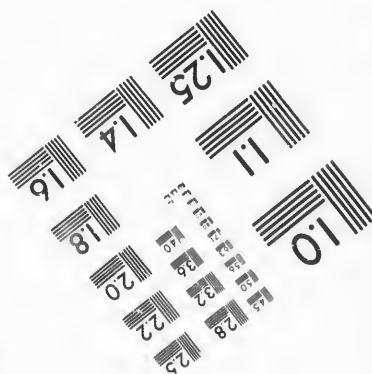
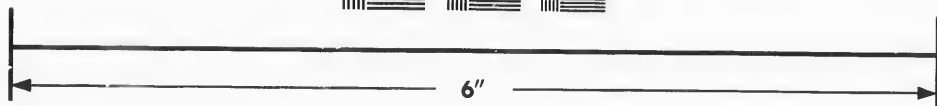
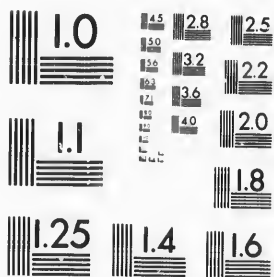


**IMAGE EVALUATION
TEST TARGET (MT-3)**



**Photographic
Sciences
Corporation**

23 WEST MAIN STREET
WEBSTER, N. Y. 14580
(716) 872-4503

1.5
1.8
2.0
2.2
2.5
2.8
3.2
3.6
4.0

**CIHM/ICMH
Microfiche
Series.**

**CIHM/ICMH
Collection de
microfiches.**



Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions / Institut canadien de microreproductions historiques

1.0

© 1987

Technical and Bibliographic Notes/Notes techniques et bibliographiques

The Institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for filming. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of filming, are checked below.

L'Institut a microfilmé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de filmage sont indiqués ci-dessous.

- Coloured covers/
Couverture de couleur
- Covers damaged/
Couverture endommagée
- Covers restored and/or laminated/
Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée
- Cover title missing/
Le titre de couverture manque
- Coloured maps/
Cartes géographiques en couleur
- Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black)/
Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire)
- Coloured plates and/or illustrations/
Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur
- Bound with other material/
Relié avec d'autres documents
- Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion along interior margin/
La reliure serrée peut causer de l'ombre ou de la distorsion le long de la marge intérieure
- Blank leaves added during restoration may appear within the text. Whenever possible, these have been omitted from filming/
Il se peut que certaines pages blanches ajoutées lors d'une restauration apparaissent dans le texte, mais, lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont pas été filmées.
- Additional comments:/
Commentaires supplémentaires:

- Coloured pages/
Pages de couleur
- Pages damaged/
Pages endommagées
- Pages restored and/or laminated/
Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées
- Pages discoloured, stained or foxed/
Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées
- Pages detached/
Pages détachées
- Showthrough/
Transparence
- Quality of print varies/
Qualité inégale de l'impression
- Includes supplementary material/
Comprend du matériel supplémentaire
- Only edition available/
Seule édition disponible
- Pages wholly or partially obscured by errata slips, tissues, etc., have been refilmed to ensure the best possible image/
Les pages totalement ou partiellement obscurcies par un feuillet d'errata, une pelure, etc., ont été filmées à nouveau de façon à obtenir la meilleure image possible.

This item is filmed at the reduction ratio checked below/
Ce document est filmé au taux de réduction indiqué ci-dessous.

10X	14X	18X	22X	26X	30X
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12X	16X	20X	24X	28X	32X

The copy filmed here has been reproduced thanks to the generosity of:

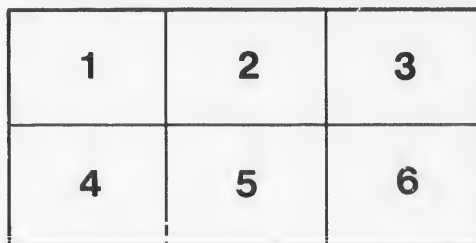
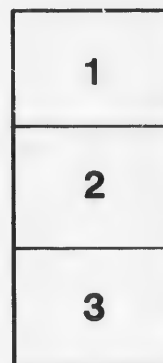
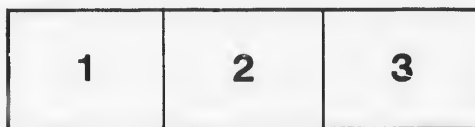
The Nova Scotia
Legislative Library

The images appearing here are the best quality possible considering the condition and legibility of the original copy and in keeping with the filming contract specifications.

Original copies in printed paper covers are filmed beginning with the front cover and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression, or the back cover when appropriate. All other original copies are filmed beginning on the first page with a printed or illustrated impression, and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression.

