

long as they are really voluntary from any objection on the score of tyranny, which have undoubtedly done good, and which it must be remembered would cease to exist if Prohibition were enacted, and, should the experiment fail, could not easily be revived.

If, however, the Temperance men resolve to strike for Prohibition, we would conjure them in the name of public morality, as well as in that of their own cause, to show the courage of their convictions and do thoroughly that which they have made up their minds to do. Let us not have another régime of unlicensed drinking, perjury, and contempt of the law. The object of the Prohibitionists can be effected by nothing short of the total suppression not only of the sale of liquor but of its manufacture and importation. The use or possession of liquor as well as the sale must be made a crime, since buying is as essential a part of the forbidden trade as selling. To enforce the law against the resistance which we have already experienced, a great extension of the police force, especially in the rural districts, will be required. Nay it is doubtful whether, to make the system thoroughly effectual, it will not be found necessary to issue a perpetual writ of *ne exeat* against all the inhabitants of the Dominion ; for if they are allowed to go into countries not under Prohibition they will be very apt to relapse and to bring back the infection with them. A local addition to the Decalogue must always be an arduous undertaking. Even if liquor could be completely banished by law, perhaps the next Parliament might be occupied in passing supplementary laws against the use of opium or the hypodermic injection of morphine. Compress human nature forcibly in one part and you are pretty sure to produce a swelling in another.

Nobody denies the special evils and danger of the liquor trade or objects either to stringent regulation or to any reasonable action of the Government in the matter. We may cherish liberty as the sole foster-mother of sterling morality, and regard democratic tyranny as not less dangerous than the dynastic