MALT MOLD.

It is well known that very dilute vapor of carbolic acid has a most extraordinary antiseptic power. It is quite common at the present day to note this vapor being utilized in offices and laboratories as a definite preventive of ordinary disease, and there is no question as to its efficacy We believe it might be applied with equ success in malt houses, so that the atmos-phere might be considerably purified the nly qualifying statement nec that the growing malt would possibly absorb some of the vapor and become altered in taste. We make the suggestion, however, to our malting readers. since nothing is easier than to gradual evaporation of carbolic acid by keeping a dilute mixture of it at the tem perature of ebullition; it is equally simple to regulate the proportion actually mixing to regulate the proportion actually mixing with the atmosphere of any large build-ing. It is impossible for us to say whether the objections to the use of car-bolic acid vapor would be entirely counterbalanced by the benefits of its notable antiseptic power; but arguing from all that we know of the kiln drying operation, and the passage through malt of heated vapors that must carry amid the transformation products of fuel com bustion many antiseptic constituents, we think that the use of carbolic acid vapor think that the use of carbolic acid vapor for the purpose maned might probably serve a purpose that is not always seen in avidence when relying upon calcic bisul-phite. The atmosphere of the pneumatic house or cylinder is purried by water fil-tration or water washing, and we have now to see whether we cannot accomplish equal purification through the influence of antiseptic agency.

DRINK AND CRIME.

The English Statistics Overthrow a Teetotal Contention.

The report of the directors of English convict prisons, which has just been issued as a parliamentary paper, contains a num-ber of statistics which cannot fail to have a marked effect upon one phase of the a marked enect upon one phase of the controversy between the teetotalers and ourselves. Our opponents are never tired of asserting that the liquor trade is responsible for nine-tenths of existing crime, and on this assertion they base the best part of their plea for the suppression or further restriction of the trade. But though they have been challenged times t of number to make their assertion od they have altogether failed to do so. In fact, so far as we remember, only one of them, Archdeacon Farrar, has seriously attempted the task, and he got so thor oughly mauled in the controversy which followed the publication of his paper re-plying to Mr. Charles Walker's article in the Fortnightly Review that he has for some time subsided into absolute silence So far as the leaders of teetotalism generally are concerned, they seem to call ate that the constant repetition of a false hood will ultimately insure its acceptance as a truth, and that they can therefore afford to dispense with any attempt of This is perhaps a wise monstration. if not very brave course for them to adopt, since the facts are all against them, and every fresh piece of evidence that comes to light only serves to make their case more desperately absurd.

their case more desperately absurd.

The report under notice ought to give the finishing stroke to this particular libel. One of the tables in the report "illustrates the great and progressive decrease in the number of sentences for serious crime" which has taken place during the last couple of generations, and we commend the figures contained in it to all members of the trade. The table shows that the yearly average number of | 20 per cent. of crime can also be done

persons sentenced on indictment to penal servitude in England and Wales during the five years ended December 31, 1859, was 2,589 out of an estimated average population of 19,257,000, or 13.4 convicts to each 100,000 of people. Notwith-standing the steady increase in the popu-lation, the average annual number of per-Notwithsons sentenced in each succeeding of quennial period amounted to 2,800, 1,978, 1,622, 1,633, and 1,427 successively, until 1,622, 1,633, and 1,427 successively, until in the five years ended December 31, 1889, it sank to 945 out of an estimated population of 27,830,172, or 3.4 convicts to each 100,000 of population. In the four years ended December 31, 1893, the average number was only 833 out of an estimated population of 29,224,814, the proportion of convicts to inhabitants fallto 2.8 per 100,000.

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No matter from what point of view how you have regarded, these facts are as gratifying as they are understant, and they stand beyond the each of question or cavil. They have been compiled by independent experts of the highest authority of the property ity, and they show that the most serious offences known to the law have decreased by nearly 80 per cent. in the period men If there were any truth in the teetotal allegation as to a connection between drink and crime, we should expect to find—indeed, we should inevitably find a corresponding decrease in the consumption of intoxicants. As a matter of fact, however, there has been no such decrease whatever. The consumption of alcohol is pretty constant in these realms, and usually remains within the limits of four or five gallons of proof spirit per head of population. As between 1859 and 1893, the tendency has been, if anything, towards a rise in consumption; but without laying stress npon the fact, it is sufficient to say that consumption has not declined. How, then, on the teetotal hypothesis can we possibly account for the heavy decrease in crime between those years? If a consumption of four or five gallons per head "caused" stence of 13.4 convicts per 100,000 population in 1859, how is it me rate of consumption to-day causes the existence of one-fifth of that number of convicts? The question answers itself. The convictions were not "caused" drink at all, and the alleged connection between the two things is a mere fiction of the teetotalers

If we look for the influences which have If we look for the influences which led to the remarkable and gratifying decrease of crime noted by the Prison Directors, we shall be likely enough to find the "causes" of crime. Few will deny we think, that the general diffusion of education has had a large share in producing the good results ve are discuss We believe, also, that the people generally have been lifted to a higher mora level, and their physical surroundings have most certainly been improved all round. They have better, cleaner, hap-pier homes; they have manifold more pier homes; they have manifold more sources of reasonable pleasure at com-mand, such as free libraries and open spaces; and many degrading restrictions nce imposed upon them have been struck off. Each of these influences has had a share in the reduction of crime, and we are, therefore, justified in saying, in a sense, that the absence of these influences was responsible for the deplorable amount of crime which formerly existed. whole of the decrease can be satisfactorily ounted for without reference to the drink question at all, and the facts of the case—the stationary consumption of alco-hol, as against the decrease of criminality noi, as against the decrease of criminanty—show that drink has nothing to do with the matter, and ought to be left out of account in any further reference to crime.

