails perhaps in both objects, and loses all. This is a “sore evil,” and a most censurable practice. Whatever right a man may claim to do what he will with his own, he has none to involve