

REPORT

OF

COMMISSIONERS TO ENQUIRE INTO THE WORKING

OF THE

PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW.

To the Honorable the Secretary of State for Canada:

During the last Session of the Parliament of Canada, the Select Committee of the Senate respecting a Prohibitory Liquor Law, presented their report to the Honorable the Senate, of which the following is an extract :

“ Your Committee therefore recommend that steps shall be taken, without delay, to ascertain how far the attempts, to remove the evils of intemperance, by legislative prohibition of the traffic in intoxicating liquors, in other countries or states, have resulted either in success or failure, in order that Parliament, at its next session, may be in possession of all the information necessary for its guidance, in determining whether the legislation prayed for should be granted or withheld, and as this cannot at this Session be done by Your Committee, they recommend that an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, respectfully requesting him to lay before Parliament, at its next Session, such information as His Excellency may be able to obtain thereon.”

The Select Committee of the House of Commons also presented their Third Report, embodying the Second Report of their sub-Committee, from which the following is an extract :

“ Whereas the attempt of previous Committees to obtain full and reliable information from documentary evidence, with regard to the operation of prohibitory liquor laws, have not been entirely satisfactory; the Committee is of opinion that it would be expedient to take steps as would put the House in possession of full and reliable information as to the operation and result of such laws in those States of the American Union, where they are now, or have been, in force, with the view of showing the probable working, and effect of the working, of such laws in Canada.”

On the first of August, 1874, the Honorable the Secretary of State addressed the undersigned as follows :