

only passed the Legislative Assembly, has been so amended in the Upper House as to render it comparatively powerless. The omission of the single word "county" has made it impossible to carry out the recommendation of Mr. Wood in his 3rd advice, so far as it regards a COUNTRY. The question can be submitted to the ratepayers in any city, town, township, parish or incorporated village in the way suggested; the county, however, is struck out, so that unless you have a county council that will pass the local prohibition of its own accord, there is no redress. The wheels of legislation are easily blocked, however, by the friends of the grog-seller, for should a good council pass the law, thirty in each municipality may require the law to be submitted, but thirty in each municipality cannot demand a poll for the purpose of inducing a COUNTRY council to submit the question to the people. Now, unless you have a county acting on the law, the small municipalities are surrounded with difficulties in their local prohibition. That power has *been law already*, before Mr. Dunkin's bill, and when tried, for instance, in the town of Bowmanville, it failed, especially from neighbouring towns drawing off the general trade of those fond of the bottle. We have seen the five gallon purchase produce promiscuous distribution in overflowing goblets in the open street. That kind of thing is untouched in the new bill.

Again, as the adoption of the law will prohibit the issue of licenses, it is to be regretted that the fourth clause of the twelfth section did not define what is meant by "any merchant or trader," because tavern-keepers and others have only to set up a claim to the designation by the sale of jack-knives, candies, &c., as a plea for keeping the liquor and selling it by the measure prescribed, to be consumed, if openly, in the manner already mentioned, or secretly by the thousand-and-one devices of the artful dodgers.

It may be useful to many friends of Temperance to mention that there are a number of very excellent general provisions which are now law, irrespective of local prohibition. A faithful execution of that part of the law would do good, nevertheless it will be noticed with regret that liquor can now be sold up to *nine* o'clock on Saturday evening, instead of *seven* as formerly, and resumed at *six* on Monday morning instead of *eight*—a step sadly retrogressive, bearing in mind the increased danger to the working man on that particular night. The penalties, also, for Sunday offences are much less likely to deter than formerly.

We have felt it our duty to express these convictions, not to damp the ardour of true temperance men, but to rouse them the more to seek by personal effort the deliverance of those who are drawn unto death; and by intelligent political effort to obtain the enactment of a bill that will effectually touch the fountain and spring of the liquor traffic. In this great cause let there be a constant recognition of the hand of God, and a dependence on His blessing in all movements to remove this great stumbling stone—the drinking customs of society—out of the way of the progress of the gospel of Christ.—ED. C. I.

GOD HAS LINKED SUFFERING AND MISERY WITH SIN.

Two verses of Psalm cvii. read, "Fools, because of their transgressions, and because of their iniquities, are afflicted: their soul abhorreth all manner of meat: and they draw nigh unto the gates of death." The Psalm itself is fitted to impress us with the divine benignity, and to draw forth the earnest