

United States.

of partisans to the be-
 occurs to them to consi-
 temperance itself is a w-
 justice.
 atment of the hotel
 bers has also been utte-
 These men have b-
 air bread by a trade whi-
 entered it, was not o-
 the State, but deemed
 perfectly reputable; a-
 when their trade is sudden-
 they are apparently entit-
 e compensation which a-
 le in the same circum-
 ld receive. But comp-
 inconvenient and mig-
 ight the measure. It
 herefore, to put the tave-
 f the pale of justice; and
 pit and platform vie w-
 n kindling popular passi-
 . He is represented
 agent of a traffic to whi-
 le to put an end, but as
 d the worst of criminal
 r and a murderer "steep
 y in the blood of civiliz-
 money made by the pois-
 ls is accepted even by the
 ous of the Churches for
 objects, while one Church
 sh has synodically declar-
 prohibition, counts man-
 ur among its members.
 t want a selfish and is-
 Milton himself did not
 sh and isolated liberty
 deliberately sacrificed li-
 er than decline to serv-
 But after all this strugg-
 the paternal despotism
 t popes, we do want
 asure of freedom and c-
 ent. We do want it t
 l, as the general rule

t any peril of such a kind that the
 te alone can deal with it, warrants
 intervention of the State. Nobody
 ould desire to set arbitrary and pe-
 ntic bounds to the common action
 the community for the preservation
 the whole. It might be necessary
 d therefore lawful to close the
 verns of the nation, were the nation
 coming the hopeless slave of drunken-
 ss, as it might be necessary and
 herefore lawful to close the race-
 urses if the nation were becoming
 the hopeless slave of turf-gambling.
 ut in an ordinary way we submit
 at, whether in the hands of kings
 majorities, political power is a
 ust held for definite purposes which
 o not include interference with your
 ighbour's diet or any of his personal
 abits any more than they include the
 imitation of his industry or the con-
 scation of his property. The Pro-
 hibitionist thinks that by doing a
 ittle injustice he can do a great deal
 f good, and so probably have thought
 all tyrants who were not absolutely
 nsane.

If fanaticism in pursuit of the one
 cherished object tramples on justice
 and natural affection, how can it show
 any more regard for the claims of
 political duty? A citizen is manifestly
 bound in the exercise of his suffrage
 to consider all the qualifications of the
 candidate and all the interests of the
 State. But temperance-organisations
 in Canada have formally resolved to
 exclude, so far as they can, from all
 public offices, even from that of a
 school-trustee, any one who will not
 pledge himself to the support of their
 policy. There may be other issues
 before the country of the most vital
 importance, but they are all to be
 sacrificed to the one end of the sect.
 The man may be qualified in every re-

spect to be a legislator: he may even
 be a total abstainer; but if he does
 not believe in Prohibitory legislation,
 and refuses to submit his conscience
 to that in which he does not believe,
 he is to be excluded from public life,
 and the State is to be deprived of his
 services. On the other hand, the most
 transparently dishonest submission is
 accepted as a title to support. A
 fierce electoral contest is going on
 with forces evenly balanced, and every-
 body is in doubt about the result.
 Suddenly it is announced that one of
 the candidates has consented to take
 the Prohibition pledge. There is no
 concealment as to his motive; but he
 gets the Prohibitionist vote, and by its
 help rides in over the head of his more
 scrupulous rival, while eminent Chris-
 tians and religious journals applaud
 a triumph gained over public morality
 by fraud and lying. It is needless to
 say that Prohibitionism becomes a
 marketable commodity among poli-
 ticians, and furnishes the ladder by
 which knavery climbs to the mark of
 its ambition. It is now, perhaps,
 after Irish clanship, the most noxious
 of the sectional organisations, the
 number of which is always on the in-
 crease, and which are destroying the
 character of the citizen and rendering
 elective government impossible by
 treating the State as an oyster to be
 opened with the knife of their vote
 for their own particular end.

Once more then, and with increased
 emphasis, let me suggest that before
 the British Parliament commits itself
 to Prohibitive legislation it should
 send a Commission of Inquiry to the
 United States and Canada.

GOLDWIN SMITH.

TORONTO, January 25.

All restraint
 wisdom lays on evil man-

extremity, such as war
 are of course ready for
 ves, provided they are
 only war or plague