

Points for Everybody to Consider.

Facts which Cannot be Denied.

Figures that Don't Lie.

PRESENTED BY THE

Wisconsin State Anti-Prohibition
❖ ASSOCIATION. ❖



TO EVERY

❖ Candid, Conscientious and Liberty-Loving Citizen ❖

OF THE STATE.

THE WISCONSIN STATE

ANTI-PROHIBITION ASSOCIATION

HAS been organized, it has spread its circulars all over the State, it has clearly and unsophistically defined its position and objects, and thereby intentionally given just cause for public criticism, which we are always glad to call forth, and which we are ready to meet at any time.

One of the main objections urged against our organization was that, by such means, we took an aggressive step, and that our proper course would be to keep quiet and in the background. Now, in the first place, let us answer the question,

ARE WE AGGRESSIVE?

The tendencies of our association are conservative in every respect. We do not try to urge new views of constitutional rights upon our fellow-citizens, we are planning no revolt against existing laws, we abide by those which our statutes already contain, we do not endeavor to proclaim new or dangerous principles of political economy or restrictive legislation—indeed, we stand on the broad basis of equal rights and personal liberty, guaranteed by the constitution and fostered by that spirit of freedom and justice, out of which our republican institutions arose after a fierce struggle with oppression and tyranny. All we wish and aim at, is to preserve those rights and privileges of the individual that were proclaimed by the Declaration of Independence one hundred and nine years ago, and afterwards firmly established in and sacredly guaranteed by the Constitution.

In true allegiance to those principles, which we will defend with all our power, and for upholding which we call into our ranks every conscientious and liberty loving citizen, we deem it our duty to oppose every movement, no matter whence it may come, tending to infringe upon established rights and constitutional privileges. Holding such views, we are put on the defensive and seek protection. We are not carrying on a war against government or society; but we make a bold stand against an enemy that has been organizing for years, whose aim is the destruction of individual rights and the establishment of special legislation, infringing upon personal liberty. Let once our right be taken from us, the next step will be to rob us of our property, and it would be hard to tell where fanaticism and oppression would finally stop.

Prohibition means destruction of vested rights and property. The prohibitionist wants to destroy and abolish legitimate business, to confiscate well-earned property without just compensation, to rob a large class of business men of the results of their combined labor, enterprise and capital.

Who then is the aggressor? Who proclaims revolutionary and dangerous ideas? Is it the prohibitionist, or is it the one who opposes him? Do we claim any special rights or privileges? Do we attempt to destroy anybody's rights or property, or do we not rather assume the defensive, trying to uphold the constitution and the law, and to protect property? Is there any arrogance in defending one's rights and in organizing against destructive forces? Shall we wait till our enemy has gained his victory, and until we are practically and legally outlawed? Are we not to be allowed to organize, before our adversary has put his foot upon our neck and robbed us of everything that is dear to us?

Indeed, we wish for peace; we do not intend to interfere with anybody's business; we respect the rights and privileges of others, we want everybody to be fully protected in his rights, and shall consider as a common enemy anyone who would try to curtail such rights. All we ask for, is to be given the same protection, the same rights, and the same privileges.

As good and law-abiding citizens we are willing to bear our burden of taxation, to contribute our share to the maintenance of good government and free institutions. We are not opposed to any just and equitable taxation, we "render unto Cæsar that which belongs to Cæsar," but we demand equality before the law, protection against oppressive legislation, protection of personal liberty and of our constitutional rights.

For these purposes solely we have established our association. It means in no way *aggression*; on the contrary, it means nothing but *defense*.

OUR RIGHT OF ORGANIZATION

even has been questioned by some narrow-minded and weak-brained hirelings of so-called high toned and leading newspapers. Amongst this class of eminent journalists and reformers, we are glad not to find the outspoken prohibitionist who willingly concedes to us the right of organization, of which, for years, he himself has been making all the use possible. It is the leading party organ and its satellites who threaten us with entire annihilation and well deserved destruction, in case we should ever come out of the woods and show our strength. Those organs do not advocate direct prohibition, they even ridicule such a measure. They would generously give us some years to live, until, by oppressive legislation and unbearable taxation, they should have attained the same end indirectly. These remarkably high toned publications have been levying contributions for years on the very business they try to cripple and destroy now, and because their thunder has been lost and the revenues from this source have greatly diminished or stopped entirely, they now hold up all kinds of threats, final extirpation not excluded, should we ever try to uphold our rights and to defend them with organized strength. Any attempt to ignore their party-lash and to maintain our independence excites their fury, and they heap ridicule and contempt mercilessly upon our aims, upon our business, and upon our persons. They never get tired of creating prejudice and hatred, and to poison the public mind against us, by filling it with distorted facts and false arguments. Do they really expect to frighten us into humble submission, to make us renounce

our rights, our self-respect, our manhood? Do they expect us to kiss the hand that strikes us?

