

What can be done to suppress this terrible evil? That is the question of the hour. Whatever may be said for or against the License System, experience has proved that as a remedy for intemperance it has been a most miserable failure. High License, if it has not increased, has certainly not lessened, to any appreciable extent the consumption of liquor, while its operation has, in no way resulted in a diminution of the alarming evils inseparably connected with the accursed traffic. No legal enactment which permits the manufacture and importation of intoxicants can possibly succeed as an effective temperance law. As well try to keep the tide out with a hoe-handle as try to *regulate* successfully the sale of liquor by means of High License. The remedy to be effective must get nearer the source of the evil, that is, it must strike at the manufacture as well as at the sale of all death-dealing beverages. This is the object of prohibitory legislation. Based upon the principle of truth, justice and love to man, its aim is, by removing alcohol from the list of lawful articles of commerce, to overthrow a traffic which is stained with every species of crime and immorality.

The term Prohibition may, perhaps, grate somewhat unpleasantly upon ethically-refined ears, yet it is really an innocent enough word, and should not, therefore, give the slightest offence. Prohibition is really a fundamental principle underlying all society and all government. Without it no one could ever be secure in his right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. "The framework of Prohibition," even in its more restricted sense, "is righteousness and its animating principle is love,"—that love which worketh no ill to his neighbor. And yet there are, doubtless, good men who cannot see their way clear to support Prohibition. The conscientious scruples of such we are, of course, bound to respect. At this junction, however, questions relating to the extent of Prohibition, the liberty of the subject, revenue, compensation, etc., need not occasion any great uneasiness. These side issues or details can be discussed later. But the great issue now before the people is, general Prohibition on the one hand, and the Liquor Traffic with all its terrible evils on the other, and surely it ought not to be difficult to decide which to prefer. And then, no one need fear so great a calamity as absolute Prohibition for some time to come. The country is in