

ticians have diligently collected and carefully collated, is, "that there is not more than *one-tenth* the quantity sold and used in the State of what there was before the Prohibitory Law came into force; that as a general thing, where the trade in liquor is carried on at all, it is with great secrecy and caution, as other unlawful practices are, and that the benefits of this state of things are obvious and very great."

Take one or two specimens of this evidence.

Writing from the Executive Department, Augusta, June 3, 1872, Sidney Perham, the present Governor of Maine, says: "I think it safe to say that it (the liquor trade) is very much less than before the enactment of the law, probably not one-tenth as large. In some places liquor is sold secretly in violation of the law, as many other offences are committed against the statutes and the peace and good order of society, but, in large Districts of the State the liquor traffic is nearly or quite unknown, where, formerly it was carried on like any other trade."

E. Y. Blaine, Speaker of the General Congress at Washington who is a Senator from Maine, writing on 29th May last, says: "I am very sure from personal knowledge and observation that the sales are *immeasurably less* in Maine."

Wm. P. Frye, M. C. of Maine and ex-Attorney General of the State, says: "that in the country parts the sale and use have almost entirely ceased, and that a temperance sentiment has been created which is marvellous, and to which opposition is powerless."

Hannibal Hamlin, who was once Vice-President of the United States along with the martyred President, Abraham Lincoln, and who hails also from Maine, says: "I concur in the statements made by Mr. Frye. In the great good produced by the Prohibitory Liquor Law of Maine, no man can doubt, who has seen its result. It has been of *immense value*."

The Mayor and ex-Mayor of Portland declare, on the 28th May, 1872: "that the effects of the policy of Prohibition are manifest to the most casual observer."

Two Congregational ministers, three Baptist, one Episcopalian, two Methodist Episcopal, two Unitarian and two Universalist Ministers testify: "In this City (Portland) the quantity sold now is but a small fraction of what we remember the sales to have been, and we believe the results are the same or nearly so, throughout the State. If the trade exists at all here, it is carried on with secrecy and caution, as other unlawful practices are. All our people must agree that the benefits of this state of things are obvious and very great."

The Register, City Clerk, City Treasurer, and Judge of the Superior Court, say: "We are of the decided opinion that the liquor trade is not *one-tenth* of what it was, prior to the adoption of the Maine Law."

At a Convention of Good Templars held at Cape Elizabeth, last May, a crowded, enthusiastic and influential gathering, it was resolved: "That the Chairman of this Convention certify in the name of the Convention to the friends of Temperance in Great Britain, That by the operation of the Maine Law, in this State, the traffic in intoxicating drink has been greatly diminished and that the happy effects of this change are every where apparent. That, in this town, where formerly the people were great sufferers from strong drink, there are none now sold at all, either openly or secretly; and generally throughout the State, where the liquor traffic yet lingers, it is covertly, as other offences against the law do, and that the quantity of liquor now sold in this State cannot be *one-tenth* as much as it was formerly."

A few of the more prominent objections to this law may be noted.

I. It has been objected that this law is a foreign importation—a "Yankee notion." On this principle the British Constitution itself might be objected to. It is, in the main, a copy. Should we be ashamed to borrow from the land of Washington? But this objection proceeds on an erroneous assumption. Forty years since, the Maine Law, in substance, was sketched in Eng-