

abolished, we ought not to go to the utter extreme and prohibit absolutely the use of liquors which may be used moderately and reasonably, without offence either against the law of God or the law of any country except the State of Maine, and perhaps some districts in this Dominion. To justify such a law as this, it would be necessary not merely to point out the fact that great evils arise from the excessive use of alcoholic liquors, but to prove that the use of alcoholic liquors is an evil in itself. That is sometimes asserted by such extreme teetotalers as the hon. member for Annapolis, but only extreme prohibitionists would agree with that hon. gentleman. We tried the prohibitory law in New Brunswick many years ago, and found then it did not tend to temperance, but to intemperance. During the few months that law was in operation, there was more drunkenness in that Province than before, and the evil effects are felt down to this day. I believe there is more drunkenness in New Brunswick to-day than there would have been had such a law never gone into effect. It may be that the law has been beneficial in some parts, but I do not believe it has anywhere succeeded in preventing those who, unfortunately, have an excessive passion for indulgence of that kind from gratifying that passion. In Fredericton, there seems to be a large number of the population desirous of adopting this measure. But the police magistrate of that city, himself a very zealous prohibitionist, said, a few short months after the law was in operation, that it worked so beneficially as to cause a decrease of one-half of the number of cases before his court. Well, that proves that the one-half gratified their passion for liquor and that there is no difficulty in getting bad liquor, but in getting good liquor. The liquor is sold and will be sold wherever this law goes into operation. I stayed one day in the city of Bangor, where I saw more people under the influence of liquor about the hotels than ever I saw in St. John. I remember having accidentally stumbled into one of the rooms, which I found was a bar-room, with thirty or forty people drinking in it, and, I have no doubt, drinking more freely than if there was no restraint. I object altogether to this measure upon principle, but if it is to be enforced at all, it can only be enforced by a preponderance of public opinion in its favor, and I, therefore, shall vote for the amendment.

Mr. HUNTINGTON. The question is, shall we allow this law to have a fair trial, because, I have no doubt many men voted for it who feared it might not produce all the benefits its advocates expected. Suppose, for example, the temperance advocates, after they had given a little trial to this law, had come before the Parliament and asked the people who did not record their votes in each county should be considered as having voted for them. They might have said, we find it difficult to pass the law because many do not vote, and, as silence gives consent, why not count them as part of our majority? What would the hon. member for East York say to that. Yet he comes here with a proposition equally objectionable from the other side. I will vote this year, as last, with every hope that the Scott Act may be a great success; but even if I believed it to be a failure, I should deem it my duty to give those who attempt to work it out under the authority of Parliament, at least, a fair trial.

Amendment (Mr. Ogden) six months' hoist, carried on the following division:—

YEAS :  
Messieurs

Allison,	Guthrie,	Mills
Bain,	Haddow,	Montplaisir,
Barnard,	Hay,	Muttart,
Béchar, d,	Hesson,	Ogden,
Bill,	Hilliard,	Olivier,
Blake,	Holton,	Paterson (Brant),

Borden,	Hooper,	Pickard,
Bourassa,	Huntington,	Poupore,
Bourbeau,	Kaulbach,	Rinfret,
Bowell,	King,	Robertson (Shelburne),
Brecken,	Kirkpatrick,	Rogers,
Brown,	Landry,	Ross (Middlesex),
Burpee (St. John),	Lantier,	Rouleau,
Burpee (Sunbury),	Laurier,	Royal,
Cameron (Huron),	Longley,	Rymal,
Cartwright,	Macdonald (King's),	Scott,
Casey,	McDonald (Cape Breton),	Scrivier,
Casgrain,	McDonald (Pictou),	Skinner,
Charlton,	McDonald (Vict., N.S.),	Smith,
Colby,	Macdonell (Lanark),	Tellier,
Coupal,	McConville,	Thompson,
Dumont,	McDougall,	Tilley,
Fleming,	McInnes,	Trow,
Fulton,	McIsaac,	Wade,
Gigault,	McRory,	Wheler,
Gillies,	Manson,	White (Renfrew),
Gillmor,	Méthot,	Yeo.—82.
Gunn,		

NAVS :  
Messieurs

Abbott,	Elliott,	Mousseau,
Anglin,	Ferguson,	O'Connor,
Arkell,	Gault,	Orton,
Bannerman,	Girouard (Kent),	Ouimet,
Beaty,	Houde,	Patterson (Essex),
Benoit,	Hurteau,	Platt,
Bergeron,	Kilvert,	Plumb,
Boulbee,	Kranz,	Robertson (Hamilton),
Burnham,	Lane,	Routhier,
Cameron (Victoria),	Langevin,	Ryan (Montreal),
Caron,	Macmillan,	Rykert,
Costigan,	McCallum,	Shaw,
Coughlin,	McCuaig,	Strange,
Coursol,	McGreevy,	Valin,
Cuthbert,	McQuade,	Vanasse,
Desaulniers,	Malouin,	Wallace (Norfolk),
Desjardins,	Massue,	White (Cardwell),
Drew,	Merner,	Williams.—54.

BILL INTRODUCED.

Mr. MACDOUGALL introduced a Bill (No. 61) to incorporate the Peace River Railroad Company.

Bill read the first time.

House adjourned at 12:30 o'clock, a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WEDNESDAY, 16th February, 1881.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

BILL INTRODUCED.

The following Bill was introduced and read the first time:—

Bill (No. 62) to amend the Act incorporating the Citizens' Insurance Company of Canada —(Mr. Gault.)

TAX ON CANADIAN TOBACCO.

Mr. BOURBEAU enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government to reduce the tax imposed on Canadian tobacco cultivated for the manufactories?

Mr. MOUSSEAU. It is not the intention of the Government to reduce the tax imposed on Canadian tobacco cultivated for the manufactories.

EXCISE DUTY ON CANADIAN TOBACCO.

Mr. MONGENAIS enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government to abolish the Excise duties imposed on tobacco grown and manufactured by the growers for pur-