

From this it will appear that for the 16 years since Confederation the brewers have used 12,166,263 bushels of barley in all, or an average of 760,391 bushels per year, thus affording a market for less than 1 to of the barley put on the market in Canada. The hollowness of the cry that their trade is being injured will soon appear when we see that their output for home consumption has risen from 5,194,738 Imp. galls. in 1868 to 11,757,444 in 1883.

Again, the objector knows that the passage of the Act in any county or city does not shut up the brewery. The brewer goes on with his buying and brewing; only he must now seek a market elsewhere than inside the prohibited district. His sales will be diminished in the county or city which is under the Act, and to that extent, unless he can enlarge his outside business, he must brew, and so buy, less barley. But this amount will be but a very small fraction of the 800,000 bushels purchased by Canadian brewers, so that in no year will the 800,000 bushels be thrown back on the market. But each year, as the Act passes in county after county, the brewers will buy a little less barley, and this will be taken each year by the other purchasers in our market, and cause no appreciable difference in market quotations—*Whitby Chronicle*.

THE BRITISH REVENUE FROM CUSTOMS.

The twenty-eighth report of Her Majesty's Commissioners of Customs show that during the year ending March 31, 1884, there has been an increase in the receipts from cocoa and tea, and a decrease on spirits and wines. The following are their remarks upon wine and spirits:—

The receipts from wine are upwards of £26,000 less than in the previous year. The product of the wine duties has uniformly declined during the last eight years, and it amounted to less in the year 1883-84 than it did in 1873-74 by £524,000. The gross revenue under this head at quinquennial periods for the last twenty years is shown below:—

1863-64	.. .. .	£1,244,232
1868-69	.. .. .	1,523,529
1873-74	.. .. .	1,793,113
1878-79	.. .. .	1,469,710
1883-84	.. .. .	1,269,189

In the year 1874 75 the receipts from the wine duties receded 3.99 per cent., but in the following year they recovered from this decline to the extent of 1.98 per cent. From 1876-77 inclusive the decline has been continuous, and stands as follows:—

1876-77	.. .. .	.81 per cent.
1877-78	.. .. .	6.34 "
1878-79	.. .. .	9.88 "
1879-80	.. .. .	5.14 "
1880-81	.. .. .	1.06 "
1881-82	.. .. .	.74 "
1882-83	.. .. .	5.34 "
1883-84	.. .. .	2.04 "

The revenue derived from foreign spirits shows a decrease of £153,000 when compared with that of the previous year, and of £12,000 with that of the year 1881-82.

With the exception of the year 1882-83, in which the receipts under this head advanced 3.34 per cent., there has been a constant decline in the amount of duty derived from foreign spirits during the last eight years, which shows as follows:—

1876-77	.. .. .	6.05 per cent.
1877-78	.. .. .	3.94 "
1878-79	.. .. .	3.76 "
1879-80	.. .. .	12.19 "
1880-81	.. .. .	5.11 "
1881-82	.. .. .	4.93 "
1883-84	.. .. .	3.51 "

Comparing the past year with 1873-74, there is a loss of revenue from spirits amounting to £1,119,000.

Of this sum, £441,000 is on rum, and £767,000 on brandy, there being an increase of £89,000 on spirits of other sorts. When it is borne in mind that, had the consumption of the year 1873-74 kept pace with the usual increase of population, the foreign spirit revenue for the year just ended would have amounted to £5,867,000, instead of £4,214,000, it will be seen to how great an extent the consumption of foreign spirits has declined.

Seeing that the increase or decrease of the revenue from foreign spirits is intimately connected with the increase or decrease of that from the home-made article, we give below a table for ten years showing the gross revenue collected on spirits of all kinds in the United Kingdom, together with the rate of increase or decrease per cent. —

Year.	Gross Revenue.	Rate of Increase or Decrease per cent.
1873-74	£20,392,997	
1874-75	21,043,405	+ 3.18
1875-76	21,770,271	+ 3.45
1876-77	21,118,948	- 2.99
1877-78	21,102,611	- .07
1878-79	20,191,066	- 4.31
1879-80	18,804,032	- 6.86
1880-81	19,347,576	+ 2.89
1881-82	19,060,228	- 1.48
1882-83	19,230,824	+ .89

If the consumption of spirits in the year 1873-74 had increased in the same ratio as the population, the spirit revenue for the year 1882-83 should in order to have maintained a like ratio, have amounted to the sum of £22,228,000, or £3,000,000 more than was actually realized.—*Temperance Record*.

THE DRAM SHOP.

Another caldron of iniquity is the dram-shop. Surely there is death in the pot. Adacarsis said that the wine had three grapes—pleasure, drunkenness, misery. Richard III. drowned his brother Clarence in a butt of wine—these two incidents quite typical. Every saloon built above ground or dug under ground is a centre of evil. It may be licensed and for some time it may conduct its business in elegant style; but after awhile the cover will fall off, and you will see the iniquity in its light coloring. Plant a grog-shop in the midst of the finest block of houses in your city and the property will depreciate 5, 10, 20, 30, 50 per cent. Men engaged in the ruinous traffic sometimes say: "You don't appreciate the fact that the largest revenues paid to the government are by our business." Then I remember what Mr. Gladstone, the Prime Minister of England, said to a committee of men engaged in that traffic when they came to him to deplore that they were not treated with more consideration: "Gentlemen, don't be uneasy about the revenue." Give me thirty millions of sober people and I will pay all the revenue and have a large surplus." But, my friends, the ruin to property is a very small part of the evil. It takes everything that is sacred in the family, everything that is holy in religion, everything that is infinite in the soul, and tramples it into the mire. The marriage day has come. The happy pair are at the altar. The music sounds. The gas-lights flash. The feet bound up and down in the drawing-room. Started on a bright voyage of life. Sails all up. The wind is abaft. You prophesy everything beautiful. But the scene changes. A dingy garret. No fire. On a broken chair sits a sorrowing woman. Her last hope is gone. Poor, disgraced, trodden under foot, she knows the despair of being a drunkard's wife. The gay bark that danced off on the marriage morning has become a battered hulk, dismasted and shipwrecked. "Oh," she says, "he was as good a man as ever lived. He was so kind, he was so generous—no one better did God ever create than he; but the drink,

THE DRINK DID IT."

A young man starts from the country home for the city. Through the agency of metropolitan friends he has obtained a place in a store or bank. That morning in the farm house the lights are kindled very early and the boy's trunk is on the wagon. "I put a Bible in your trunk," says the mother, as she wipes the tears away with her apron. "My dear, I want you to read it when you get to town." "Oh," he says, "mother, don't be worried about me." The father says. "Be a good boy, and write home often. Your mother will want to hear from you." Crack goes the whip and away over the hills goes the wagon! The scene changes. Five years after, and there is a hearse coming up the old lane in front of the farm house. Killed in a potter house fight, that son has come to disgrace the