

The Hon. Neal Dow says: "At the beginning of the year the number of open rum shops in the city of Portland was from 300 to 400, the receipts of which, at \$3.00 a day, a low estimate, would be \$270,000. *Now there is not one.* Many rum shops were converted to other branches of trade. The following is the result of ten months' operation of the law:—

	1851.	1852.	Decrease.
Committed to Almshouse.....	252 ..	146 ..	106
"    "    House of Correction ....	46 ..	10 ..	36
Outdoor Aid to Families .....	135 ..	90 ..	45
Indictments at District Court.....	17 ..	1 ..	16
Commitments to Gaol .....	279 ..	63 ..	216

The following are extracts from an interesting letter from Hon. Neal Dow to the Chairman of a Parliamentary Commission of the Canadian Legislature appointed to inquire into the working of the prohibitory law in Maine. He says: "Under the operation of the law, pauperism and crime diminished wonderfully. In some of our towns pauperism ceased entirely. In others the gaols were literally tenantless, and in all of them the number of prisoners greatly diminished. The wholesale liquor trade was utterly destroyed without a single prosecution. . . . In 1856, another party came into power, and the Maine Law was repealed. In five months, that party was swept out of power, amid the scorn and execrations of the people. Only one person of the entire legislature who voted for the repeal of the Maine Law was re-elected!" Of that repeal of the law, Lord Brougham says: "Pauperism and crime, which under the prohibitory law had been reduced to an incredibly small amount, soon renewed their devastations; the public voice was raised loudly against the license plan, and the repealing Act was, without opposition, itself repealed."

A tragical incident occurred in connection with the repeal of the law. A Mr. Harwood, clerk of the court to which an appeal was made against the law, was a reformed drunkard. He felt that the maintenance of the law was his only safety. He adjured the judges to close the liquor bars, and he should be saved. "Your decision," he said, with prophetic forecast, "is