The last recorded frame on each microfiche shall contain the symbol \rightarrow (meaning "CONTINUED"), or the symbol ∇ (meaning "END"), whichever applies.

Maps, plates, charts, etc., may be filmed at different reduction ratios. Those too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom, as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method:



L'exemplaire filmé fut reproduit grâce à la générosité de:

The Nova Scotia
Legislative Library

Les images suivantes ont été reproduites avec le plus grand soin, compte tenu de la condition et de la netteté de l'exemplaire filmé, et en conformité avec les conditions du contrat de filmage.

Les exemplaires originaux dont la couverture en papier est imprimée sont filmés en commençant par le premier plat et en terminant soit par la dernière page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration, soit par le second plat, selon le cas. Tous les autres exemplaires originaux sont filmés en commençant par la première page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration et en terminant par la dernière page qui comporte une telle empreinte.

Un des symboles suivants apparaîtra sur la dernière image de chaque microfiche, selon le cas: le symbole \rightarrow signifie "A SUIVRE", le symbole ∇ signifie "FIN".

Les cartes, planches, tableaux, etc., peuvent être filmés à des taux de réduction différents. Lorsque le document est trop grand pour être reproduit en un seul cliché, il est filmé à partir de l'angle supérieur gauche, de gauche à droite, et de haut en bas, en prenant le nombre d'images nécessaire. Les diagrammes suivants illustrent la méthode.

at
o-
n.

A FEW REMARKS

on the Danger of giving greater facilities to Distillation, as testified by
past experience,

AND

An Appeal to the Public,

FOR CO-OPERATION IN THE

TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT,

IN AN ADDRESS TO MR. WILSON, DISTILLER, N. S.

and respectfully submitted to the perusal of the Honorable Members of the
Provincial Legislature, and the Distillers and Venders of
Strong Drinks in the Province of Nova Scotia.

BY

RICHARD G. HALLS,

TEMPERANCE LECTURER, AND D. M. W. P. SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

HALIFAX, N. S.

PRINTED BY W. CUNNABELL, No. 3, CONNORS' WHARF.

1848.

NS

178.04

H

To MR. WILSON,

Sir,—Having just perused your letter as published in the Acadian Recorder of December 11th, 1847, I am induced to offer a few observations upon it, and to put a few questions to you concerning the traffic in which you are engaged, and for the benefit of which you claim the protection of the Legislative Assembly of this Province. If I understand the tenor of your epistle aright, you would wish that the present trifling duty on the article which you manufacture should be taken off, in order that you might be able to compete with the Distillers of other Countries. Now, Sir, you have lived longer in the world than I have, and doubtless you have not passed through it with your eyes shut;—I gather too from your letter that you have read a good deal, I would therefore ask in all sincerity, from what you have seen and from what you have read of the influence of inebriating drinks upon the communities where they have become general, are you prepared to state that the business in which you are engaged is one which *deserves* the sanction of *any*, much less a *Christian* Legislature, as having a tendency to increase the comforts, and promote the moral, physical and religious improvement of society? This, Sir, is a plain, straightforward question, and demands an honest, straightforward and unequivocal reply. You cannot be ignorant that there is a vast amount of moral and physical evil existing in the world, and that the attention of the British Legislature has been more than once called to the subject. Thousands of pounds have been expended in collecting evidence upon it, and persons the most eminently qualified to judge of the matter, both by their positions in society and the opportunities they have had for extensive observation have been subpoenaed as evidences;—nor can you be ignorant of the unanimous decision to which these persons have come, that to the use of such articles as you manufacture is to be attributed nine tenths of all the crime, poverty and disease which afflicts our land. This evidence comes from Judges, Sheriffs, Ministers, Physicians, Poor Law Commis-

