

are done. One effect of the law has been to render the liquor trade disreputable, and no person who knew Maine as it was before the Maine Law, and has been acquainted with it down to the present time, can doubt that the effect of the law has been most marked and salutary. Poverty, pauperism, and crime have been greatly diminished by it, because vastly less money has been wasted in strong drink.

In some places and at some times the execution of the law has been fitful and capricious, yet, with these exceptions, the law has been as well enforced as our other criminal laws generally are.

SIDNEY PERHAM, Governor.

JOHN R. PULSIFER,	S. C. HATCH,
GEORGE WEEKS,	M. U. B. CHASE,
E. G. HARLOW,	FRED. N. DOW,
	Executive Council.

Portland, Aug. 10, 1872.

Dear Mr. Frye.—I wish to send to the London *Times* a short article on the effect of the Maine Law upon the liquor traffic in this State, a matter very imperfectly understood in England.

Everywhere in that country I should be regarded as an interested witness, any statements of mine, therefore, might be received with caution. Will it be too much trouble for you to send me a certificate, and, in addition to your own name, to procure those of our senators and other representatives in Congress, and very much oblige,

Yours truly,

NEAL DOW.

Hon. W. P. Frye, M. C., Lewiston, Maine.

August 16.

To General Neal Dow.

We have received your note requesting us to send you, in few words, our impression as to the effect of the Maine Law upon the liquor traffic in this state, the certificate to be sent to England for publication there.

At the time of the enactment of that law, in 1851, the traffic existed openly and everywhere in Maine, as it now does in those states where it is not prohibited. The immediate effect of the statute was to outlaw the trade, declaring it to be inconsistent with the general welfare, and reducing it to very small proportions.

In many parts of the State it is now nearly or quite unknown. There are large districts of country where liquor shops are absolutely unknown; and, everywhere, within our borders, where the trade exists at all, it is carried on secretly and in a very small way.

The favourable effects of this change are great and everywhere apparent to the most casual observer who has any knowledge of the State prior to the year 1851. We do not believe that the people of Maine, for any consideration, would again sanction the policy of licence to drinking houses and tippling shops.

H. HAMLIN,      LOT M. MORILL,  
W. P. FRYE.