

these drink-shops are opened on the Sunday, and this is leaving 40,000 as being closed in Scotland by the Forbes Mackenzie Act, and in Ireland by the personal influence of the Catholic bishops, together with some which are voluntarily closed in England; you will have over two millions of habitual Sabbath breakers! Under this gigantic influence, you have also a host of other shops for the sale of tobacco, newspapers, sweetmeats, fruit, etc., supplying at least another million. These destroy the sanctity of the Sabbath, and practically teach the children to set it at naught, and so our hopes are blighted, and their ruin sealed.

When we remember that there are 18,000 of these drink-shops in Lancashire, and 3300 in Manchester and Salford, and when I tell you that into ten of these there entered last Sunday 5928 men, 3009 women, 890 children, giving an average of 982 persons to each house, or over 100 per hour, who can wonder that those of us who are labouring to save the children of our country have to cry—"I have laboured in vain, and spent my strength for naught"?

If evidence is wanted to show the disastrous effects of the traffic on the schools, take a fact or two:—

The superintendent of a Sunday school says: "Our select class of young men used to smell so strongly of drink in the afternoon, that it was sickening to teach it, and nothing could be done till we had expelled the incorrigible, and formed a Band of Hope to save the rest. Since then, several of the young men have joined the Church."

Rev. E. Jackson, incumbent of St. James', Leeds, says he believes half of the scholars lost to his school, are drawn away through the influence of the Sunday traffic in strong drink.

The late Rev. James Sherman says: "Of the thousands of children which have passed through my schools, very few of them have become members of the Church, and drink is the principal cause of their ruin."