

per family. The highest point ever reached in this country by the expenditure on drink was in 1877. For that year the cost per head was £4 9s. and £22 5s. per family of five. Hence the improvement since that date is £3 15s. 6d. per family, or 15s. 1d. per head. Had the expenditure of 1893 been on the same scale as that of 1877 the drink bill of 1893 would have been £163,327,466, or £24,472,637 more than it actually was. To give an idea of what such a decrease in expenditure is, it may be stated that the gross value assessed to income tax for the year 1893 of quarries, mines, ironworks, gasworks, salt springs or works and alum works, waterworks, canals, etc., fishings and shootings, markets, tolls, etc., and cemeteries was £24,538,517.

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