2414

sioners, Gaolers, Keepers of Lunatic Asylums, &c., &c., and to it you, Sir, and every man or woman who reads this may add your joint testimonies, and, if those testimonies are honestly given, they will corroborate the statement given by the above eminent individuals. Now, Sir, this being admitted,—and the fact cannot be denied, it seems exceedingly strange that you should be so very desirous of having all this laid at your door, and envious of the Distillers of other Countries because they come in for their share of the *honor* of demoralizing and impoverishing the people of Nova Scotia. But, it is evident that the £. s. d. has more weight with you than the happiness or prosperity of the people. You wish a greater license to be given to you in order that you might increase your business. If the duty were taken off you would be able to supply Rum at a cheaper rate; being supplied at a cheaper rate (as *experience* has proved, which I shall by and by show) more of the Soul-destroying, God-defying poison would be drunk, and the greater would be your worldly prosperity. Self interest is therefore your ruling principle as is plainly exhibited in the letter before me, although you seem anxious to have it believed that you are actuated by a desire to benefit the community. You seem unwilling to admit, that a decrease in price would tend to increase the sale, but as “*Experience is the best schoolmaster,*” I shall take the liberty of differing from you, yet not without showing you my reasons for so doing. In the United Kingdom in 1826 nearly one half of the duty on Spirits was taken off, and the consequence was that the consumption was nearly doubled.—This continued for 5 or 6 years and the effects were seen in the *increased taxation* in the shape of “*poor rates.*” In 1825 the poor rates amounted to £5,786,989, which increased every year until in 1831 it reached £6,798,888 sterling, showing an increase of *one million, eleven thousand eight hundred and ninety nine pounds!!* Its effects in producing crime were exactly similar, for in the six years previous to the reduction of duty the number of criminal offences were 93,432, in the latter six, when the duty was reduced, they numbered 128,010, being an increase of 24,578!! The number of convicts were for the former period 20,615, which in the latter had increased to 31,432, an increase of *Ten thousand, eight hundred and seventeen!!* The expenses of the police courts had likewise increased from £292,112 to £478,365 sterling, or nearly double the amount. These statistics substantiate the evidence laid before the select Committee of the House of Commons, that “*crime and pauperism has increased in the same proportion to the increased consumption of distilled spirits, and prove to a demonstration that the greater the facility for procuring strong drinks, the greater the demoralization of the people.*” The following report of the Police offices in Dublin, for four years, in two of which (1812-13) distillation was prohibited will present this in a more forcible light.

1811	Stills at work, - - - - -	10,737 prisoners.
1812	} Distillation from corn prohibited,	9,908! “
1813		8,985!! “
1814	Stills in full work, - - - - -	10,243!!! “

If giving greater facilities to the people for procuring inebriating compounds will not cause a greater consumption of the article, and will not tend to increase the taxation of, and crime in the country, allow me to ask, how is it that after the Beer Bill in England came into operation when the duty on it was taken off, that the consumption of that article

was nearly doubled? And again allow me to enquire, how was it that crime increased at so fearful a rate? It appears from Lord Melbourne's statement, that from the year 1821 to 1827 the increase of crime was at the rate of *twelve* per cent; whereas from the year 1827 to 1833 it had increased at the rate of 31 per cent: *and it was during the latter period that the opening of the Beer trade and the reduction in the duty on Spirits took place*, (Parliamentary Evid: p. 162.) The same effect has been produced in most of our Colonial Possessions where facilities have been afforded for procuring strong liquors. Stephens in his South Australia (which country you have quoted,) has these words, "pray tell whoever thinks of coming out here that they must make up their minds to be sober, for liquor being so cheap here it is the destruction of so many it is quite dreadful." And Sir Wm. Molesworth, speaking of Sydney, in Australia, says: "To dwell here is much the same as inhabiting the lowest purlieus of St. Giles's, where drunkenness and shameless profligacy are not more apparent than in the Capital of Australia." "The consumption of spirituous liquors in that Colony," remarks Dr. Lang, "is fearful in the extreme, and forms the greatest barrier to its improvement and success." "More immorality prevails in Sydney than in any other town of the same size in the British dominions," and it is here that Stephens tells us spirits are so cheap.

Colonel Bouchette, in his B. N. America, speaking of P. E. Island, says: "The facility for obtaining ardent Spirits, and the free use made of them, operates here as in all our other colonies, as a serious drawback on their morality and prosperity." I might go on to enumerate many other colonies where the same effects have been produced by the establishment of distilleries in the country, but shall content myself with those already named, merely reminding you and my reader that in Australia distillation was originally permitted in order to encourage agriculture, the awful consequences of which have been above noticed. Since, then, I have proved, from undeviable evidence, that lowering the rate of duty tends to increase the consumption of the article, and that where that increased consumption takes place, crime and poverty as naturally follow as effects follow causes, I shall proceed to show its effects as exhibited by our Bills of Mortality, and thus further prove it to be equally destructive to the lives as it is to the virtue and happiness of the population. Turning to the London Bills of Mortality, we find that the number of deaths and burials in the Metropolis correspond with the Consumption of Spirituous Liquors: that every increase of consumption is attended with a corresponding increase of adult and infant mortality, and on the other hand a diminution of the consumption of alcoholic drinks is followed in a proportionate degree by a diminution of the number of deaths. The Bills of Mortality in 1729 rose to 29,722 in consequence of the unwise enactment to extend the traffic in strong drink. To remedy this the government interposed a check by increasing the duty: the consumption was consequently diminished and in the year following the mortality was only 26,761, being a decrease of 2961; whilst in 1732 it had diminished to 23,358, showing a decrease of 6364. In this year the increased duty was repealed and the mortality immediately increased to 29,233!! Similar results took place in 1742-3 and 1751-2. A striking illustration however in the rise and fall of mortality as dependant upon the consumption of strong drinks occurred in the years 1757-8. In 1757 the