Such malicious and cowardly attacks will on the contrary strengthen us, will increase our ranks, make us untold friends, and carry our cause to final victory. We form as yet no political party, nor do we intend to join any of the existing ones. We ask for the assistance and co-operation of every fair-minded man, and do not inquire into his political affiliations. Still we know well that, after having organized and done all in our power to enlighten the public mind about our cause, the battle will have to be fought at the ballot-box and in the legislative halls. We are fully aware that he who is not for us, is against us, and that we have to act accordingly.

IS THE PRESENT TAXATION OF THE BEER AND LIQUOR TRADE NOT HIGH ENOUGH?

Conceding that the current theories of government have established the doctrine that the liquor business increases, to some extent, the public expenses, and therefor must bear some special burden of taxation, it should not be forgotten that all other kinds of business, no matter how large the capital invested therein, are exempt from such special burdens. In our case, the business as such is especially taxed, and certainly the capital employed in it pays its full share of the public expense. The very right of existence of this business depends on a special tax consideration, called "license," and the capital invested in the business forms the basis for assessments under the general laws of taxation. Nevertheless, we are not fighting this modern doctrine of political economy or statecraft; but we could show that, in return for such special tax payments, we receive not only no special privileges or legislative favors, but our rights are curtailed and infringed upon, and the full protection of the law, with such privileges as every other branch of business enjoys, are denied to us.

Let us for a moment compare the privileges and burdens of the railroad traffic with those of the liquor traffic.

The railroad business is, without doubt, the most important, most influential and most favored one of all business interests in the State.

The amount of capital invested in the same exceeds that of any other business interest in the State, no matter how largely distributed such other interest may be, or how many different side-industries or commercial enterprises might be affected by, or depending on it. The railroads not only enjoy special privileges, they are even endowed with the right of eminent domain. They exercise privileges which naturally constitute the inherent rights of government and sovereignty, and which, by special legislation, have been delegated to them for a great length of time; rights from which they draw large revenues; privileges which are exclusively vested in the sovereign people, but for a time given up to those companies, forming the very source of their income and the life of their existence.

And what is their return to the State in consideration of such special favors and most valuable grants and franchises.

According to the report of the State Treasurer for the year 1884, the State received from the railroad companies in all \$754,269.44.

Now let us see what special burdens are levied upon the beer and liquor traffic in the State, by taxation from the general government and under the license law of the State. While considering the enormous figures following, we must keep in mind that this business does not only enjoy no special privileges, but is even denied the same full right that is accorded to every other branch of business, and guaranteed by the Constitution.

State licenses paid, under the new law, by 6,000 saloons, at an average license of \$250.....	\$1,500,000 00
General Government tax paid by these saloons, \$25 each	150,000 00
U. S. taxes paid on 1,800,000 gallons of spirits consumed in the State, @ 90 cents a gallon.....	1,620,000 00
U. S. taxes paid for beer manufactured in the State, @ \$1 per barrel	1,400,000 00
U. S. licenses paid by wholesale dealers and rectifiers.....	13,900 00
State " " " " " "	17,000 00
Total	\$4,700,900 00

These figures show that the beer and liquor interest in the State of Wisconsin is taxed annually to the extent of nearly four million dollars in excess of the railroad traffic, in fact contributes to the public revenue six times as much as all the railroads in the State combined. Besides these special taxes, all the men engaged in the

beer and liquor traffic are assessed on their personal and real property, and pay taxes thereon, while the railroads are exempt from the general laws of taxation. They simply are obliged to pay their state licenses, and in return are exonerated from every other tax burden.

