

but, did space permit, facts could be exhibited to show that there is no greater hindrance at present in Canada to the advancement of morality and religion than the traffic in strong drink. There is not probably a minister of the gospel in the Dominion but will say, that one of the chief forces in his district in opposition to God's work is the drink traffic, and that one of the chief causes of suspension and excommunication of members may be sought in the same quarter.

2. Our second statement is, *That prohibitory legislation, to be stable, must be based on sound moral sentiment among the people.* As water cannot rise higher than its source neither can legislation in democratic countries, like those on this side of the Atlantic, rise higher than the average public sentiment. The public sentiment is educated, at least in Ontario, the length undoubtedly of *wishing*, in a sentimental, soft kind of way, that the liquor-traffic could be got rid of without offending anybody in particular; but is it educated to the point of *willing* that this great reformation must be accomplished "though the heavens should fall?"—We doubt this. When the time came to lay open the heart of Africa, from north to south and from east to west, there could be found, everywhere, men who could wish to do the thing, or see it done, as long as it did not cost them any toil or trouble; but when Livingstone and Stanley entered on the task, *wishing* was changed into *willing*, *sentiment* into *action*. The traveller, Stanley, tells us he and his people thought it, at first, a nice thing "to go gliding down the river with a tall bank of thick woods on each side, and nothing but quietness, and a Sabbath stillness all around,—nothing to do but to paddle and sing all the way down, until they began to think it was not so bad after all. At last we came," he goes on to say, "to the cannibal lands. They asked, 'Where are you going?' 'Down the river to our country.' 'We never heard of anything being there. Where do you come from?' 'From the other sea.' 'From the other sea? there is none. Do you come from up there?' pointing to the clouds. 'No.' 'How is it we never saw or heard of anybody like you before?' 'I suppose it was owing to your own ignorance.' 'Well,