

*From the Secretary of State, Maine.*

Augusta, June, 1872.

As to the present extent of the liquor traffic in Maine as compared with its condition in former times, there cannot be any difference of opinion among intelligent citizens of the State to the fact that the traffic is greatly less than we remember it to have been. If we were to say that the quantity of liquors sold here is not one-tenth so large as it was it would not be above the truth, and the favorable effects of the change upon all the interests of the state are plainly seen everywhere.

G. G. STACY,

Secretary of State, and other State Officers.

*The following appeared in the London Times, Sept. 5, 1872.*

Portland, August 12, 1872.

To His Excellency the Governor of Maine and the Hon. the Executive Council.

It is a matter of interest, and importance in Great Britain to know what the effect has really been upon the liquor traffic in Maine of the policy of prohibition.

Interested parties in that country have industriously circulated the report there, that in Maine the law of prohibition has failed to effect any considerable diminution of the sale and consumption of intoxicating liquors. It will oblige me very much if you will give me the facts in the matter as you know them to be. I want them for publication in England.

Very respectfully,

NEAL DOW.

*State of Maine, Council Chamber,*

Augusta, Aug. 15, 1872.

To General Neal Dow.

Your note has just been received, requesting us to give you a statement of our impression as to the effect of the Maine Law upon the liquor traffic in this state, the certificate being wanted for publication in England.

To give a full and accurate account of the operation of the Maine Law in Maine, and of its effect upon the liquor traffic and upon poverty, pauperism and crime, would require much more time than we can devote to the subject, and we therefore confine ourselves to a very brief statement of the facts.

At the time of the enactment of the Maine Law the liquor traffic was carried on in Maine extensively and openly, as it is now in States where the trade is licensed. The effect of the law in diminishing the trade in intoxicating drinks was immediate and very great.

In many parts of Maine the liquor trade has absolutely ceased to exist, liquor shops are unknown; and wherever within the State the trade exists at all, it is carried on secretly and with caution, as other unlawful things