

## 5. PROVINCE OF PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLAND.

Government House,  
Prince Edward's Island, 22 June 1888.

Sir,

Charlottetown, 21st  
June 1888, Provincial  
Secretary's  
Office.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 14th instant, requesting to be furnished, for the information of the Imperial Parliament, with the particulars asked for in portions of an Address to Her Majesty relative to the operation of the Canada Temperance Act; and I now transmit herewith the report of the Provincial Secretary on the subject, by which you will observe that "No compensation was paid when the drink shops were closed in this province."

There being no available data as to its effect on crime and pauperism in those places where the Act has been in force for more than two years, it is impossible to state its effect definitely, but the stipendiary magistrate of Charlottetown, before whom all persons who are illegally engaged in the sale of intoxicating drink within the city limits are tried, stated, when the matter was submitted to him, that "Generally speaking it has had no effect, except that the crime of perjury has been greatly increased."

I may also observe that as the Canada Temperance Act was carried here by a very small majority of the electors when the question of its adoption was submitted to them; its enforcement when it became law, under these circumstances, was a very difficult task, and this must always be the case unless it has the general moral support of a large majority of the people in the city or county where it is adopted, who will maintain its provisions, and see that they are properly enforced.

G. Powell, Esq.,  
Under Secretary of State, Ottawa.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *A. A. Macdonald*,  
Lieutenant Governor.

Provincial Secretary, Prince Edward's Island,  
Charlottetown, 21 June 1888.

Sir,

IN reply to the following queries contained in letter from Ottawa of 14th instant, I have the honour to append the answers hereinafter given.

No. 4. "Was any compensation paid when the drink shops were closed in such of the counties of the Province of Prince Edward's Island as adopted the Act?" No.

No. 5. "What has been the effect on crime and pauperism in those cities and counties where the Act has been in force for more than two years?"

Not having any data to guide me in this I applied to the stipendiary magistrate, who has just sent me the following:—

"Generally speaking of no effect, except that the crime of perjury has been greatly increased."

His Honor the Lieutenant Governor,  
Prince Edward's Island.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *Arthur Newbery*,  
Assistant Provincial Secretary.