Either business is a legitimate one, the exercise of the same depending on a license. The only, but very wide, difference is that the license of a railroad includes many highly valued privileges, and the taxation of the liquor traffic is pure taxation, not only without any adequate return, but with the constant dread of new burdens and impositions.

In presenting this comparison to the fair-minded citizen, merely as an illustration, and submitting whether there is any justice or the semblance of equal rights in such a condition of things, we have no thought of expressing hostility to the railroads, or of asking for any increase in their taxes. What we do ask, is a fair and candid consideration of the subject, which to every unbiassed mind will readily show the glaring inequality and unjust discrimination prevailing against the liquor interest. Is not then the revenue derived from the beer and liquor traffic already large enough, and the burden of taxation which this business has to carry, as heavy as it should be?

WHAT THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT RECEIVES FROM THE BEER AND LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

The annual report of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, puts the amount of internal revenue taxes, so far as they are derived from liquors, as follows:

On spirits distilled from fruit.....	\$ 1,127,950 25
On spirits distilled from grain and other materials.....	67,957,906 48
Rectifiers' special tax	180,800 12
Retail liquor-dealers' special tax.....	4,624,587 77
Wholesale liquor-dealers' special tax	455,915 51
Manufacturers of stills, special tax	1,160 43
Stills or worms manufactured, special tax.....	4,020 00
Stamps for distilled spirits intended for export.....	7,434 00
Total	74,368,775 20

And the beer tax during the same fiscal year is thus given:

On ale, beer, lager beer, and porter	\$16,426,050 11
Brewers' special tax	184,885 49
Special tax of dealers in malt liquors	289,680 20
Total	16,900,615 81

Altogether the General Government derived between the 1st of July, 1882, and the 30th of June, 1883, the subjoined sums as taxes from liquors of all kinds:

From distilled liquors	\$74,368,775 20
From fermented malt	16,900,615 81
From vinous liquors	216,559 00
Duties paid on imported liquors:	
On beer, ale, and porter	\$ 511,382 75
On champagne and other sparkling wines, in bottles	2,319,372 31
On still wines, in casks or bottles, and on Vermouth	3,148,078 22
Total on spirits and imitations of brandy	3,350,898 96
Total on spirits and wines and beer, ale, and porter	9,253,340 71
Total on additional and discriminating duty on said imports	12,053 42
Sum total received by the General Government on duties paid for imported, and revenue taxes paid on distilled spirits and fermented malt and vinous liquors	\$100,751,344 14

Taking into consideration that the expenses of the General Government amount to about three hundred million of dollars, the above figures clearly prove that fully one-third of the government expenditure is covered by the taxes imposed upon the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages. This source of revenue the prohibitionist is ready to stop without a moment's notice, while the high license advocate wants to destroy it more slowly, by taxing the business out of existence.

THE BREWING BUSINESS OF MILWAUKEE.

The most important business interest of Milwaukee is represented by the brewing companies. From small beginnings these companies have, by the energy and enterprise of their members, developed into immense manufacturing establishments. They have done wonders towards the promotion of the city's growth and welfare, and with just pride do we show the strangers visiting here the gigantic build-

ings erected by our brewers, and point to the enormous business carried on by them.

Many thousands of people are doing business with the brewers, many thousands depend for a living upon that business directly and indirectly. Different smaller industries are kept active by the breweries, and they give work to thousands of laboring men, mechanics and artisans. The following figures, received from the Secretary of the Milwaukee Brewers' Association, will give an idea of the immensity of their business interest, and of its importance as a factor in developing the resources of the city, of the state, of the farming and the railroad interest :

Capital invested in the breweries	\$10,000,000
Men employed.....	3,000
Beer brewed.....	1,100,000 bbls
Beer sold in Milwaukee.....	180,000 "
Shipped out in about 22,000 car loads.....	980,000 "
Number of car loads shipped in.....	20,000 "
Material purchased (barley, hops, etc.).....	\$2,000,000
Internal revenue taxes paid.....	1,067,000
Other taxes	100,000
Freight paid to railroad companies.....	1,300,000
Paid out for labor.....	1,000,000
Insurance and other operating expenses.....	2,650,000

Let those who attempt to curtail the brewing business by imposing higher burdens of taxation upon that branch of business which retails the brewer's product, consider carefully what an important interest they are going to cripple, and how far-reaching the consequences of such action would be. And the prohibition fanatic who wants to destroy the business at once by legislation will please step forward and tell us what he would give to the city in return for the destruction of its most extensive and important business interest ; how would he give employment to those thousands of men thrown out of work by his folly ; what substitute will he give to the shipping interest for those 42,000 car loads prohibited by his crazy fanaticism to carry the product and the material of Milwaukee's main industry ; will he make good the loss of revenue to the general government and of tax income to the city and state which naturally would be caused by closing the breweries and all industries and occupations depending on them. Let him think these points over, if he be really capable of thinking.

