

may be increased to \$75, according to the judgment of the Court. I believe the magistrates who hear those cases might, by showing more severity, greatly help the willing men who strive to stop the progress of intemperance. A good beginning would be made, according to me, by obtaining from the Licence Commissioners that they remain unshaken in their determination, once taken, of refusing an hotel licence to those Restaurant-keeper, whose establishments are hotels only by the sign affixed over the door; for, experience has shown that most of those so called hotel-keepers make an abuse of the privileges granted them by law.

The law regulating the closing of restaurants is justly severe; it says that on sundays those places must be completely and absolutely closed. With the obvious intention of evading this law, certain restaurant-keepers have adopted the plan of opening a billiard room next to their bar room; and as billiards are not yet actually prohibited on sunday, they hold that the legislator, who has given them, with their licence, the right of allowing billiard playing, could not have had the intention of depriving them of that right by another law. This pretension having been rejected by the Recorder's Court, they are now appealing to the Superior Court. The Legislature will probably have to interfere, so as to define more clearly the powers of the City Council concerning the prohibition of billiards on sunday.

No less strict is the by-law relating to masters and servants. This by-law imposes imprisonment in each case besides a fine, and the judge has no other alternative to follow. However, nothing shows that this severity has been beneficial to servants in general. Eighty-four times, during 1886, guilty servants have appeared before the Court, and their number, which was 34 in 1885, has thus been increased by 50 in the course of one year. Some female servants have undertaken to become a nightmare to those who cannot dispense with their services. Laziness and love of luxury combined have rendered them more and more exacting and insolent, and those defects in them are only equalled by the unscrupulous manner in which they break their engagements and cause trouble to their masters. Many apprentices and journeymen mechanics are equally guilty in this respect.

A word of advice to masters may not be out of place here.