

for May, for if he had he could not have penned a statement so utterly at variance with the facts of the case. All the evidence is against him. The rum channel was well nigh dried up by the prohibitory law; the license law has filled it with a disastrous freshet.

Thus writes the *Prohibitionist* for June:—

"Hon. Sidney Perham, late Speaker of the Maine House of Representatives, now the State Temperance Agent of the same State, reports that under the License law, rum-selling and rum-drinking are alarmingly on the increase. That he is hard to work to arouse the people to come back to Prohibition; and will prosecute the work of canvassing the State, holding meetings, delivering addresses, and re-organising societies. The Grand division, at its late session, reiterated their confidence in a prohibitory law to close up the grog-shops; and renewed their pledge to vote for no persons for governor or legislators, who are not outspoken friends of that measure; and that they were opposed to the delay of referring the law after it was passed, to be again voted upon by the people. There seems but little doubt, that the prohibitory law will be re-enacted, as 'a finality,' next winter."

Professor Amasa McCoy, Editor of the *Prohibitionist*, has written a letter on the subject, addressed to T. H. Barker, Esq., Secretary of the United Kingdom Alliance. We select the following passages:—

Certainly the Maine Law is a dead letter in Maine, Delaware, and in the British Province of New Brunswick, where it was repealed by the respective legislatures. And it is a dead letter in Indiana and New York where the Prohibitory Law was overthrown by the Courts. In all these States, except Indiana, the abhorred license law has been re-enacted. This violent and unnatural step backwards, has in every case been followed by a sudden and an appalling increase of drunkenness—proving, not how little, but how great, was the efficacy of the Prohibitory Law. In the meantime, it would be literally true to say, that in all these States the Temperance cause is in "an extremely distressed state."

"Where Prohibition has never been tried, and License law always has prevailed, the cause is 'distressed' of course, and will always be distressed, until the License system is cast off as a branded infamy, and Prohibition is enacted and enforced."

"But if any one should infer that the people of any State, where Prohibition has been snatched from them, (either from party motives by the legislature, or on technical grounds by the courts,) have made up their minds to acquiesce in such loss,—my information, which is neither casual nor limited, leads me to draw a very different conclusion. Wherever Prohibition has been tried, there it is more popular than ever."

On no anniversary of our Independence, did law, order and peace reign with such supremacy in this vast Commonwealth of New York, as on the Fourth of July, 1855,—the

day that our second act of Independence took effect—the law for the prevention of Intemperance, Pauperism, and Crime. Though that measure never exerted its full effect, because it had never received the sanction of the highest Judiciary, and though its enforcement in the cities and greater towns, was especially lax, yet it is a matter of official record that two-fifths of all the commitments, for crime, fell off at once. What measure, but one aiming to close up the grog-shops, could have wrought so great, so benign a result! In a great portion of all the rural districts the Prohibitory Law instantly changed the whole moral face of society. This was the concurrent testimony of all impartial observers.

Never was the faith in the efficacy of Prohibition in the State of New York, so firm, never was the determination to have it so resolute, as now. I cannot doubt that three-fourths of all the men, in New York, and nine-tenths of all the women, would hold up both hands for it to-morrow.

"In Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire, where it is working a vast amount of good, and that to a growing extent, it remains immovably seated in the warmest affections of the people. New York is now the battle ground of a mighty conflict. In another year (but it may take two) you may expect to see New York re-ascend to her former position as a Prohibitory State. Then you know it is a maxim with our statesmen, 'As goes New York, so goes the Union.' And I shall be much disappointed, if in ten or fifteen years from now, the law of Prohibition, is not 'the law of the land,' in every State, and Province, and Territory in America. And even before that time, I hope to read some day in our public journals, as an item by the Ocean Telegraph, something like following:—

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF ENGLAND THIS DAY AFFIXED THE ROYAL SIGN MANUEL, TO A LAW OF PARLIAMENT, PROHIBITING THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC IN THE UNITED KINGDOM."

Hard words do not frighten us. We may be charged with "fanaticism" for advocating prohibition, and our opponents may modestly affect to think that they have "reason and common sense" on their side. *Nimpoite*; we can wait.—The day of delusion is fast hastening to its close. A few years hence men will scarcely believe that their predecessors could have been so devoid of "reason and common sense" as to dream of advancing temperance by vain attempts to regulate and give respectability to the liquor traffic. The records of the doings of moderate drinkers and license law advocates will be ranked among historical curiosities, occasionally brought to light by the antiquary, and will be exhibited to public gaze as specimens of obsolete folly.

The Anniversaries of the various Temperance Societies in Great Britain and

the United States, held in the month of May, were noble demonstrations of enthusiastic attachment to our principles. There were gathered together on those occasions men differing from each other on many points, political and religious, but heartily agreeing in regard to the promotion of the great temperance cause. The meetings in Great Britain were rendered peculiarly interesting by the presence of the Hon. Neal Dow, whose matter-of-fact and forcible speeches produced the happiest effects on the crowded audiences that listened to them.

First came the *Scottish Temperance League*. On Sunday, May 10, forty-eight temperance sermons were preached, some in Edinburgh and some in Glasgow. The public meeting of the League was held on Monday evening, in the City Hall, Glasgow. On Tuesday morning there was a large breakfast party at Merchants' Hall: the business meeting of the League was held the same day; and in the evening the proceedings were brought to a close by a tea party.

The operations of the League during the past year have been of the most satisfactory character. The number of agents has been increased 25 per cent. The publications of the League meet with general acceptance, and are widely circulated. Three hundred additional subscribers have been obtained for the *Scottish Review*, which is issued quarterly. The *Adviser*, a monthly periodical, specially intended for the young, enjoys a circulation of 40,000 copies, and 70,000 copies of the *Monthly Pictorial Tract* are regularly issued. In addition to these, the *Weekly Journal* "has found its way into almost every nook and corner of the land": eight thousand names are on its subscription list.

"The following facts will show the remarkable increase in the publication department during the past year. During the eleven months ending 1st April, 1856, 14,025,482 pages of letterpress were issued from the office, giving a weight of fully 12 tons; during the twelve months ending 1st April 1857, the number of pages was 19,514,806, and the weight 22 tons 2 cwt. During the former period, the sum received for publications was £2417 16s. 3½d.; during the latter, £3317 2s. 2d."

The Report closes in the following manner:—

Among many other noteworthy characteristics of the past year may be remarked the following:—That the public sentiment of the country has become more impressed with the