

6th. Some idea of the amount of these liquors consumed in the United States, notwithstanding the efforts hitherto made, may be gathered from the following figures taken from "Report of the Bureau of Statistics No. 3, 1883-84," and printed in the *Voicer*, January, 15, 1884.

YEAR.	Distilled Liquors Consumed.	Malt Liquors Consumed.	Vinous Liquors Consumed.
	GALLONS.	GALLONS.	GALLONS.
1876.....	59,483,890	308,336,887	20,161,808
1877.....	59,920,118	304,925,667	21,870,330
1878.....	51,937,941	317,969,352	22,263,949
1879.....	54,278,475	344,605,485	24,377,130
1880.....	63,526,694	414,220,165	28,829,541
1881.....	70,607,081	444,112,169	24,162,925
1882.....	73,556,976	526,379,980	25,562,927
1883.....	78,452,687	551,497,340	25,778,180
Average for the first four years.....	56,413,606	318,959,473	22,169,804
Average for the last four years.....	71,535,859	484,052,413	25,955,893
Increase per cent.....	27½	51½	12½

Meantime the population increased in four years twelve per cent. Wine-drinking kept pace with the growth of population. Whiskey-drinking outstripped the growth of population more than two to one, and beer more than four to one.

7th. The annual expense attending the alcoholic drink traffic is estimated at about \$900,000,000. Some portion of this money is spent by rich men. But at least one half is paid by men whose families need the money for the comforts of life. What is paid for diseased organs and a shortened life should have gone to the dealers in furniture, dry-goods, groceries, books, and to carpenters and masons; but because it has not, there are poor-houses to be maintained in every county, charitable institutions calling for aid, and an apparent over-production of goods, but really an under-consumption.

8th. The politics of the country is corrupted and degraded by the influence of the dram-shop. Depraved idlers meet day after day, and the saloon becomes a political club house. "Liquor Dealers' Associations" dot the land, all political, bent on securing privileges for their business. It has been estimated that every saloon controls an average of ten votes. Whatever the number may be, it is immense in the aggregate, and constitutes the "Pretorian Guard" of our time, ready to sell the government to the highest bidder. Of course the saloon is the hunting ground of demagogues. At present this rate is divided between the republican and democratic parties, both bidding for it; the democratic "resolving" in opposition to Prohibition with a "brutal frankness," the republicans saying less, but accomplishing more.

Look at the spectacle! In this last quarter of the nineteenth century, under a Christian civilization, we have a gigantic syndicate for the promotion of alcoholism. It consists of the brewers, distillers and dealers to the number of 202,262, united by a common interest, and by formal organization. This syndicate commands a capital estimated at \$1,200,000,000—invested in breweries, distilleries and dram-shops, altogether constituting an enormous machinery for the manufacture, sale and supply of poisoned drinks. The results are that somewhere from 50,000 to 75,000 citizens are murdered every year. Some of them poisoned to death by their own hand, others, not only wives and children, sinking under cruelty and neglect, and still others the victims of drunken employes or murderous maniacs. These results are as certain as that a battle will result in wounds and death. One is appalled at the spectacle of from five to seven millions of men, women and children systematically poisoning themselves, producing diseases which ensure a miserable life and a premature death, not to speak of a wretched eternity; while the process is aided and encouraged for money by some of their fellow-citizens with the consent, if not the approval of society.

On the way to this final result, the murder of some tens of thousands of citizens, we meet a group of lesser horrors, leading up to and culminating in this fatal catastrophe. This alcoholic syndicate have it for their business to make criminals. At least seventy-five per cent (good authorities say ninety) of the criminals of this country are made by the dram-shop and its associations. The same is true of the paupers. These two classes are the expensive classes. A sober, industrious, law-abiding citizen costs the state nothing; on the contrary, he supports the state. A pauper costs the state about \$75 a year; a criminal, anywhere from \$100 to \$20,000. Seventy-five per cent of the enormous cost of police, criminal courts and prisons is a part of the tax the American people pay year by year to maintain the alcoholic syndicate.

Meantime society in all its ongoings is deranged. The efforts of the church and the school are largely defeated, business is feverish and uncertain, due to wide-spread recklessness induced by drink, and to the fact that hundreds of millions of dollars every year that should be expended for comforts and better homes, are worse than thrown away. Labor suffers in many ways. Disorder and lawlessness are promoted. Politics and politicians are corrupted. The state reels.