And when they pose as the saintly and silver-tongued friends of the farmer, will they please explain to the "bone and sinew" of the land, what markets they intend to find for them for the sale of their barley and their hops in lieu of the home market, of which they intend to deprive them.

THE EFFECTS OF PROHIBITION

Are admirably elucidated in a speech of the Hon. Peter V. Deuster, delivered in the House of Representatives, on March 27, 1884.

We quote the following therefrom:

"The persons who are directly employed in the manufacture and sale of alcoholic liquors are, however, by no means alone interested in the prohibition issue. That issue extends further; it affects the whole nation. Destroy by the operation of a prohibitory law the great wealth involved in the liquor, beer, and wine industries; make useless the enormous capital invested in the buildings, machineries, and utensils necessary for the operation and maintenance of distilleries, breweries, and wine-cellar, and see then how this will affect the other industries of the nation. Drive from our market articles of merchandise of a value of hundreds of millions of dollars, and make these articles valueless to their rightful owners, without giving them any other return for the property thus made valueless, and see whether such action will not depress the money market and depreciate all other values of the nation. It would be an undertaking pregnant with ruin. Many industries would suffer and be crippled by it. The farmer who cultivates the soil would be injured in the home market, relative to his surplus of cereals. Corn and barley would be reduced in price perhaps one-third of their present value, because the brewer, the malster, the distiller would not be found as purchasers, and the enormous quantities which are now used and bought by them would hardly be taken and paid for by those who clamor for prohibitory laws. The planting of hops would have to be abandoned, and also the cultivation of the grapevine, which promises such a rich and paying yield. The great outlay which the farmer has hitherto made in procuring posts for his hop-fields and for his vineyards would be wholly lost to him, for he would find no purchasers for the products which once constituted the main part of his income.

But not the farmer alone, numerous other occupations would also be crippled. The cooper would find his toil a dreary one, because his best customers, the distiller and the brewer, would have no more work for him. The blacksmith, the harness-maker, the carriage-maker, would no longer have any big bills to present to the brewer, and they would feel sorry over the loss of their best customer. The coal merchant could no longer send his cart to the brewery or to the distillery, and he would look in vain for the ready cash which was once there for him in abundance. The blower of glass bottles would receive no new orders; bottles would become superfluous articles. The foundry-men would lose their best customers for numerous and costly machines. The railroad, steamboat, and canal-boat companies, as common carriers, would find their income greatly reduced on account of the loss of extensive freights. Even the dealer in groceries, the baker, the butcher, and other trades would have cause to regret the breaking-up of the brewery and the impoverishment of its owner, who would no longer be able to give employment to a large force of employes and workmen upon whom these smaller trades depend in part for their subsistence."

STATESMANLIKE.

What a liberty-loving, constitutional statesman of national prominence thinks of local option laws and prohibitory legislation in general.

A LETTER FROM THE HON., THE SECRETARY OF STATE, T. F. BAYARD.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 8, 1881.

MY DEAR SIR—I do not like to intrude my opinions unasked for upon members of the Legislature.

I agree with you in thinking "local option" laws of very doubtful constitutionality, and positive inexpediency.

As I understand them they submit a law to *popular vote*, in local districts, and this defeats the principle of our government, which is representative in its character, and places the *whole* law making power and discretion in the *Legislature* and not in the people in their mere numerical force and primary capacity.

If punishment of criminals was to be adjudged and inflicted by "local option," instead of through acts of Legislature executed by judges and juries, it would be held wholly at variance with our theory of government, and yet to apply such a rule to so widespread and daily a habit, as the use of alcoholic or fermented beverages is in my judgment quite as unsafe.

