

that alcoholic drinks are destructive to the health and morals of the people.

(Here is the well-known certificate on disease.)

Note 4.—But above all, we would call the attention of your Honourable Council to the quantity of wines and spirits which paid duty for three months ending June 30th, as it enables us to point out the quantity consumed by each individual, and to estimate the amount spent in spirituous liquors, quarter ending June 30th:—

Duty on Spirits	£98,209 17 3
Or for the year	£332,838 9 0
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Duty on Wines for the quarter	£17,907 13 11
For the year	£71,630 15 8

Total of Wines and Spirits £464,470 4 8
showing a consumption of 1,123,398 gallons of spirits at 7s. a gallon duty, and of wines at 1s. a gallon duty, 1,432,615 gallons; total number of gallons 2,555,013; which, if estimated at £1 a gallon, would show that more than 2 millions are consumed annually in Victoria in spirituous liquors. This would allow £10 a-year to be spent in purchasing about 6 gallons of wine, and about 4 of spirits by each man, woman, and child, a consumption twenty times greater than England, four times that of Scotland, and twelve times that of Ireland. This does not include porter, ale, beer, cider, &c.

Note 5.—In Melbourne there are 300 spirit dealers, and more than 100 publicans, 46 of the latter class have obtained night licences.

Taking into account the fearful amount of crime induced by habits of intemperance, and the heavy expenditure and taxation consequent thereon, the depopulation and lunacy occasioned by spirits, evidenced by coroners' reports and gaol inquiries, the testimony of medical gentlemen as to the baneful effects of alcohol on the human system, the amount expended out of the ordinary channels of commerce in fermented beverages, and the large number of licensed houses for the sale of intoxicating liquors, we would earnestly beseech your Honourable Council to enact a law similar to that which is now in operation in the State of Maine.

And your petitioners, &c.

Note 1.—Extract from the *Melbourne Argus*.

Note 2.—The Coroner informed us that there were numbers whose cases did not appear in this report, but were clearly the result of intemperance.

Note 3.—These two captains have both been fined and imprisoned, one had been an abstainer five years, and has now signed again.

Note 4.—I have frequently visited the hospital, and have witnessed four deaths in less than one month, from *delirium tremens*.

Note 5.—Almost every tea grocer's is a spirit store. One of them said, "Were I not to sell drink, I should lose my other custom." He would like the Maine Law to pass, as then every one would share alike.

The Giant of Evils.

In every age of the world, the war of right against wrong, of righteousness against sin, has been a struggle, hard fought, and slowly decided. The *hosts of light* have been marching against the legions of darkness, "conquering and to conquer" ever since the world began; and although they have at times been torn and

riddled, overcome and almost blasted by the hot breath of hell's dark minions; yet they have again gathered their secret strength, and like the pent-up waters of the fountain, that burst their rockribbed palace, and flow out to gladden the earth, have still overpowered their adversaries, and swollen the tide of heaven among men. It is thus that we of the temperance party have struggled, and must still struggle against the army of the intemperate—a foe the most invincible of all our adversaries—yes, intemperance is the great giant curse of the human family. Its course everywhere, and at all times has been marked with the blood of our brothers. *Pestilence* has rioted, dragoon-fanged in every branch of the family of Mars. *Famine* has sat upon her dilapidated throne, the ravenous despot of the dead and dying. *War* has belloved, and left earth reeking in the blood and slaughter of myriads. But intemperance is worse; hell's very *king* of plagues; he walketh at noon-day, and at nightfall, in all seasons, and in every clime, sweeping before him the great and the powerful, the humble and the weak, into the one mighty grave of infamy and shame. The monarch and the slave, the parent and the child, the husband and the wife, the brother and the sister have all gone down together, a mournful company to the regions of the damned. It is this terrible evil, this dreadful scourge, the catalogue of whose victims out-measures any in the annals of death, that we are enlisted and sworn to *battle*.

Friends and brethren, lovers of the great cause, will you stand by and back us up in this herculean work? Without your aid, without your patronage, without your money, we cannot succeed—we *must* fail. But what is money in the balance against the blood of your children? Oh! in an hour when you know not the monster will come and slaughter them upon your very thresholds, before your own eyes. Then will you not be prevailed upon to help us banish this satan of human sin, this *prince* of devils from our land. Will you listen with pity to the cries of murdered innocence, to the wails of agonized mortals, to the loud ravings of the maddened, "to the voice of your own slain brethren's blood crying from the very earth for help?" Will you listen to all this and not be moved? Then for God's sake, and for humanity's sake, join us in this battle against the mighty, and we will conquer; it *cannot* be otherwise.
—*National Tem. Organ*.

Law and Right.

Many people seem to suppose that what is lawful is consequently right. With the sanction of human law they do what, without such sanction, they would not dare to meddle with. They make the fallible laws of man, instead of the immutable law of God, the rule of conscience, and of conduct. There are hundreds of men, and some professors of religion, who follow the drunkard-maker's business, and soothe their "remaining dregs of conscience" with the deceitful unction that they have law on their side! If such men had lived in the time of Elijah the prophet, they would most certainly have bowed the knee to Baal—or of Nebuchadnezzar, to the golden image in the plain of Dura; if they had been among the Thugs of India, or the Sicarii of the Lebanon, they would have followed murder as a profession; or if they had been citizens of Rome in the times of Domitian or Trajan, they would have been worshippers of the idol gods of that country! They