

never be licensed more than other and physical and moral evils, but always be checked and suppressed, so far as possible; that as the men of Lexington and Concord, from behind every stone-wall, fence and tree, battled the retreating foe, so we, at all times, and under all circumstances, will give it no quarter, but, licensed or unlicensed, coming with the King's authority, or a lawless pirate, will pursue it with the hot fires of indignation till it is expelled forever.

"7. *Resolved*, That the friends of temperance in every State are earnestly exhorted to renew and strengthen their various organizations; that all ministers and churches are respectfully invited to co-operate with us in our great work; that female influence is everywhere needed and most highly valued, and that every Home should be a Maine law to itself, carefully excluding all intoxicating beverages from under its roof, till temperance and abstinence shall have the same strong hold of the family as purity and truth, regard for God and the great interests of eternity."

During the recent debate in the City Council on granting a liquor license to the Saloon near the Theatre, Alderman Barry stated (as reported in the *Sun*) that Mr Stewart, the person who applied for the license, had said that if it were refused "he would sell in defiance of the law."

This lawlessness is characteristic of liquor vendors, whether in towns, villages, or at the creeks and harbours on the coast. No dealers in other articles are so distinguished. Alcohol, like slavery, degrades both parties, the victimizer and the victim; the former becomes a fiend, the latter a brute; neither can escape the curse.

When our opponents taunt us with the "failure" of the Maine Law, they forget that all laws are liable, in some degree, to failure, since every crime is an act "in defiance of the law"; and they choose to keep out of sight the fact just adverted to, that this opposition to legal restraint is the special distinction of rum-sellers. The traffic exerts a demoralizing influence on all who are engaged in it. He who will not scruple, for a little paltry gain, to deprive a fellow-being of his self-control and plunge him in wretchedness, is not likely to reverence human legislation. Hence the ferocity by which these men are sometimes marked, and the terror they inspire. They live in open violation of the law of the land: reeling victims are seen to issue every day from their dens; yet they transgress with impunity. Their neighbours are afraid to bring them to justice, lest they should themselves pay a fearful penalty, in the

destruction of property or life. So near are we to barbarism, even in Nova Scotia!

What is the remedy? The reform and elevation of public sentiment. When the grog-shop shall be declared and treated as a public nuisance, and the drunkard-maker held unworthy of civil rights, unfit to associate with honourable men, society will assume a just position. That such a traffic should be regarded as lawful, in any sense, or deserving existence in a community called christian, is an infatuation most deeply to be deplored.

SUGGESTIONS.—Dr Guthrie of Edinburgh, in a recent volume of sermons on "The City—its Sins and Sorrows," offers the following suggestions:—

1. Until a law is passed, suppressing dram-shops altogether, public-houses should be compelled to shut at six o'clock.
2. All places open for the mere purpose of drinking should be declared illegal.
3. All drunkards should be declared lunatics and dealt with as such.
4. The publican should be compelled to share in the responsibility of whatever is done by a man who has been made drunk on his premises.
5. Those who create poverty should be made to bear the burden of it.

SIGNIFICANT.—The *Scottish Temperance League* has proved itself a powerful and serviceable combination. Great good has resulted from its efforts, more particularly from the excellent publications, comprising books as well as periodicals and tracts, issued under its auspices—As yet, however, "prohibition" has not been viewed with favour. But a change has now taken place. The *Weekly Journal*, which is the organ of the League, writes thus, indicating its "future policy":—

"We have maturely considered the views of those who repudiate any legislation which stops short of prohibition, and deliberately come to a conclusion different from theirs.—We have accepted of the Forbes Mackenzie Act as an instalment. We will accept and demand other changes of a similar character, as soon as, by our own efforts, and those of other associations, the country is prepared for receiving them, believing that every enactment of this kind is both good in itself, and will make our further progress easier and more rapid. The abolition of slavery was preceded by the abolition of the slave trade, and numerous acts designed to benefit the slave, the inefficiency of which, more perhaps than anything else, aided in promoting the abolition of slavery. The corn laws were preceded by the occasional opening of the ports, and a sliding scale, and all similar changes, by similar introductory measures, at

once exhibiting the progress of opinion and furthering it. As in the past, so in the future, we purpose to act on these broad principles, not from any morbid fear of change, but because we are convinced that the path on which we now are, is the one best fitted for securing the ends which we pursue. On the one hand, our utmost efforts will be put forth to get the community over to abstinence principles, convinced, that on this, all successful legislation must rest; and, on the other, every influence will be used to secure legislation in favour of temperance principles, wherever that is practicable and safe. These explanations made, we feel that the position of the League will be fully understood, and its conduct in any given case, safely calculated upon."

This is encouraging. Thoughtful men are everywhere adopting the same course. They find that they cannot consistently do otherwise.

In the Intelligence Department of this number our readers will find copious extracts from the *Prohibitionist* and the Report of the *American Temperance Union*. Our purpose in selecting them was to furnish a fair and comprehensive view of the state of the cause in the neighbouring Union, respecting which a large amount of misconception prevails in certain quarters.

The friends of temperance will rejoice to learn that the Hon. S. L. Tilley, the New Brunswick champion, is again in office. A change of Government has taken place, and he is re-appointed Provincial Secretary.

HALIFAX.

A meeting of the members of the Order was held in the Division Room, Temperance Hall, on Saturday evening, 13th June. Brother Shean, D. G. W. P., presiding, and the Grand Scribe acting as Secretary. The object of the meeting was to consider the propriety of requesting the City Council *not* to grant a license to the parties intending to keep a Saloon in a building recently erected, and adjoining the Theatre, Spring Gardens. After some conversation, a draft of a Memorial—setting forth the views of those present, and requesting the Council to refuse a license to the occupant of the building referred to—was submitted by P. G. W. P. Thompson, and unanimously adopted. Brother Joseph Bell, a member of the Council, was requested to present the Memorial to that Body.

The City Council met on the afternoon