So far as my experience goes, a well regulated system of licenses, whereby revenue is largely brought into the public treasury, coupled with severe penalties for illicit sale, has proved the most efficient check upon the abuse of the liquor traffic.

In many respects the question is a *sumptuary* one, and laws attempting to establish sumptuary regulations become inquisitorial and impossible of execution, so that in those communities in this country where they have been enacted, they have either aggravated the evil they were intended to prevent, or have fallen into contempt or uselessness, and been repealed.

The statements I have seen of the real condition of those communities in which total prohibition has been attempted, have impressed one very strongly in confirmation of these views.

Personal influence and example and precept and the recognition of the great truth that intemperance in the use of stimulants of *all kinds* is a *morbid physical fact*, both in cause and effect, is, in my judgment, the proper view to commence with. Statistics abundantly prove that the attempted suppression by statutes of the use of *alcoholic* stimulants is accompanied by an increase in the use of *opiates*; and that *open* drinking being stopped, *secret* drinking ensues.

I do not believe any man has a greater horror of intemperance than I—and my appreciation of its dangers and evil effects grows with my experience of human affairs; but the graver the evil, the more essential to apply the right principle to its cure, and for the reasons I have stated and many others, I hope the experiment of "local option" will not be tried by our Legislature, but increased checks under the license system be continued. Yours sincerely,

T. F. BAYARD.

THE PROHIBITIONISTS AND THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

*How shamefully our old soldiers, the brave veterans of the civil war,
were treated in Portland, Maine, during the great reunion
held there June 22nd to 26th, of this year.*

GROSS INSULT TO THE G. A. R.

[Extract from the *Evening Wisconsin* of June 23, 1885.]

A new exhibition of the proneness of temperance zealots to over-reach themselves and directly injure the worthy cause which they espouse, is just now afforded in Portland, Maine.

The annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic is being held in that city and there are already present at the festivities ten thousand visiting veterans who have gathered from every State in the North and Northwest. A large and radical temperance organization known as the Law and Order League, has assumed that with many veterans there will be much drunkenness in Portland; and it has taken extraordinary steps to prevent any drinking of liquor during the encampment season. One proposition advanced yesterday, was that the city authorities seize all consignments of baggage to members of the G. A. R. and send them to police headquarters for inspection, and retention in the event of any liquor being found. This insulting proposal, though formally made and strongly urged, failed to gain approval; nevertheless prominent officers of the Law and Order League declare their purpose to seize and keep any private consignments containing liquor which may fall into their hands.

The inexcusable blunder and unpardonable affront in all this proceeding is its ridiculous first assumption that the Union veterans of the United States are a crowd of toppers, the chief aim of whose annual encampment gathering is to carouse. A grosser libel upon a class of men less deserving of such libel could not be invented. Imagine a veterans' gathering in Milwaukee made up of Milwaukee's ex-soldiers who in large proportions are the city's foremost business men; then imagine a special and unusual policing of the city in order to protect the people from lawlessness and violence. Yet that is precisely what Portland has done as a precaution against possible excesses by old soldiers of Milwaukee and scores of other cities in the land who unduly honor Portland by visiting her.

Last night the dispatch here appended was sent out by officers of the G. A. R., being signed by the department of fourteen leading States, including Wisconsin:

NEWPORT, Vt., June 22.—*To the Associated Press:* Two thousand comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic have read the dispatch regarding the appointment of special police to care for the lives and property of the people of Portland. We call your attention to the fact that in times past we were the police of the nation, and twenty years has not diminished our respect for law and order. We come unarmed and on a peaceful mission as your guests, and respectfully ask permission to enter your city unmolested by special investigating committees.

Nothing more signally than that dispatch can emphasize the insult which has been put upon the old soldiers by the citizens of Portland. Had the present

gathering been political in character, instead of a meeting of veterans, no such precautions in the interest of good order would have been dreamed of. To have taken them because of a visitation of old soldiers is to have been guilty of gratuitous and cruel insult to men who in the average are far less addicted to liquor than are politicians in the average. It is safe to predict that the G. A. R. of the nation will not speedily forget or forgive Portland and her temperance fanatics.

A new version of an old song, which prohibition has brought along :

FROM THE SAME CANTEEN.