morta
fell to
1800
was s
in a t
were
four.
year t
980 m
The

year
1803
1804
1808
1809
1815
1814
1825
1826
Nov
and p
cility
tion, a
tion, a
far from
this Pr
ther, o
than b
so des
by a de
as it w
but as
which,
flood g
It may
but wi
means
stances
workm
ties to
spect.
nually
there:
mense
profuse
the hist

mortality was 21,313, in 1758, when distillation was suspended, it fell to 17,520, being a decrease in one year of 3793. The mortality in 1800 was 23,068, in 1801 when in consequence of scarcity distillation was suspended, it sunk to 19,376, being a decrease of 3692 and that too in a time of great destitution! In the city of Glasgow, in 1821, there were 3686 deaths: in 1822 there were 3690, being an increase of only four. In 1823 the *low duties* on Spirits began to operate, and that year the deaths amounted to 4627 and in 1824 it rose to 4670, being 950 more than in 1822.

DR. SEWALL.

The following Table will set this in a still clearer light:

year	British Spirits	Rum.	Malt Liquor.	Total No. of gallons.	Mort. of Eng. & Wales.	Increase of Dths.	Decrease of Dths.
1803	5,353,309	2,573,602	7,243,344	15,170,255	203,728	—	—
1804	3,678,679	1,508,999	7,045,193	12,232,871	181,177	—	22,551
1808	5,384,394	2,174,751	7,281,603	14,840,748	200,713	—	—
1809	6,000,340	2,160,635	7,195,920	9,986,885	191,471	—	9,242
1815	1,621,191	3,644,650	6,839,705	10,045,546	186,477	—	—
1814	4,033,709	3,332,188	7,056,744	14,442,638	206,403	19,926	—
1825	5,605,332	1,950,807	7,956,414	13,622,453	255,018	—	—
1826	7,407,204	3,082,033	8,110,042	19,894,279	268,161	13,143	—

Now, Sir, I appeal to your honesty, whether evidence such as this now produced is not com-atory of the facts, that the greater the facility for procuring these deleterious liquids, the greater the consumption, and the greater the consumption the greater the amount of taxation, and the number of deaths in the country; and if this be true, so far from your business *demanding protection* from the Legislature of this Province, it is one which calls loudly for being *put down altogether, and no greater benefit could be conferred on the community than by prohibiting the importation and manufacture of an article so destructive to human happiness and life.* Your argument, that by a decrease of duty a great public benefit would be derived inasmuch as it would give a greater amount of employment, would, if true, be but as “a fly upon the chariot wheel” when compared to the miseries which, as has been proved, inevitably flow from setting open such a flood gate of iniquity. But, Sir, the assertion is *any thing but truth.* It may, it is true, cause you to employ a greater number of individuals, but will that article which these men assist in manufacturing, be the means of raising the majority of our population into better circumstances, and cause the *useful* tradesmen to employ a greater number of workmen? No, Sir, History falsifies the assertion that affording facilities to distillation promotes the well being of a community in any respect. You may say that it will cause hundreds of pounds to flow annually into the Provincial Treasury, more than is at present deposited there: but, Sir, will that paltry consideration compensate for the immense evils which will result from such mistaken policy? History is profuse in examples of the dire effects of such a political measure, and the history of Distillation itself is a “*Record of carnage, a chronicle*

