

can effect a radical reform of this vast evil, an evil which affects the interests of a large majority of our people, so nearly. One vicious and drinking black can corrupt many, and the extent to which this evil may grow, if nothing is attempted to stay it, is incalculable. People who cannot see it, and who are indifferent or opposed to the remedy prescribed by the Selma Convention, are blind to their own interests, and none is so blind as he who will not see.

The Alabama Bill, or something similar, is the only sure remedy that can be administered now. The statements thrown out by the opponents of it, that the law can never be effectual, are simply absurd. As the majority of the people have first to sanction the law in their precinct before it can take effect, we think that that majority can see to it that the law is carried out. Besides the very statements of liquor drinking people, that the law cannot be enforced, proves that they believe the sellers of liquor to be opposed to the will of the people when that will conflicts with their own interests, and are therefore not a law abiding people.—They themselves, acknowledge they believe it, and in the face of this acknowledgment, can we deny it?

Another one of their arguments is to the effect that, if Beat 3 vote down the sale, and Beat 4 sustain the sale, then all the tipplers of Beat 3 will flock over to Beat 4 to drink, fight and become a nuisance generally; and so the good people of Beat 4 are to suffer from the drunkenness of people from Beat 3. We say, serve 'em right—why didn't they vote like Beat 3? *Down with the liquor traffic!*

The Irish Exhibition and Liquors.

A Manchester Citizen addresses the Editor of the *News and Chronicle*, on a subject of grave importance, after the example of England, so nobly resolved on by Prince Albert and his colleagues, we regret that Ireland should have given occasion to sad stories of drunkenness in connexion with her Exhibition, otherwise so worthy of a place in history. We fear the facts are so as related below, and we give the whole letter as a warning to all sorts of Committees having the control of public exhibitions in our own country.

Sir.—If there was one regulation laid down by the Royal Commissioners in regard to the supply of refreshments at the Great Exhibition in London, which by universal consent was allowed to be judicious, and which in its enforcement was acknowledged to be safe and satisfactory, it was that wise rule which excluded INTOXICATING BEVERAGES. On every hand we heard persons of every cast of mind, and in every rank in life, giving testimony to the obvious advantages resulting from that arrangement. So well did this regulation work, and so generally was it approved and applauded, that those who have been entrusted with the framing of the Royal Charter for the New Crystal Palace at Sydenham, have felt themselves bound, in the execution of their important commission, to introduce a clause to the effect that no INTOXICATING LIQUORS shall be sold or supplied as refreshments in that magnificent building or its spacious premises for ever. This is something like a Maine Law in perfect miniature, and will doubtless be a model rule of propriety and sobriety, which will greatly, though quietly influence the thinking and the sentiments of millions, and will have a practical tendency to suggest and induce similar arrangements in regard to the various places of amusement, recreation and instruction throughout the United Kingdom.

Indeed the idea has already taken deep hold of the minds of many intelligent and influential philanthropists, and a society, with the Bishop of Manchester as President, and a spirit-merchant as honorary secretary, has been formed, called "The Manchester and Salford Association for the Better Regulation of public houses, and other places of entertainment." The very Rev. the Dean of Manchester, and the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, and many other distinguished men, are on the list of Vice-Presidents. This association has drawn up a form of petition to the Right Hon. the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and to the Hon. the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in which they humbly pray the enactment of a law which shall render unlawful the sale or consumption of any kind of intoxicating liquor in any place opened for public amusement, &c. I was therefore the more grieved and dis-

appointed in regard to the Crystal Palace and Exhibition in Dublin to find that not only are intoxicants not prohibited, but that they are so freely supplied to visitors, that persons are to be seen exhibiting themselves in an offensive state of drunkenness! Surely our Irish friends did not intend to give their sober visitors such disgusting sights as these, and we hope, for the credit of the exhibition, the Commissioners will not put many elaborate sketches of the articles in this department, in the stereotype catalogue hereafter to be issued.

United Kingdom Alliance.

Our friends in Britain are proceeding with caution and prudence towards emancipation. We are in possession of documents from England bearing date the 6th, 7th, and 9th of July, although the time of this present writing is but July the 22nd. Thus swiftly is the age moving, let us hope, toward a happier future. The Honorary Secretary of the British Alliance has deemed it necessary to correct some misapprehensions of the nature of the new movement. His explanations show the identity of our League principles with those of the "Alliance." We copy what follows from our talented contemporary, the *News and Chronicle*, (it was crowded out from our last number):—

SIR.—In advocating the claims of the United Kingdom Alliance, with which I have the honour to be officially connected, I find a considerable misapprehension on the part of all classes as to the extent and scope of the legislative suppression we seek.

Will you allow me a few lines in your paper to set the Alliance in its true position on one, at least, of these points?

The Alliance does not advocate any interference with private or individual judgment. As an organization, we express no opinion whatever on the question of personal abstinence, much less do we ask for any legislative enactment, having for its object the legal enforcement of Teetotalism. Such an enactment, we believe, would be clearly beyond the province of the Legislature. The object we seek, on the contrary, is as clearly within that province, being nothing more than the suppression, total and at once, of a notorious public nuisance, in its results, of course, pauperism and degradation—a nuisance alike injurious to every member of the community, whether total abstainers or not.

Those of us who are total abstainers rely upon the moral influence of temperance principles to ensure their ultimate triumph in individual habit and conduct, but we all unite cordially desiring to sweep away a crying and shameful evil which involves no moral conviction for its appreciation, but simply requires the ordinary activity of the senses. We oppose the traffic in alcohol, but because we see that this traffic results in county, and police, and poor-rates, and in misery and degradation to all who approach it.

Show the same effects as resulting from any other traffic, and our arguments would carry us against that too.

Such is briefly the position the United Kingdom Alliance wishes to assume as regards the existing Temperance organisation which we hope to see pursuing their own work without hindrance from us. Their course is moral, ours political and social.

I have stated it as distinctly as possible at once, because, though at all times very desirous of giving every information, and affording every possible opportunity for discussion of this and other matters of policy in private correspondence, the executive cannot allow themselves to be drawn into public controversy save on the general and most important question.—Yours, &c.,

JOHN POPE, Hon. Sec.

Manchester, July 6, 1853.

The following excellent letter has been addressed to the Hon. Secretary of the United Kingdom Alliance:—

Halifax, July 7th, 1853.

ESTEEMED FRIENDS,—Considerations of the expediency and the desire not hastily to identify myself with a very important organization, have alone prevented my giving my adhesion to the Alliance for the total suppression of the traffic in intoxicating liquors, and, by a close and estimate sequence, for the prevention of the greater portion of the miseries that afflict our fellow-countrymen.

Though, in common probably with the council, I regard the day as far distant when our object will be fully attained in this