Portland, June, 1885

From hill and plain to the State of Maine
 The veterans toiled along,
 And they rent the air with tuneful blare
 Of trumpets and of song ;
 That their throats were dry there will none deny,
 But little they recked, I ween,
 As they gathered round on the old camp-ground
 To drink from the same canteen.

The tales of old were again retold,
 And they sang of the war once more—
 Till the word went round like a thunder sound ;
 "Let us drink to the days of yore !"
 A rapturous glee that was fair to see
 Enveloped the martial scene—
 But there came a change that was pitiful strange
 When they drank from the old canteen.

The veteran throng sings now no song
 That is keyed in the grand old strain,
 And the air is blue with the hullabaloo
 Of the soldiers who marched to Maine ;
 Not even beer is the proffered cheer—
 Nor a jug nor a flask is seen,
 But it's lemonade of a watery grade
 That they drink from the same canteen.

ARE WE A NATION OF DRUNKARDS?

The stale and frivolous assertion every day repeated by the organs of the prohibitionists, pretending that we are a nation of drunkards, or travelling mighty fast on the road which leads there, cannot be refuted better than by a comparison of consumption of alcoholic beverages in this and other countries.

The Federal Council of Switzerland is responsible for the reliability of the the following table, showing the relative consumption of drink per capita in the various countries of the world.

PLACE.	SPIRITS. Quarts.	WINE. Quarts.	BEER. Quarts.	Total in Quarts.
Canada.....	2.71	0.29	8.51	11.51
Norway.....	3.43	1.00	15.30	19.73
United States.....	4.21	2.64	31.30	38.15
Great Britain and Ireland.....	4.73	2.09	143.92	150.74
Austria Hungary.....	5.07	22.40	28.42	55.89
France.....	6.41	119.40	21.10	146.91
Russia.....	7.11	Unknown	4.65	Unknown
Sweden.....	7.16	9.36	11.00	27.52
German Zollverein.....	7.56	6.00	65.00	78.56
Belgium.....	8.10	3.70	169.20	181.00
Switzerland.....	8.27	55.00	37.50	100.97
Netherlands.....	8.69	2.57	27.00	38.26
Denmark.....	16.63	1.00	33.33	50.96

Considering the immense wealth of our country and the comparatively large income or wages of the individual, those figures should speak in favor of our population as a singularly frugal and sober one. The consumption per capita of alcoholic drinks in the United States is indeed a small one, only three countries,—Canada, Norway and Sweden,—showing a still smaller proportion. But these three countries cannot compare with ours, as regards general wealth, immensity of resources, individual income or wages, nor with respect to intelligence, culture and industriousness of the population.

THE BOARD OF TRADE MEN, THE SALOONKEEPERS AND THE ASSESSOR.

Figures which Don't Lie, no matter who else does! Who Pays the Taxes?

THE RICH MEN ON "CHANGE" AND THE SALOONMEN—A TIMELY COMPARISON.

[From the *Freie Presse* of Milwaukee, May 9, 1885.]

The annual assessment for purposes of taxation is now taking place. It will, as usual, be to a large extent an entirely arbitrary mode of estimating the money value of the *visible* property of citizens, and in that respect it will apparently differ radically from the tax of \$200 per year, which, under the name of a license, has just been imposed upon one class of our citizens, upon one single industry or trade, and which is accepted by the organs of the Highest possible License-men merely as a move in the direction of a \$500 license at the earliest moment in the future. This latter tax is fixed, it knows no difference of the value of the trade of various firms or individuals, but its very equality carries with it the elements of arbitrariness. However, those who differ with us state, that a license is not a tax, but is paid for permission to carry on a certain trade. Be it so, that argument is a quibble just as full of holes as all the other alleged good reasons for bleeding a certain class of people for the benefit of another class.

Let it be understood, at the outset, that as the representatives of a large portion of the German-American element and of its best traits and habits, we yield precedence to no man, to no organ, to no clique of self-appointed social and political leaders of the Order of the Holy Dollar, worn on the ribbon on psalm-singing respectability and skin-deep "cultah," in our desire and in the active support of our desire for an elimination of all resorts, where the sale of liquors of any kind is merely a pretense and a cloak for covering vicious, nefarious and immoral purposes, where the youth is corrupted and the lowest instincts of any age are pandered to for gain. Had we had the power these many years the objectionable "saloons" would have gone long ago. The machinery for supporting them has existed all along; it exists now; it rest in the *moral courage* of our chosen officers to carry out plain laws.