of blood." Is it the business of the Legislature simply to see how fast they can fill the provincial chest, without regard to the welfare of the community over which they preside? or is it not their duty to look upon the people as individual members of one large family, over whom they have the headship, and endeavour by every possible means to enhance their temporal and spiritual Interests? This, Sir, is the plain path of duty marked out by the pen of Deity,—but, acting upon your advice, they would be giving a still greater license to Intemperance, and soon swell the number of victims at the annual *auto da fe* of the Distiller and his allies from 60,000 to 120,000. Take up whatever paper we will, our hearts sicken at the recital of the horrid carnage which is continually perpetrated by the use of the article which you manufacture, Ardent Spirits. "The bottle has slain more than the sword," says a late eminent writer. Aye, Sir, *it has slain more than the sword, plague, pestilence and famine united.* By its use, tens of thousands have been plunged headlong into physical diseases, moral debasement, domestic discord and misery,—temporal and eternal destruction. Through its use health has been sapped and destroyed,—connexions the most dear have been ruptured, personal character blasted, and the homes of thousands crowded with want and sorrow; yea, sorrow the most poignant and palpable. The history of Distillation, like Ezekiel's roll, is "*written within and without,*" "*Lamentation and mourning and woe.*" Need we confirmation of this fact, we have but to make a right use of our eyes, and whether we turn them to the right hand or the left, in every street, at every corner, in every alley, aye, so universal is the evil *in every house* we shall find "Confirmation strong as proofs of Holy Writ." Yes, I repeat it, *in every house*, for I do not believe there is a family in the province of Nova Scotia, into whose circle, through some member connected with them, in a near or remote degree, intemperance has not entered, and, entering, injured them in mind or circumstances. If, Sir, you wish further to be informed upon the subject, go ask the prisoner in his gloomy cell, "Who forged the chains that bind you fast?" and he will tell you "The love of drink." What is it fills our workhouses with paupers? Go ask the inmates and nine tenths will say "Strong drink." What throngs the hospitals in the old country with the halt, the blind and otherwise diseased? the horrid sound still vibrates on our ears "Strong drink." Do you want further proof. Go read the Newgate calender for the last century! We are not then left in the dark as to the cause of all this demoralization. No! There is a voice louder than ten thousand thunders which breaks upon our ears—there is a light clear as the noon-day Sun which shines upon our minds, and reveals the source of all these deeds of darkness. With a Sunbeam it is written, and with thunders it is proclaimed. "**INTEMPERANCE IS THE CURSE OF THE BRITISH DOMINIONS!**" These, Sir, are the evils which *now* result from the encouragement which the Legislatures, both British and Provincial, have given to distillation; and I defy you, Sir, to clear yourself from the charge of having aided in bringing about such a fearful amount of misery, both temporal and eternal. I say temporal and *eternal*, for the battle field, after the day of slaughter, drenched with human gore, covered with heaps of the slain, and resounding with the cries of the wounded and dying, afford but a faint emblem of the woes which strong drink has occasioned, when traced to another world.—

Satan never had a more active agency at work than he possesses in the article which you manufacture, and of which so many are engaged in the sale in the city of Halifax. Unwelcome as the truth may appear, and harsh as the expression may seem, 'tis true, 'tis pity, and pity 'tis, 'tis true, that *you are aiding him in peopling his dark domains, and giving your help towards robbing the Church of Christ of 30,000 of its members annually!* You may not wish that this should be the case,—nor would I wrong you for one moment by supposing that you do wish it. Yet, Sir, such has ever been, such is now, and such will ever continue to be the effect, so long as the article is manufactured.—The appetite has been formed and you are willing to pamper that appetite, by continuing in the traffic, and, moreover, are desirous of extending your business. Now, Sir, there is no plea by which you can justify yourself. You cannot take shelter under an Act of Parliament; for although your business may be, and is, permitted by Legislative enactments, yet a higher authority than any human power denounces a woe upon him who puts his bottle to his neighbour—the Bible is against it, and as no human law, contrary to the divine, can be of any avail to screen a man from condemnation before the bar of that court where we shall all sooner or later appear, your endeavour to get rid of this burthen at the house of Mr. Legality will be as fruitless as John Bunyan's Pilgrim. Nor can you find refuge in the plea that you do it for your living, having a family to provide for; for the same authority has declared, "Woe unto him that coveteth an *evil* covetousness to his house, that he may build his nest on high, that he may be delivered from the power of evil. Thou hast consulted shame to thy house by *cutting off many people*, and has *sinned against thy soul*. For the stone shall cry out of the wall, and the beam out of the timber shall answer it. "Woe unto him that *buildeth a town with blood and establisheth a city by iniquity.*" Nor can you plead ignorant of the effects of the article which you manufacture. Would to God you could, then would there be some hope that when its evils were known, the traffic in these "evil spirits" would be abandoned by you. But you cannot plead this: for even if you were determined to close your eyes upon them, the light is so strong that it would pierce through your very eyelids.

