

**THE WATER-DRINKER.**

Oh, water for me ! bright water for me,  
 And wine for the tremulous debauchee.  
 Water cooleth the brow, and cooleth the brain,  
 And maketh the faint one strong again ;  
 It comes o'er the sense like a breeze from the sea.  
 All freshness, like infant purity ;  
 Oh, water, bright water, for me, for me !  
 Give wine, give wine, to the debauchee !

Fill to the brim ! fill, fill to the brim ;  
 Let the flowing crystal kiss the rim !  
 For my hand is steady, my eye is true,  
 For I, like the flowers, drink nothing but dew.  
 Oh water, bright water's a mine of wealth,  
 And the ores which it yieldeth are vigor and health.

So water, pure water, for me, for me !  
 And wine for the tremulous debauchee ?

Fill again to the brim, again to the brim !  
 For water strengtheneth life and limb.  
 To the days of the aged it addeth length,  
 To the might of the strong it addeth strength ;  
 It freshens the heart, it brightens the sight,  
 'Tis like quaffing a goblet of morning light !  
 So water, I will drink nothing but thee,  
 Thou parent of health and energy !

When over the hills, like a gladsome bride,  
 Morning wa'ks forth in her beauty's pride,  
 And, leading a band of laughing hours,  
 Brushing the dew from the nodding flowers.  
 Oh ! cheerily then my voice is heard  
 Mingling with that of the soaring bird,  
 Who flingeth abroad his matin loud,  
 As he freshens his wing in the cold gray cloud.

But when evening has quitted her sheltering yew,  
 Drowsily flying, and weaving anew  
 Her dusky meshes o'er land and sea,  
 How gently, O sleep, fall thy poppies on me !  
 For I drink water, pure, cold, and bright,  
 And my dreams are of Heaven the live-long night.

So hurra for thee, water ! hurra ! hurra !  
 Thou art silver and gold, thou art ribbon and star ;  
 Hurra for bright water ! hurra ! hurra ! —*Sel.*

**PROHIBITION IN MAINE.**

BY HON. NEAL DOW.

Maine, before the Maine law, was the poorest State in the Union, spending in strong drink the entire valuation of all its property of every kind in every period of twenty years, as the nation is doing in every period of thirty-five years. There was no State in the Union consuming more drink than Maine, in proportion to its population, while now there are no people in the Anglo-Saxon world consuming so little. Maine is now one of the most prosperous States in the Union. Mr. Blaine, in the Garfield campaign said it was the most prosperous State in the Union.

There were many distilleries in Maine, and

two breweries ; now there is not one remaining, and has not been for many years. Great quantities of West India rum were imported—coming by the cargo, many cargoes every year. Now not even one puncheon comes, nor has there been one for many years.

Liquor shops were everywhere over the State, wholesale and retail, some of them on a large scale. Now the liquor sold here in violation of law is small in quantity, and on the sly. There is no wholesale liquor dealer in the State, and the retail shops are few, small, and all of them selling more or less upon the sly.

In more than three-fourths of the State containing more than three-fourths of its population, the liquor traffic is practically unknown. An entire generation has grown up there, never having seen a rum shop nor the effects of one. A fraction of the traffic lingers in cities and larger towns, but only a fraction. It is far within the fact to say that in Portland there is not one-hundredth part so much liquor sold as there was before prohibition, though the city is twice larger than it was then.

In 1886, after an experience of the benefits of prohibition for 33 years, there was a popular vote on a prohibitory constitutional amendment, which was adopted by a majority of 47,072, the affirmative vote being three times larger than the negative.

Prohibition has caused every decent man to abandon the liquor trade, which is now in the hands of the lowest class, mostly foreigners. That even a fraction of it remains he attributes to the fact that the liquor law has serious defects, which will be corrected bye-and-aye, and that some of the courts are not true to their duty and official oath.

In the old rum time all over the State, there were indications of poverty and decay. Everywhere dilapidated, tumble-down houses, barns, fences, school-houses, meeting houses, and public buildings, old hats and rags in the windows instead of glass, doors off the hinges, the cattle hide bound, shivering under the lee of dilapidated barns—infallible proofs of idleness, laziness, poverty and decay. Now, there is none of that anywhere. Everything indicates industry, enterprise, thrift and prosperity. Maine can no longer be recognized as the same.

The blessings and prosperity coming to Maine from prohibition, says Mr. Dow, are so great that they cannot be numbered or estimated by any mode of computation now known.

Rev. Dr. Withrow, of Toronto, confirms this emphatic testimony from his own personal experience. It would be difficult to impugn the soundness of the argument used by these gentlemen, that the law cannot be described as a failure, merely because some liquor is sold on the sly. It is the same with all laws. The power which makes laws, establishes courts to punish the breaking of them, thus recognizing that they will be broken.—*Sel.*