To-day all saloonkeepers of any kind, good, bad and indifferent, must either pay two hundred dollars or discontinue their business. There will be no trouble in finding the parties subject to this tax, their business and their property will be easily seen and taxed. In our opinion high license is the first step towards prohibition. The promoters of it know full well that high license does not change human nature. Liquor will be the cause of as much trouble under the higher license as under the lower tax. A high license, however, paves the way for saying: "We have tried all means for reforming the world (excepting that portion with money enough to have a private sideboard in a Queen-Anne cottage), they have failed, nothing will do but prohibition!"

The present High License owes its existence to the famous petition born in the Chamber of Commerce of this city on the 29th of January last, and revealed to the world by the *Sentinel* on the following day. It was signed by sixty names of firms and individuals, nearly all members of the Chamber of Commerce, and speculators and dealers in bread-stuffs, principally in wheat, with an occasional dash in pork, and it demanded a license of \$500.

Although we have never belonged, and do not now belong, to that class of thoughtless generalizers, who see in every broker and speculator on "Change" a swindling gambler and a scamp, but, on the contrary, have known gentlemen of the highest respectability in that useful institution we yet feel that a comparison in a certain direction of general interest between the grain men and others, who signed that phillippic against the liquor trade in general, its harmfulness and viciousness, and the saloonmen, would be a useful matter at just this time of the year.

The Assessor will call upon the saloonkeepers who have just paid \$200 "license," and he will find all their furniture, fixtures, stock, etc., and assess it at its proper value for purposes of taxation.

The Assessor will also call upon the member of the Chamber of Commerce, who has signed the aforesaid petition, and the few others who make up that bottle of sixty highly-scented Extracts of "Better Classes," and he will do the same thing with them.

The Assessor is a hard-worked poor man, and we have undertaken the task of killing two birds with one stone: On the one hand we desire to acquaint the public with the result of the *last* visit of the Assessor to our sixty petitioners, the amount of property found by the former, and the amount of taxes paid, as compared with the commercial rating of these beacons of moral and good government, and on the other hand we wish philanthropically to aid the Assessors themselves, by giving them such valuable hints as must appear from our labor of statistics and public spirit.

For these purposes we publish the following table containing the referred to information, collected with great care, which may be considered as reliable. We expect no thanks for our work from the Assessors, but we expect, yes, we insist that he shall exercise the duties of his office in a more conscientious manner than seems to have been done, for reasons which we care not to discuss, heretofore.

At the same time we now offer to the public a suggestion that a license of say \$500 a year upon the business of gambling in wheat and other commodities for "feeding the laboring classes," of speculating in "futures" and "options," of dealing in "puts" and "calls," a business which has reduced thousands of its devotees to penury, has led them to embezzlements and other crimes and finally to suicide, would be quite as wholesome a way to lessen its bad effects, quite as just a measure as the High License for the liquor trade, the saloon business, for the purpose of changing human nature with respect to the use of liquors.

The statistics which we publish below will be an argument in favor of our suggestion. A \$500 license à la saloon license, will unerringly search out what the Assessor cannot find amongst a class of highly intelligent lovers of good government, whose facilities for concealing property is as far superior to the facilities enjoyed by the saloonmen as is their alleged love of good government and their knowledge of the means to secure it by—letting somebody else pay for it. The language of the following figures is plain and loud, their argument is irrefutable.

Name and Business.	Assessed Personal Property.	Commercial Rating.	Amount of Personal Property.	Mortgages.
John Plankinton, hotel owner, capitalist	45,830	Millions.	993.96	7,400
O. J. Hale, wheat speculator. . . .	13,500	150—200,000	263.65	31,300
O. E. Britt, wheat speculator. . . .	400	.....	8.41	.....
W. G. Fitch, banker	3,100	.....	65.21	.....
W. Young, grain speculator	10,700	300—500,000	215.73	.....

