

We may be permitted to remark that our angry friend may be "right in a good deal of his criticism, though we deprecate the trenchant style in which he deals with adverse views. The subject is confessedly intricate, and it does not follow that because "*The Legal News*" sees one side in a very bright light indeed, there is nothing to be said on the other."

But while Mr. Travis can comfort himself over a convert to his opinion of the usefulness of the Privy Council, he has to mourn the lapse from intelligence of the only judge in whom he had any confidence—the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Mr. Travis confidently predicted, that the Dominion License Act of 1883 "being a general Act for the regulation of traffic in intoxicating liquors, for the 'peace and order' of Canada, is an Act regulating trade, and is as valid as the Canada Temperance Act, the Fisheries Act, or the Insurance Act." But the Supreme Court has unanimously decided otherwise. The questions submitted to the court were:—

(1) Are the following Acts in whole or in part within the legislative authority of the Parliament of Canada, viz.:—
I. The Liquor License Act of 1883. II. An Act to amend the Liquor License Act of 1883.

(2) If the Court is of opinion that a part, or parts only, of the said Acts are within the legislative authority of the Parliament of Canada, what part or parts of the said Acts are within such authority.

In rendering the opinion of the court, the Chief Justice said:—"We have considered all the matters referred, and my learned brother Strong, my learned brother Fournier, my learned brother Gwynne, and myself, are of opinion that the Acts in question are *ultra vires* of the Parliament of the Dominion, except in so far as they regulate vessel licenses and wholesale licenses. My learned brother Henry is of opinion that the Acts are *ultra vires* in whole. We shall report to the Government accordingly."

No reasons were given by the Court.