

STATISTICAL.

BEFORE forcing upon the country a class of legislation which is repugnant to the sentiment of the great majority, inasmuch as it curtails private rights, which is in direct opposition to the spirit of British law, in as much as (in addition to this outrageous evil) it contemplates the further wrong of the confiscation of private property; surely some facts should be presented to prove the extreme urgency of the case.

Let us examine such statistics as are available in order to ascertain whether the drinking usages of Canada are such as call for a method of treatment which could be justified only as a means of averting an overwhelming national calamity.

During the year ended 30th June, 1884, the quantity of intoxicating beverages entered for consumption were as follows:—

	GALLONS.	Decimal factor to reduce to alcohol.	Gallons of Alcohol.
Imported spirits, (Estimated at 10 over proof.).....	960,985	x 64	614,998
Domestic spirits (proof).....	3,608,020	x 57	2,058,721
Imported wines	537,961	x 20	107,592
Ale, beer & porter, imported, 410,434, domestic, 12,969,243.....	13,379,671	x 04	535,187
Total gallons of alcohol.....			3,311,498

Estimating the population at four and a half millions this would be equal to a little under three fourths of a gallon per annum for each inhabitant. If we compare this with the quantities credited by Mulhall (Dictionary of statistics) to other civilized countries, it will be found to be a very strong evidence that Canada deserves to be rated as the soberest country in the civilized world.

DRINK OF ALL NATIONS.

	MILLIONS OF GALLONS.				ALCOHOL PER IN- HABITANT
	WINE.	BEER.	SPIRITS.	Eq'lv'tnt in Alcohol	
United Kingdom.....	15	1,007	97	67.2	1.92
France	760	190	34	101.0	2.65
Germany	120	880	60	72.4	1.60
Holland.....	3	35	12	8.2	2.05
Belgium	4	170	10	11.4	2.07
Denmark	2	35	27	5.1	2.60
United States	30	440	76	66.5	1.81
Canada	$\frac{1}{2}$	13	$4\frac{1}{2}$	3.3	0.74