

## PROVIDENCE CITY.—Population, 47,560.

*The Watch-house.*

Committals to the watch-house for drunkenness and small assaults growing out of drunkenness, from July 19 to October 19, 1851.....	282
Committals to the watch-house for same causes, for the corresponding period of 1852.....	177
Difference in favor of the law.....	<u>105</u>

The Hon. W. R. Watson, Secretary of State in 1854, wrote:—"The law has been in force two years and a half; its effect I cannot doubt has been greatly to diminish crime, pauperism, insanity, and that long, dark catalogue of evils—moral, social and physical, which result from intemperance. The statistics of the State prison, almshouses and lunatic asylums, shew conclusively, that a very large proportion of the inmates of those abodes of misery, are the sad victims of the intemperance of the past; whatever, therefore, operates to diminish intemperance, must necessarily largely and efficiently contribute to relieve society from its terrible consequences. As intemperance decreases, the number of State offences decreases; the money, worse than wasted in the purchase of intoxicating drinks, goes to purchase the necessaries of life. The moral and social condition of the community is thus elevated and improved, and individual comfort and public prosperity vastly promoted; such has been the salutary operation of the enforcement of the Maine Liquor Law in this State. The Sabbath is better observed, and the attendance upon divine worship is increased; its fruits have been good; the blessings of health, happiness and peace; of drunkards redeemed and restored to their friends; of scattered families re-united and made happy; of neighbourhoods riotous and disorderly, made quiet and peaceable;—which all flow from the enforcement of this law, would seem to attest the sanctity of a higher than human power, and demonstrate its accordance with natural and divine laws."

The prohibitory law remained in force until 1862; since then, the State has again tried a license law and local option, and has now again returned to prohibition.

In 1873, only ten towns granted license under the local option law, whilst twenty-five refused to allow the sale of intoxicating liquors.

From the returns of the U. S. Internal Department, it appears that Rhode Island, in 1873, paid spirit taxes to the amount of \$75,307.90; an average of thirty-four cents per head on a population of 217,352.

## VERMONT.

In February, 1855, Ex-Governor Eaton, said:—"That the law has exerted an immense influence and accomplished great good, is as plain to him whose eyes are not resolutely closed to the light of truth, as is the light of the sun."