You are left therefore without excuse, and although your business may be a profitable one as it regards money, yet, seeing that it is gained at the expense of the demoralization of the people, *it has the ban of the Deity upon it*. You may have made money by your business, but let me tell you Sir,—and I do it without any feeling of hostility to your person,—that *God never gave you a single dollar! There is not a dollar which tinkles in your chest, gained by the manufacture and sale of Rum, but is "blistered with the tear of sorrow, and crusted with the piercing cries of the sobbing wife and starving children."* I ask you, Sir, "Whene'er you take your walks abroad," and in the course of your business enter into those places where your articles are sold, and hear the oaths, curses, blasphemies and lewd songs of those under the influence of your poison; or whene'er you see the ragged children and heart-broken wife of the poor victim of intemperance, are you prepared to kneel at the footstool of your Maker, and ask his blessing upon your business? *Dare* you thus address the Deity of Heaven? and if you cannot, is not this a convincing proof that

your business is repugnant to His eyes of purity; and being repugnant, has any christian Legislature a right to give its *countenance* much less its entire support to you, or have you any right to require it at their hands? Because the article you manufacture is a "subject of commerce," is that any reason why the Legislature of this Province should extend its protection over its manufacture here, and simply because it is an article of commerce, close its eyes to the *effects* which the traffic produces. Suppose a few years ago we had applied the same reasoning to the Slave Trade, what would have been thought of us? And because other nations of the earth choose to prostitute the fruits of the earth to the production of an article to enslave both the souls and bodies of the consumers; is that any reason why we should do the same? Are we authorized to do evil that good may come? No, Sir, and if you felt as you ought, instead of being ambitious of sharing in the ill-gotten treasure of those nations, you would blush at, and deplore the depravity of, those persons who could *condescend* to engage in so nefarious and soul-destroying a traffic. Suppose the Provincial chest to be enriched by following your suggestion; let me ask you where would be the wisdom of filling up, by a thousand streams, the reservoirs of national wealth, to be poured out again by as many channels of profusion and crime; and when the Almighty has so expressly declared his abhorrence of such means in the language before quoted—"Woe unto him that buildeth a town with blood, and establisheth a city by iniquity." Are not Spirits cheap enough here at the present moment, and does not Intemperance stalk abroad at noon day? Do not your papers continually give us reports of deaths from this prolific source? And has not complaint been lately made of the number of persons in our Gaol? Whence arises all this? To what can it be attributed? To the inefficiency of the Police? as one of our papers supposed. No, Sir, but to the *cheapness* and the *facility of procuring* your liquors at any of the *One Hundred and Eighty Licensed Grog Shops of Halifax!!!* You say, Sir, that it is "*the true wisdom of political economy to encourage Domestic Manufactures, by giving them every facility that does not clash with other interests.*" To this I most heartily subscribe, but unfortunately for you, Sir, was the Legislature of Nova Scotia to act upon this principle, it could not afford that facility to *your* profession which you desire, because by so doing it would *clash with EVERY OTHER interest in the community.* There is not a useful tradesman in the community but would be benefitted by an entire prohibition of the importation and manufacture, and entire abstinence from the article which you produce. The backs of thousands would be better clothed! the feet of thousands would be better protected from the weather! the tables of thousands would be more amply provided with food! the homes of thousands would have a more comfortable appearance! and thus the Shoemaker, Tailor, Butcher, Baker, Grocer, and a number of others of different trades or professions would be benefitted, whilst the increase in the importation of things *necessary* for human sustenance or comfort, would more than make up the amount which you *pretend* would be derived by acting upon your suggestion, without taking into consideration the increased amount of domestic happiness and the general well being of the people, nor the habits of industry which Temperance generates, by which Manufactures of various kinds would be produced.

In your appeal to the Legislature, you seem to set your profession on a par with other Manufactures as being equally deserving of support as the calling of the *useful Mechanic, because the article is used*. But, Sir, I think I know enough of Nova Scotia to warrant me in saying that there is not a Mechanic in the Province, who would not feel himself disgraced by the comparison. Theirs, generally, is an honorable and *lawful* employment—lawful in the highest sense of the term—warranted by Divine as well as by human law, and conduces to the welfare of the *whole social organization*. Yours, Sir, on the contrary, produce poverty, idleness and crime. Even granting, *what cannot be established*, that it may promote the *happiness* of a *particular portion* of the community, *yet it must be at the expense of some other portion*. You may export your poison to England and other places, and the immediate effect may be to introduce money into Halifax,—but the only important enquiry is, what will the effect be *on the whole body politic*? Will the money which you receive *here* be a compensation for all the evil which will be done *there*? Now, Sir, we may very easily determine this matter. The article which you manufacture, will spread just as much devastation wherever it is exported, as it would if consumed in your own immediate neighbourhood. Let us then concentrate all this poison which you are so desirous of being able to export, and suppose it to be consumed where we might see it, what would be the result? What *has been* the result as shewn in the former part of my letter? An increase of taxation, crime, poverty, disease and crime!! Is there any man who will pretend then that the paltry sum which would be received, would be a compensation for this vast amount of human suffering? Can *money* be a compensation for Intemperance, idleness and crime? Can *money* compensate for the loss of health, the happiness and the souls of men? You sell disease, and death, and poverty, and nakedness, and tears to other families, to clothe and feed your own: and as the result of this current of moral poison and pollution which you cause to flow into thousands of other families, you would, perhaps, point us to your country seat at Dartmouth, or to the gay apparel of your sons or daughters, and proclaim that the evil is not seen by you! Families, towns and neighbourhoods, counties and provinces, may groan and bleed somewhere, and thousands may fall as “untimely fruit,” but *your gain* is to be a compensation for all! Suppose a mariner had found out some method of enriching himself, and in a pecuniary sense benefitting our Provincial Treasury, by trading between Halifax and Sierra Leone, but could only do this by importing the plague in every return voyage, would you deem it an honorable employment? And why not? He acts precisely on the same principle as you do—a desire to make money, *and that only*. The truth is, that in the case of the mariner there would be, and in your case there *is*, a violation of the great fundamental law on which men must agree to live together in society—a violation of that great, noble and benevolent law of our organization, by which an *HONEST* employment *INTERFERES WITH NO OTHER*, but may tend to diffuse blessings in the *WHOLE CIRCLE* of human engagements.

