

again, when proper effort might have saved them from such a resort, and also to invite applications from others who can get along without it." "Even now, in some towns, a large proportion of the out-door relief—sometimes one-half—is distributed to those who stand in no need of it, and is, therefore, worse than wasted." "While nominally occasional and temporary, it becomes in a large proportion of cases continuous and permanent." One application is often followed by another as certainly as new moons are to come. To some, though not to an equal extent, it has the same demoralizing effect as life in an almshouse." The secretary estimates that at least three-fifths of the total sum paid in out-door relief goes to permanent paupers.

As to the public dole the testimony now is well-nigh unanimous. Six years ago Brooklyn, N. Y., was distributing \$100,000 yearly in this way. It was then cut off in the middle of winter, without warning and without any substitute being provided; "and the result was—nothing." Thereafter fewer people were found in the almshouse than at any time for ten years.

Previous to 1880 Philadelphia spent annually \$50,000 to \$80,000 on the dole. The dole was then abolished, and, although the population of the city has increased, the number of in-door poor, for whom provision is still made, has diminished.

The State Board of Charities of New York in its report of last winter, declares that "it has been proved that out-door relief is not only useless as a means of relieving actual suffering, but is an ac-

tive means of increasing present and future want and vice."

Mr. Seth Low, of Brooklyn, in a paper recently read before the Conference of Charities in Chicago, thus sums up the situation:

"1. Out-door relief by the authorities in a large city is certain to become a political thing. 2. Aid so given goes almost entirely to those who can get along without. 3. Private benevolence is equal to the demands of the really needy. 4. Value should never be given (except in great emergencies, and then only while the emergency lasts) without securing some labor or service in return. 5. The condition of the poor can be improved only by helping them to help themselves."

The Rev. Stopford A. Brooke, in an address lately delivered in Bedford Chapel, London, states the case strongly, and his remarks apply to this country as well as to Great Britain:

"There are but two remedies for poverty which are in actual working order. There are but two national movements against it which are active, eager, which know what they mean and do it, which attack directly the worst of all the causes of poverty. One is national education, and that goes on. Its work on the causes of poverty is indirect. It needs no sacrifice on your part, save that of your tendency to complain when the education rate is increased. The other is the total abstinence movement. Its attack on the worst cause of poverty is direct. It is national. When 4,000,000 have joined it, I may well call it national. It does demand sacrifice, and for that reason I recommend it to you. Among all our troubles, among all our coming woes and trials, beneath this sky-darkening down without and within—face to face as we shall soon be with all the elements of revolution—from whose outburst God protect us!—let us be one of those who have joined this one clear-headed national movement against the worst cause of poverty; who are doing what is absolutely right against the wrong, and in behalf of the misery of England."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Which is Right?

"THE HOMILETIC REVIEW for 1884, page 841 says in Maine . . . the revenue return of sales is a blank. The *Tribune* (April 9, 1885), says, Internal Revenue licenses for retail dealing issued in Maine last year were 1,046. Can these statements both be true? If not, which is right?"

"*Beverly, Mass.*"

"S. W. EDDY.

The statement in the *REVIEW*, as will be seen by a closer reading, referred to the sales of malt liquors. It was based

on a table published by the *Brewers' Journal* of August, 1884, and refers to sales made by brewers, not of course to sales made by secret grog-shops, for which no official figures can be had. The revenue returns confirm the statement, and go still further, showing that not only the breweries, but the distilleries, have been entirely wiped out of Maine. The *Tribune's* assertion (made