

[FOR THE TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.]

**An Appeal.**

People of Canada, will you hear me; I have a message for you. I have words to ring in your ears—would that I could reach your hearts also,—“speed on the Maine Law.” Oh will you not give with heart and lip, a deep and hearty “Amen,” to that call?—The summons is for each and all, high and low, rich and poor, one with another. People of Canada, make your voice to be heard; send in your honest, earnest petitions; do not be slack at this time; call all your energies to meet the task; work united in mutual love; let hand join in hand, let voice blend with voice, until your country in her length and breadth re-echoes with the cry “Speed on the Maine Law.” Rulers of the land, oh hear ye their voice. Let not the feeble irresolute cry of the inebriate, the widow’s moan, the child’s wail, fall on your ears in vain. God grant ye the will, as ye have the power, to “Speed on the Maine Law.” Because, it will close those houses which now stand luring men to ruin. Stand—stained with the blood of thousands; darkened by the vengeance cloud hanging over them, raised by the cries of tortured bodies, broken hearts—ay! and fallen spirits. These are spots,—plague spots, on the face of our beautiful earth, marring her loveliness.

Because, it will remove temptation from the path of youth, that so often leads it astray; that temptation from the path of manhood, that makes home forsaken, and home’s dear ones neglected and forgotten; and that temptation from the path of old age, that so frequently degrades it, sinking it lower and weaker than life’s longest term of years could make it; and causing us to shrink with shame and pity from the grey hair. Because, it arrests the drunkard in his downward path, compelling him to think; and aids him who is striving to stop, and cannot.

Because, it will lessen crime, and those expenses, which crime involves. Because it will save many a mortal body, from poverty, disease, want, crime, death; and many an immortal soul, from shame, remorse, agony, madness, guilt, and everlasting condemnation. The Law has done these things for the State of Maine, it has brought light to many a darkened home; and love and joy to many a desolate hearth, and, with God blessing it, may do as much for us also; oh! speed on the Maine Law.

Professors of Temperance! this is a call to you; patient and persevering laborers in this great cause, relax not your efforts; go on—go on; stand closely joined one to another. Union gives strength; stand true to the cause ye profess, to the name ye bear, and may success reward ye.

Advocates for Moral Suasion, invaluable has your agency been; ye have blessed mankind, the last day only can tell how much. Aid us now, with a bolder, stronger stroke; let firmness take the place of gentleness, and let us at least see the effect. My friends, if the knife of the midnight assassin was raised behind you; if the fierce foe were at hand, to deprive you of your substance, your wife, your babes; would you trust to words only? I trow not. No! let us drive the enemy from his strongholds, in the interests and estimation of mankind, ever as our Saviour turned out them that bought and sold in the temple; crying with holy indignation in his words, “It is written, my house shall be called the house of prayer, but ye have made it a den of thieves.” Ye who are not abstainers, your aid would be effective indeed. Unprejudiced, unbiassed save by love for your fellow men. If this is a matter of indifference to you, it is not so to all. If those houses of iniquity, present no temptations to you, they do to others; if you, differently situated, or constituted, are not endangered by them, your fellow men are. Remember that all children of the same God; and he commands us to love our neighbour as ourselves. Inebriates—slaves to your own passions, here is deliverance for you. That cup shall be dashed to

the earth, which now, in your better moments, you abhor and shrink from; those chains which now are wound so tightly round you, shall be struck off. You will be free once more, glorious liberty, who would not desire it? Oh look on the days of youth, think what you once were, what you now are, and “speed on the Maine Law.” Christians I have a word to you also; you are bound to discountenance sin, to benefit the world, and to glorify your Father which is in heaven, by every means in your power; aid now then, place the example of your Divine master before your eyes; see him forgiving the sinner, but branding the sin, promoting holiness by precept and example; removing suffering, assuaging sorrow, and then let your hearts decide, whether if your Lord were present now upon the earth, his voice would be with us or not; and whether by refusing or complying with our call for aid, you are neglecting or fulfilling that high command “Follow thou me.” And let us not only send our petitions to man, but remember Him in whose hands are all hearts, and plead with our God also; fervent prayer is powerful, let us unite in this as in all else, and with one mind and one voice call upon Jehovah, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. And let us take good heed, that in discharging our duty to ourselves, we forget not our duty to our God; lest we be careful for time, and careless for Eternity. Surely, surely the time is short. Oh! in reminding others of that truth, let us not forget it ourselves. And now my friends, farewell. Be not discouraged should disappointment at first be yours; if all is not done, much may. Bear discouragements, conquer difficulties, remember the prize is a high one; it will, with the blessing of God, make Canada yet more prosperous, and more honored, its people still better, wiser, happier men.

**Letter from the Mayor of Lowell.**

The following communication is in reply to a letter from the State Temperance Committee, requesting information. The fact speaks volumes in favor of the law.—The communication is given to the public by permission of the writer:

MAYOR’S OFFICE, CITY HALL }  
Lowell, Sept. 25, 1852. }

MR OTHEMAN—Dear Sir:—Your favor of the 17th inst. was duly received, and I have delayed answering it, that the first two months of the operation of the new law might expire. In comparing the amount of intemperance, for two months with an equal term of time, before the law went into operation, I consider it the fairest to take the corresponding months of last year. For a month or two previous to July 22d, there was, perhaps, more than the usual quota of drinking, in anticipation of the supply being cut off. Every case of drunkenness, observed by a Watchman or any member of the Police, is reported at the Police Office, whether a prosecution is instituted or not.

For the two months ending Sept. 22d, 1851, there were committed to the watch house,	110
Reported as being drunk, but not arrested,	265
	365
Total,	
Two months ending Sept. 22d, 1852, committed to the watch house,	41
Reported as being drunk, but not arrested,	66
	107
Total,	

These statistics are taken from the record of the City Marshal. The testimony of the watchmen and other Police officers is uniform, that there is much less disturbance and rowdiness, than under the old regime. It is the testimony, too, of the grocers, that their customers, of a large class, pay better than formerly. Previous to the law’s taking effect, in behalf of the Executive branch of the Municipal Government, I addressed a communication to the citizens, calling upon them to observe the Law, and declaring the