If crime can be reduced by 80 per cent. without the diminution of a single drop in the average consumption of alcohol, it is rational to presume that the remaining

away with—or, at any rate, that crime can be driven down to its irreducible minimum—without the faintest encroachment upon the liquor industry. This is a lesson which the newly-issued report a fesson which the newly-issued report teaches very clearly, and we hope to see it pressed home by the leaders of the trade at every suitable opportunity.— London Licensing World.

THE SOLDIER, THE INDIAN, AND THE WHISKY.

"The way an Indian loves whisky beats every thing," said the soldier. "I beats every thing," said the soldier. "I once met a Cheyenne on his pony. Give me a drink of whisky: I'l give you my bridle for it, says he. No, says I. 'I'l give you my saidle, says he. 'No, says I. 'I'l give you my pony, says he. 'No, says I. Finally, if you'll believe it, he offered his bridle and saidle and the says II'l says I hand, for a fight."

nt, he offered his bride and saddle and pony all in a bunch for a drink!" "Well, and wouldn't you give it to him for all that?" asked the soldier's

"Not much," said the soldier. had only one drink left, and I wanted that myself."

HOTELS AS HOMES.

The tenement house commission ap-pointed by Governor Flower reports, among other things, that the number of among other things, that the number of hotel residents is constantly increasing, while the number of private houses or dwellings is steadily on the decrease when compared with the total population of the city. The total number of dwelling houses in New York is 83,000, and the average number of persons to a house is 18.5. Twenty years ago the average was 14.5. In Brooklyn at present it is 9.8, and in Philadelphia still smaller.

In recent years the tendency has been for people to concentrate in a smaller number of houses through the building of hotels and apartment houses, former dwellings being abandoned to busine factory purposes, says the New York Sun. New York's hotel population has grown each year. The number of hotels in New each year. The number of hotels in New York City is 229, and putting the average number of guests in each at 100, 23,000 is found to be New York's hotel popul-ation. The newer hotels up town have an average much nearer 250 guests than an average much nearer 250 guests chain 100; and, as the big new buildings replace the small old houses, New York City's hotel population increases steadily. hotel population increases steadily.

Many of the new apartment houses, too, are to all intents and purposes hotels, except in name. They do not, it is true, furnish accommodation to transients, but they have separate restaurants, and re-

semble in other respects big hotels.

Among American cities Chicago stands Among American cities Critical which first in respect to the proportion which its transient hotel population bears to the entire population of the city: New York comes second and Boston is third. At the present rate at which hotels are going up in this city it will not be very long before New York surpasses Chicago in this respect, as in every other. Chicago in claims to have 800 hotels now, and dur-ing the World's Fair period claimed to have 1,400. The great majority of these were not hotels, but ordinary houses turned over to hotel uses temporarily. The actual number of bona fide hotels in Chicago is 400, and the reason why the number is so large is that at nearly all seasons Chicago is overrun by runners, seasons Chicago is overrun by runners, who make it their favorite stopping place. The very considerable transient pop-ulation in Beston hotels is due to the fact that a good share of the business of New England is done in the city of Boston, which, is the accepted meeting place of New England men generally. Among other American cities, St. Louis,

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Baltimore, Cincinnati, Buffalo, and New Orleans have a large hotel population.

Philadelphia has a small hotel population, and Brooklyn, for obvious reasons, has the smallest of any American city.

MAYOR OF MINNEAPOLIS HAS AN IDEA.

The so-called temperance people have devised many ways of making people stay sober, but Mayor Eustis has adopted a peculiar and novel scheme which will be watched with interest. are that, like many other well-mean schemes to make people sober by official meddling, it will fail. This is the scheme as stated in the dispatch

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 10th:-Mayor Eus tis has made another improvement in his saloon policy, and this morning put it in to effect. The innovation is along to line of reforming saloonkeepers, and t carry out his plan he will hold a cour carry out ms past ne will hold a conti-martial every morning in his office. The mayor receives daily a report of all drunks arrested in the city, and these reports, besides detailing the offenders circumstances, state the places in which the liquor was secured. He to-day termined to hold some one respon for every drunk arrested, and to carry out will hold daily interviews with sal men in whose places drunkenness habeen reported. He expects that the plan if vigorously prosecuted, will still further tend to make all saloonkeepers prevent disorder or excessive drinking in their

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