But the most horrible fact remains to be named. The government, which should protect the people against foreign and domestic foes, is a partner in this infernal syndicate. It takes the lion's share of the profits, but it lends to the system its lion's strength. It will allow none but the members of the syndicate to make a gallon of whiskey, and for every gallon it insists on having ninety cents. It watches its partners with an eagle eye, and at large expense, to get that ninety cents. It will accommodate its partners, make extensions, "carry the product" for a rise, but eventually it gets the ninety cents. It deals more gently with the brewing interest, exacts less money, only one dollar a barrel, and is on most friendly terms with this branch of the monopoly. The Brewers' Congress, which has its session every year, is generally favored with the pres-

ence of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue or a representative from his office. "A Republican Brewer," appealing through the columns of the *New York Tribune*, of Oct. 11th, 1884, to his fellow brewers to support Mr. Blaine, says: "Our national organization is twenty-four years old. During all these years the republicans have been in power in national affairs, and I submit to every candid brewer, be he democrat or be he republican, if the brewing interests of our country have not grown to immense proportions; if our rights and our interests have not been protected, fostered and encouraged by our government." No one with the figures before him can doubt it. It is impossible to imagine how any party could have done better. During these twenty-four years under the careful fostering of the republican administration the amount of beer consumed has steadily grown from 62,205,375 gallons in 1863 to 588,957,189 gallons in 1884.

Review these facts. The alcohol syndicate, with enormous capital, substantial unity, with from 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 of votes at its command, engaged in its destructive and murderous work, is made a partner and fiscal agent of the general government. Through it about \$90,000,000 a year are collected, largely from the misery of drunkard's families. Politicians, men in office, aspirants for office, editors of party journals, unite in the assertion that terms must be made with this monopoly. To prohibit in any effective way is impossible. Whoever demands that this abomination shall be swept away is a "fanatic." Many ministers even are willing to wait indefinitely, or until the republican and democratic parties get ready for Prohibition. They seem afraid of any movements looking toward a disturbance of present conditions.

We, therefore, "appeal unto Cæsar." From all these we turn to the people and say to the farmer and mechanic, and to all honest citizens: "On which side are you?" Wholesale murder and ruin are going on in the land without effectual hindrance from the sworn guardians of the people. Are you in favor of it? There are only two sides to the question. It is as true of this as of any other practical question that "he that is not with me is against me."

Grant, for the sake of argument, that it is true our cities are helpless in the grip of the dram-shop and its sympathizers. The country is not. The dram-shop does not dominate the farms. If it be true that our cities are weighted with vice until the scales incline that way, then by all means let every patriotic citizen bestir himself, and lose no time. There is then no hope but in a party, which will combine the virtuous minority of the cities with the virtuous majority of the country, and administer the government upon the best principles under the circumstances. Viewed in every light, no matter how good or how bad the laws, no matter how many or how few good citizens there may be in a given town, THE SUPREME POLITICAL WANT IS THE UNION OF GOOD CITIZENS IN ONE SOLID, ABIDING POLITICAL PARTY. Such a party can be formed only upon some great moral principle like Prohibition, which has also its economic and political sides. It can grow only as it steadily clings to its purpose and its organization, making no trades, forming no fusions, suffering defeats and bearing reproach until the slowly moving masses are stirred to intelligent action.

And what hinders the formation of this party? The conditions are favorable for the growth of a reform party. No party can form in a free, intelligent community except as it grows from a vital moral truth, an issue so large and so practical as to embrace a national policy. We have such an issue. It is not a vague proposition, liable to be set aside. It is exactly applicable to the case. Its vitality is tested by years of attack. No other question is pressing, the settlement of which will in any way interfere with this.

We "appeal unto Cæsar." We hope and expect nothing from those who consider the maintenance of a certain party or the election of a certain man, a question of mere consequence than the settlement of this question: "Do the people want Prohibition?" But we turn with confidence to the rank and file. We remind them that this issue presses; no other does. The Prohibition party has won for itself a place, and is here to stay. Whatever becomes of other parties it proposes to test this question before the great jury of the American people. All efforts to dodge the question we propose to resist, and to urge the people of this country to range themselves on one side or the other: For the dram shop or against it? On which side are you?

It is a colossal inconsistency to work and pray for the suppression of the liquor traffic, and still use the elective franchise, the supreme act of the citizen, in favor of parties which have built up this liquor monopoly to its present proportions. Remember the inconsistency of to-day becomes the wickedness of to-morrow.

The Campaign Everywhere.

GREY.—Mr. McMillan informs us that the Scott Act petitions will be deposited in the office of the sheriff on Saturday, the 28th inst. Ten days afterwards they go to Ottawa. The date of voting will then be fixed by the Governor-General. No step is taken now without legal advice. The county is thoroughly organized. Many who were in doubt about the matter during the summer are now satisfied the Act is a good one and will vote for it.—*Meaford Monitor*.

ONTARIO.—The requisite number of signatures have been obtained to the Scott Act petition for this county, and it has been deposited in the registry office at Whitby.

A convention for the South Riding was held at the town named on the 19th inst., when final arrangements were made for the campaign, and a great deal of enthusiasm evinced.

On Friday, the 20th, there was a convention for the North Riding at the village of Uxbridge, very largely attended, favorable reports were received and plans laid for vigorous work. A mass meeting was held in the evening at which a very large number were