Another of your arguments is that “by encouraging distillation, a ready market would be found for the farmers’ barley.” With regard to this, allow me to say that the farmer would never be at a loss to find a market for his grain, if such articles as you manufacture were driv-

out of the country altogether. It is because so much money is spent "in that which is not bread," that there is so little, if any left wherewith to purchase bread stuffs. If ABSTINENCE were general, there would be more 'an twice the demand for the use of the now scantily fed population, who would then have healthy appetites to consume, and improved means to purchase nutriment for themselves and children, in grain, as well as in all the other varied productions of the earth. It is because so many MILLIONS OF BUSHELS of good, wholesome and nutritious grain is annually consumed in the production of your moral and physical poison, that for the last two years so many thousands of our fellow creatures out of the depths of misery have been crying from want "save us or we perish." The destitution which has lately been so prevalent in Ireland, the Highlands of Scotland and other places, has not arisen so much from the poverty of the crops, as from the destruction of between FORTY AND FIFTY MILLIONS OF BUSHELS of wholesome grain by Distillers and Brewers. It is true that the earth has not brought forth so plentifully as in former years; still, if what she did produce had been LEGITIMATELY applied, there would have been "bread enough and to spare," and money enough to purchase it with, if even at an advance of price. (Of the effects of THUS encouraging agriculture, viz. by encouraging distillation, I have already spoken in the former part of my letter, where, in speaking of our South Australian Colony and the deplorable condition of the people [where Spirits are so cheap,] I have shewn it to have arisen from this source.) In proof of this I would again refer to History. Ratty, in his National History of the County of Dublin, (1772) states, that "the great scarcity of corn in Ireland and England, in 1757, was not owing entirely to a failure of the crop, but MORE to a consumption of the grain in the distilleries," (vol. ii. p. 411). It has been generally said, that Sweden does not produce sufficient food for its population: but Cox, in his "travels in Sweden," remarks, "I was greatly surprized to find that Sweden would produce sufficient grain for the internal consumption of the inhabitants, if such large quantities were not employed in the distillation of Malt Spirits." It is not then from a scarcity of grain that the people have so grievously suffered, but from the wanton, unchristian, yet, Lawful (!) waste of it by the Distillers. Whilst the people have been thus suffering, the Distillers and Brewers at home have been consuming the producing of nearly "one million and a half acres" of the fruitful soil of England. Oh! Sir, let me entreat you to ponder upon these things. Nor you alone, but all who are engaged with you either in the Manufacture or the Sale. You cannot clear yourselves from the charge of being accessory to the existence of *nine tenths* of all the evil which surrounds you. Were I in your position I should think any man fully justified in applying to me the language of Gerritt Smith, "the man who deals in ardent Spirit is a pirate upon the rights of community"—or the still stronger language of Dr. Beecher "I challenge any man who understands the nature of ardent spirit, and yet for the sake of gain continues to be engaged in the traffic, to show that he is not involved in the guilt of murder;" or the words of Judge Daggat: "To make or Sell ardent Spirits for common use, is as wicked as to make or sell poisons, for the same purpose. It being admitted that the use of Alcohol is destructive to health, reputation and property (and the proof is overwhelming) it follows conclusively, that those

who make it, sin with a high hand against God and their fellowmen—the blood of murdered souls will be required at their hands.” I say, Sir, were I a maker or a vender of these poisons, in a period of so much light and information upon the subject as the present, I should think any man fully justified in charging me thus. As a man, as a patriot, as a Christian you are called upon to abandon the traffic, for no proposition seems to be susceptible of more satisfactory demonstration than this,—that in the present state of information on the subject, no man can think to act on Christian principles or do a patriots duty to his country, and at the same time make or sell the Instrument of Intoxication.

