

WOMAN WITH THREE CHILDREN HAVE NO BUSINESS TO GET DRUNK.—So said Justice Cushing in the Police Court yesterday afternoon, while giving his decision in the case of a young, neatly dressed Irish woman, who was proved to have been beastly drunk two or three times within the past fortnight.—*Bee*.

UNCOMFORTABLE BED.—Yesterday, two men named James Dolan and Thomas McCormick, were found by police officer Whetherby, at Charlestown, sleeping upon a railroad track. They were sent to the House of Correction as vagrants.—*Commonwealth*.

ENOUGH OF IT.—Saturday, afternoon a drunken Irishman came along by the walls of the new National, and pitched into a man who was sitting in a waggon and pulled him to the ground, whereupon his opponent turned upon him, and gave him so much of the fun he desired, that he was unable to go home, and a couple of his friends logged him off.

VERY COMMON.—Joseph L. Blogget, from Charlemont, Mass., went into Ann street, Friday night, and after dancing, drinking, and treating, in one of the cellars near Richmond street, was robbed by Ellen Ryan of four dollars and some odd change.—Ellen was arrested, and sent to the House of Correction for two months. The keeper of the House, whose hired tool Ellen evidently was, was suffered to go unmolested.

The London Morning Chronicle on the Maine Law.

We have occasionally quoted from the Temperance press of Britain to show that in the mother country public opinion is beginning to form itself in accordance with the just principals of legal prohibition of the liquor traffic. One of the leading journals of England has spoken out in astonishment at the preposterous folly of Brother Jonathan who seems resolved to kill King Alcohol and set up President Prohibition to reign over the United States. It will be quite entertaining for Anglo-Canadians, to peruse the enlarged and lofty sentiments of the *Morning Chronicle*. Here they are:—

"Yes! this idea of a law 'based on the great principles of Temperance' is no freak of silly women led captive by Mrs. Bloomer—no mere dream of a bemused fanatic. Such a law is within an inch of being passed by the State Legislature of New York—it is almost certain to be carried in a year or two—and it is already on the statute-books of two or three of the most civilised and progressive of the American States. Some few years ago the Legislature of Maine was induced to adopt a measure for the suppression of intemperance, and since then the East and North-west of the Federation have been exposed to a steady series of attempts on the part of Temperance Societies to get the Maine Liquor Law made universal. The number of affiliated bodies is amply sufficient to render the votes of the societies the condition of electoral success; and hence no less than three or four counterparts of the original measure have passed into positive law. But from nothing that we have as yet written will the reader gain the faintest notion of what the Main Liquor Law really is. We have before us the draft of a Bill approved by the heads of the agitation in New York, which, possibly in a few months, certainly in a year or two, will become the law of that State. The first clause absolutely prohibits the sale or manufacture of intoxicating liquors, whether vinous or alcoholic, except by persons who have given heavy bail to secure their compliance with the provisions of the law, and who describe themselves, by a board conspicuously affixed to the outside of their premises, as 'licensed to sell intoxicating liquors according to law.' By clause the second, persons complying with these conditions are permitted to sell wine or

alcoholic liquids in just three cases—first, where a physician, actually in attendance on a patient, certifies in writing that they are required—secondly, where a clergyman is in need of them for sacramental purposes—and lastly, where an artist or mechanic engages to apply them to the preparations of his craft. The sale of strong drink is made absolutely unlawful under any circumstances except these; and the full stringency of the enactment is not mitigated in any succeeding section. The residue of the clauses, which amount in all to fifty-four, constitute as pretty a specimen of legislative oppression as ever fell under our notice. Infringements against the law, whether by purchase or sale, are punished with excessive severity—cases under the Act are carefully withdrawn from the cognizance of juries to the jurisdiction of a single judge—powers of search and organised espionage are freely granted to the police—and finally, elaborate provisions are introduced for the payment, by fees, of all persons concerned in the conviction of delinquents, from the judge downwards. It seems incredible that any man in his senses should have devised such a law—more than incredible that two or three millions of the freest people in the world should be living, or on the point of being forced to live, under the intolerable system of tyranny which it puts into operation. Yet law it is and law it will be—a direct consequence of suffering some hundreds of demonstrable falsehoods to cluster round the simple fact that, of all persons who drink 'vinous or alcoholic liquors,' about one in five thousand is occasionally bestialised by the habit."

It was not very likely that such an attack on teetotalism would be allowed to pass unnoticed, especially in reference to the allegations of the last few lines of the above. The temperance men of England are wide awake, as may be seen by the following letter which we find in the *weekly News and Chronicle*. The facts given in the conclusion sufficiently refute the slipshod assertions of the *Chronicle*:

It is (says Mr. John Tayler,) but little attention the London press has bestowed upon the proceedings of the Temperance Reformers in this country, and if we had to form an opinion upon the notice taken of them by the daily press, we should be forced to the conclusion that they were but a small and insignificant body; and, indeed, we are, in effect, told that teetotalism in this country has produced nothing beyond "flags, medals, and processions."

Notwithstanding these undignified results, the *Morning Chronicle* has been seized with sudden fear at the possible mischief which these "fanatical" teetotalers may perpetrate; and this fear is occasioned, not so much by any overt act of theirs in England, as by what has been done by their brethren in America.

The *Chronicle* has heard that in the State of Maine (U. S.) the sale of intoxicating liquors has been prohibited by law; that drunkenness and disorder have vanished from the land; and the prisons and the workhouses are freed from their usual tenants. These results are so satisfactory that the important State of New York seems about to enact a similar law. The bare idea of such a state of things in England, is quite too much for the *Chronicle*.

The contempt with which its writer speaks of the temperance movement seems inconsistent with the evident fear he feels at the prospect of ultimate success. A movement to be feared must be based upon something else than "fanaticism" and "falsehood," and its "physiological theory," which is affirmed by such men as Sir B. Brodie, Sir James Clarke, Dr. Forbes, and Carpenter, and demonstrated by the testimony of several millions of people who have tested it, is not to be put down as "ludicrous," though it may run counter to previous notions and customs.