

Society, whence all the other branches had sprung, as communicated to him by his revered friend on his left (Dr. Guthrie.) In the district of Merionethshire, in Wales, is situated the town of Bala, and it so happened that upon a winter day, when storms had enwrapped that mountainous region in winter's robe, the Rev. Thomas Charles preached in his place of worship in Bala on the Sabbath. While making his rounds in the town the following morning, he met a little girl, one of his hearers, and, laying his hand on her head, he asked her if she could tell him from where his text of the previous day was taken. After some little delay, she answered in a flood of tears, that though she had heard the text, the storm had prevented her from travelling some seven miles as was her custom every Monday morning, in order that she might read the chapter whence it was called. This information astonished Mr. Charles, and he was led to make some inquiry upon the subject; and the result was the astonishing fact, that the circulation of the Scriptures within his own district extended only in the proportion of one copy to eight families. Mr. Charles having pondered over this startling discovery, determined to proceed to London, to see what could be done to repair such a grievous dearth of the Word of God. He accordingly proceeded to the metropolis, and, within the precincts of a retired place, where the Religious Tract Society Committee held their meetings, brought the matter under the consideration of some kindred spirits like himself. They talked over this destitution, and agreed among themselves as to the absolute necessity of something being done to meet the evil. At first one man proposed that there should be a Bible Society for Wales, but another improved upon this, and suggested that there should be a Bible Society for England. It was, however, felt that they must reach a higher stage, and Mr. Hughes, to his honour, said, 'Let us have a Bible Society for the world.' And from that moment that Bible Society for the world was constituted, the noble tree took root downwards, and bore branches upwards, and upon the upward branches they now saw that Sun of Righteousness had shed his beams, and that the dews of the Spirit had descended, and they saw the fruits which annually dropped from these boughs. Such was the history of the origin of Bible Societies. Through the exertions of these noble institutions, and of those connected with them, the Scriptures had been circulated, not in hundreds, not in thousands, not even in hundreds of thousands, but in millions of copies throughout the universal world. These Scriptures which were formerly translated into but a few languages of the earth, were now translated into more than 150 languages and dialects; and they were able to say, that at this moment six-sevenths of the whole population of the habitable globe might gather under the boughs of that noble tree which he had described, and might either hear, or read if they had been thought, of the wonderful works of God in their own peculiar tongue. This was, he thought, a subject of congratulation.

MAINE LAW IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

LORD HARRINGTON'S SPEECH—JULY 6th.

My Lords:—The question I am about to put to Her Majesty's government concern the enactment of the Maine Law in Canada and New Brunswick. What is the Maine Law? It is the prohibition of the common sale of alcoholic drinks. The poor and the rich may *drink* what they please, from small beer to imperial Tokey, but the publicans of all denominations are prevented from *selling* these beverages. The promoters of this law have nothing to do with

Puritans, Sabbatarians, or Teetotallers. They are all no doubt honorable men, but we are independent of them. Some say this is a democratic movement. No. The democrats of America are the chief opponents of the law. I shall now read the four questions:—

1st. Whether the Maine Law has passed the legislatures of Canada and New Brunswick? A somewhat similar prohibition of the sale of alcoholic spirits was advocated by the foremost statesmen of this house in 1743, led by the Earl of Chesterfield, who said, "Luxury, my Lords, is to be taxed, but vice prohibited, let the difficulty of the law be what it will. Would you put a tax on the breach of the Ten Commandments? Would not such a tax be wicked and scandalous?"

2nd. Whether the enforcement of the Maine Law in Canada and New Brunswick is approved or disapproved by the parent state?

3rd. Whether both those acts have received Her Majesty's sign manual?

4th. Whether the Maine Law can be put in force in Canada and New Brunswick without the Queen's sign manual?

Now, my Lords, permit me to remind you that all the venerable judges have, on different occasions, declared that inebriety is the prolific source of *crime*—that two thirds of the crimes committed owe their origin directly or indirectly to it. One of the learned judges went still further and said "Gentlemen of the Grand Jury, if it were not for the drunken habits of the people, you and I should have nothing to do." My Lords, if I have said ought that is not true, or exaggerated anything, which would be a degree of untruth, I have said in the presence of some of the most distinguished judges that ever adorned the bench, or graced the seats of this house by their profound statesmanship and forensic eloquence. Let them contradict my statement if they can.

My Lords, one of the greatest writers on criminal jurisdiction—Boccaria,—has said—"Preventive justice is far better than punishing justice." Now my Lords, if that "preventive justice," recommended more than a century back by the Earl of Chesterfield and some of the greatest luminaries of this house, had been put in force, so as to prevent the distillation of spirits, thousands—nay, I may say millions of persons would have been saved from disease, physical tortures, and death—from pauperism, madness, and endless crimes.

My Lords,—I crave your pardon for having trespassing on your attention on a question I fear is opposed to the feeling of this house. I have, however, the consolation to think that the great majority of the people of England and the world are in favor of the Maine Law. So I hope to see that feeling reflected in this house. I venture to prophesy when that will take place. It will take place when the voices of the people are in favor of the law.

My Lords,—I will now mention a memorable event which occurred yesterday. *Ten thousand persons* were congregated in my gardens at Elvaston Castle, to commemorate the passing of the Maine Law at New York.

DO IT YOURSELF, BOYS.

Do not ask the teacher or some classmate to solve that hard problem. Do it yourself. You had better let them eat your dinner than "do your sums" for you. It is in studying as in eating; he that does it, gets the benefit, and not he that sees it done. In almost any school, I would give more for what the teacher learns, than for what the best scholar learns,