

ince—they are resolute, persevering men—and they will not be balked), and in New Brunswick. Shall it not be simultaneously accomplished here?

As to the practicability and effect of the measure, take the Hon. N. B. Dow's testimony, given at the last Annual Meeting of the American Temperance Union.

"You may go up and down the State of Maine, and not find a place where liquors are exposed for sale. The wholesale trade in Maine stopped instantly, upon the passage of this law."

I may remark here, that one of the distillers, whose establishment was thus closed was afterwards so pleased with the beneficial operation of the law, that he declared, if he had ten distilleries, each worth \$10,000, he would willingly give them up, to secure such excellent results. That man deserves a niche in the temple of Fame!

Let us hear Mr. Dow further. "*The retail trade is now as disreputable as picking pockets or stealing sheep.*" An action for libel would lie against a man for calling another 'rumseller,' as quickly as for the other. Intemperance ceased almost immediately, and the begging and wretchedness consequent upon it. They fined the rumseller instead of the drunkard, and filled the lock-ups, of which there are eighteen in Portland, which were full under the old law, with barrels and demijohns, instead of men. Every respectable man quit the business when it became unlawful."

It may be said that Mr. Dow is a partisan, and that he will necessarily speak in favour of his own scheme. We can obtain information from other quarters.

Do you ask, what have been the effects of the law in reference to *crime*? Crime has been reduced 38 per cent in Lowell, 30 per cent in Springfield, and even three-fourths in some other places. At Burlington, and other places in Vermont, the jails have been emptied.

Does your inquiry relate to *pauperism*? At Portland, the amount levied for the relief of the poor has been lowered from five dollars to one—or in that proportion.

Do you ask about *industry*? The contractors on the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Railroad inform us that whereas before the passing of the law they could not rely on

more than two-thirds of any given number of men, because the remainder would be away drinking, they can now depend on from 45 to 48 out of 50.

Is *taxation* the object of inquiry? At Fairfield, Maine, a town of 2100 inhabitants, there were eighteen dram-shops. Fourteen of them were closed as soon as the law went into operation; the constables used their peculiar methods of persuasion in closing the others. And now for the fruits. The pauper-tax has been reduced from \$1100 to \$300. And what have the men of Fairfield done with this saving? They have added \$600 to their school-fund. The people of Fairfield are "wise in their generation."

Once more. Is it asked, what have been the effects on *peace and order*? The experience of the town of Augusta may be adduced. The police of that town used to be called out a hundred nights in the year. In six months after the law taking effect, they had not been called out once.

At Agricultural Associations, and public gatherings in general, intemperance formerly prevailed to a great extent. Governor Wright of Indiana attended the last State Fair in Vermont, and expressed his great surprise that during the two days of the fair he had not seen one man drunk. How was that? The Vermont Liquor Law had recently taken effect.

These few cases are specimens of hundreds of the like kind that might have been produced.

We do not say that the race of drunkards will be altogether abolished by a prohibitory liquor law. We do not say that there will not be found men determined to perpetuate that race, at all risk, whatever it may cost, and whatever ruin it may bring down upon their fellow creatures. We do not say that rum will not find its way into certain holes and corners, and that depraved beings will not creep into those holes and corners to drink it—even as thieves and murderers perpetrate their deeds of infamy under cover of the darkness. But we do say that, it will be a great thing to drive intoxicating liquors into concealment, and to make it disgraceful to use them. As one has justly remarked—

"Take away the lawfulness of the traffic, and that moment its respectability goes along with it."