

## IN CANADA AND NEWFOUNDLAND.

	1890.	1891.	1892.
Incompetence	312	203	164
Inexperience	68	44	28
Lack of capital	905	1,230	1,096
Unwise credits	51	32	13
Failures of others	38	57	20
Extravagance	9	5	7
Neglect	44	26	37
Competition	29	15	17
Disaster	96	142	190
Speculation	44	18	21
Fraud	30	74	89
	1,626	1,846	1,682

These figures show how inconsiderable a portion of the business failures are due even to all doubtful habits. In the United States 390 out of 10,673 in 1890; 383 out of 12,394 in 1891; and 311 out of 10,270 in 1892. In Canada and Newfoundland 44 out of 1,626 in 1890, 26 out of 1,846 in 1891, and 37 out of 1,682 in 1892. Lack of capital is the great cause of business failure.

## CONCLUSION.

I am, therefore, opposed to Prohibition because :

- (1) It is wrong in theory and impossible of effect.
- (2) It contemplates a tyranny that cannot be justified by even the good its promoters ostensibly seek.
- (3) It increases the evil sought to be removed, and develops other and far greater evils.
- (4) It is based upon an atrocious injustice to a large section of the community, and boundless brigandage towards a large, legitimate trade.
- (5) It is fostered by gross exaggeration, moral and scientific error and immoral and unchristian doctrine.
- (6) It breeds perjury in the courts, knavery in politics, unrighteousness in the pulpits, and contempt for law among the people.
- (7) Where attempted to be enforced it destroys a reputable and open traffic only to drive it into the hands of the most disreputable classes, robs the community of those wise restrictions they are content to submit to, opens the way for wholesale adulteration, gives free play to all that is evil in the traffic and offers opposition to only that which is good.
- (8) Under it crime increases while prosperity decreases, drunkenness increases while immigration decreases, it destroys industry while furnishing ready avocation to the blackmailer, the bootlegger and the professional Prohibition agitator.
- (9) It asks, for its success (which it even then fails to attain), powers not granted under any other law, robs the citizen of a fundamental principle of British law, viz., that he shall be held guilty until proven innocent; elevates to the magistrate's bench men utterly unfit for the position, and in whose hands justice becomes a mockery; depends for evidence to convict largely upon the scum of creation—the base professional informer, the character assassin, and the social thug who betrays his host through the very means by which hospitality was offered.
- (10) It robs the young man of his manliness and his moral sense, and develops in him sneaking, quibbling, lying or open defiance of law; where attempted to be enforced shields him from the temptation of the open saloon but initiates him into the mysteries of the disreputable “joint,” the unsavory “dive,” the