Do not think, Sir, that because I have expressed myself thus strongly upon the subject, that I have entertained feelings of hostility towards your person or the persons of those concerned in the traffic. No, Sir, I call Heaven and Earth to witness that towards you severally as men I have no feeling at variance with Christian principle. It is because I have *seen* the evils—because I have *felt* the evils which arise from the use of your article, that I speak in this emphatic manner. This is no time for mincing matters. Your letter teaches me what you *intend* to do, in order to extend your business; and conscience points out to me the path I ought to pursue in order to counteract your designs. Happy am I to say that I shall not go to a warfare at my own charge. The God of truth is on my side, and the people are beginning to feel as they ought to do in this matter. Already in the Counties of Shelburne, Yarmouth and Digby have they prohibited the sale of strong drink; in the latter county I had the happiness of preaching the funeral Sermon of Beelzebub Licence, and have no doubt that in Annapolis—from the success I have lately met with there—before the end of the present year I shall have the same pleasant task imposed upon me in that County. The prospect is cheering, for “the fields are white unto the harvest,” and even Rumsellers are getting tired of their business, two of whom earnestly requested me to stay and lecture, as I passed through their settlements on the stage, saying they were “quite tired of Rumselling.” Soon I shall have to return to this field of labour, and again use my endeavours to stem the torrent of your fiery stream which has spread volcanic desolation over the land. I shall return to my work with the God of Truth and Justice on my side: you will continue, perhaps, at yours, but with no such helper. Truth is on my side and she is mighty: she must, she will, she *shall* prevail. Her march may be slow, but it is stately, it is progressive; and wherever she has set her foot, neither dæmons nor men can force her retire.

I am, Sir,

Yours Respectfully,

RICHARD G. HALLS,

Temperance Lecturer.

“D. M. W. P. Sons of Temperance.”

Halifax, Feb. 2nd, 1848

NOVA SCOTIANS GENERALLY,—

To you I would now appeal and ask whether you will allow your country to be thus inundated with vice and immorality, without an effort to stay its progress? In you lies the power, and in you alone. For ne'er was tyrant yet, so firmly seated on his throne of power, but that a people's voice, a people's might could hurl the monster down.—Your FRIENDS, your COUNTRY, your God call upon you for active exertion. Remember the words of the Hero of the Nile, "England expects every man to do his duty." Will you *by using* encourage the manufacture of intoxicating drinks, when you know and feel their effects upon society, and thus be found "fighting against God?" Farmers! will you plough and sow the earth with grain in order to feed the "worm" of the distiller who feeds the "worm that never dies?" Remember "the Earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof;" will you then take of His and give it unto Satan? Will you consent to part with your grain for such a purpose as the production of vice, misery and want; and be repaid perhaps by having your sons and daughters become its victims? He who sanctions an evil act, participate in the crime.

MINISTERS OF THE GOSPEL! Laying aside your shibboleths of party, unite with us in the exercise of a common benevolence, for the extirpation of a common foe! PROFESSORS OF RELIGION! Cast out from your camp the "accursed thing," "Touch not, taste not, handle not, lest you be partakers of their sin!"—MISSIONARIES OF THE CROSS! Roll away the "stumbling block" from the heathen!—EDITORS! work your mighty engines for the defence and diffusion of Temperance principles, and let not your pages be blotted with the FOUL ADVERTISEMENT OF ALCOHOL!—STATESMEN! CHRISTIAN PATRIOTS! Arise and remove "the Curse of Britain." ALL, ALL to the Heaven-appointed work of subduing this foe to our race! Turn the battle to the Gate! Success shall fan your banners; victory shall crown your conflicts; and the blessing of the perishing shall be your reward. "On! on to the rescue" of your perishing brethern. Let your motto ever be "Onward and upward!" and by God's help, if sincerely sought, you shall soon brand the Cæsarean motto beneath your plumes: "Veni, Vidi, Vici!"—
E come! I saw! I conquered!

R. G. H.

will allow your
without an ef-
you alone. For
power, but
ster down.—
for active ex-
England ex-
encourage the
feel their ef-
God?" Far-
order to feed
never dies?"
ereof;" will
nsent to part
vice, misery
d daughters
cipate in the

ths of party,
for the extir-
ut from your
ile not, lest
s! Roll away
your mighty
nciples, and
WR OF ALCO-
emove "the
ork of sub-
uccess shall
the blessing
rescue" of
ard and up-
soon brand
i, Vici!"—
R. G. H.