Name and Business.	Assessed Personal Property.	Commercial Rating.	Amount of Personal Property Tax.	Mortgages.
E. H. Brodhead, capitalist and speculator	19,140	500,000	373.74	.....
D. Vance, ship and insurance broker.....	4,800	.....	93.74	.....
J. B. Bryden, wheat speculator	770	20—40,000	16.20	5,000
A. V. Bishop, wheat speculator	3,520	5—10,000	70.98	.....
Truman Woodford, dealer in Wood and speculator.....	1,125	10—20,000	23.66	.....
J. W. Tweedy, capitalist	4,570	.....	96.12	.....
S. T. Hooker, speculator	950	420—40,000	19.15	.....
Charles Ray, speculator	4,480	150—200,000	87.50	.....
E. Bigelow, banker	780	.....	15.23	.....
E. Sanderson, miller and member of Chamber of Com.	4,800	4200—300,000	100.96	.....
J. A. Dutcher, wholesale tea dlr. Ed. Hyde real estate and mem. ber of Chamber of Commerce	2,875	475—100,000	43.65	.....
H. L. Hinrichson, speculator.....	900	440—75,000	18.15	.....
L. F. Hodges, speculator	350	5—10,000	7.06	.....
Salisbury & Holstein, elevator ..	3,500	75—100,000	71.09	.....
A. Salisbury, individually	4,2000	2—5,000	44.75	.....
W. A. Holstein, individually	100	.....	2.24	.....
A. G. Hayden, member of Chamber of Commerce	60	.....	1.34	.....
A. K. Shepard, speculator	280	2—5,000	5.89	.....
A. G. W. Pierce, produce	1.50	.....	22.46	.....
Jacob Wuster, member of Ch. of Commerce	4,000	.....	80.65	.....
O. F. Lindman, wheat speculator	2,440	.....	54.63	.....
E. T. Mix, architect and member of Chamber of Commerce	540	10—20,000	10.54	.....
E. Barber, land speculator and member of Cham. of Com.	1,975	410—20,000	47.00	.....
J. H. Crittenden, speculator.....	2,150	.....	41.99	.....
R. P. Fitzgerald, member of Chamber of Commerce	825	420—40,000	16.53	.....
N. A. Nelson, coal and member of Chamber of Commerce	35,960	4125—200,000	756.25	.....
H. Griggs, from R. Elliot & Co., wheat speculator	650	10—20,000	13.10	.....
G. B. Merrill, member of Chamber of Commerce	1,250	300—500,000 with Fitzgerald	25.21	.....
D. M. Brigham, member of Chamber of Commerce	2,990	.....	58.39	.....
L. D. Hinekey, wheat speculator	4,745	5,000—10,000	92.67	.....
E. P. Bacon, wheat speculator ..	300	.....	6.05	.....
Geo. Knowles, wheat speculator ..	1,900	75—100,000	37.11	.....
J. B. Oliver, wheat speculator ..	9,575	75—100,000	201.39	.....
M. E. Boardman, member of Chamber of Commerce	1,790	75—100,000	33.79	.....
F. L. Wilson, speculator	1,225	410—20,000	24.69	.....
E. B. Parsons, speculator	715	.....	13.69	.....
	380	.....	8.21	.....

Figures with a † refer to Firms.

THREE DIFFERENT SAINTS.

Name and Business.	Assessed Personal Property.	Commercial Rating.	Amount of Personal Property Tax.	Mortgages.
Horace Rublee, Journalist, Re- former and Philosopher	500	30,000 Sen- tinel stock	10.50	.....
Henry C. Payne, Postmaster, Politician and Practical Re- former	Burned out in the Newhall fire and since then lost to the Assessor.			
John L. Kaine, employe of the two other saints draws a fed- eral salary and another one from the 'Sentinal'	375	.....	7.40	.....

NOTE.—Commercial ratings are taken from Dun's and Bradstreet's reports, and left out where these Agencies could give no information.

These figures teach some peculiar lessons. They show :

1. That only six of the sixty "petitioners" for a \$500 license for saloon-keepers paid a personal property tax equal to or greater than the present \$200 license, and that only one, Mr. Plankinton, paid as much and more than the \$500 license which they want one thousand other citizens to pay for permission to make a living in a legal way.

2. That the men on "Change," who reside in palatial residences on fashionable thoroughfares, and ride to and from "Change" in elegant phaetons, subscribe to armories and swell balls, and form our pillars of society generally, are as poor as any of us when the assessor comes around.

3. It follows, that comparing their commercial rating, which forms the basis of their business credit and solidity, with their property, they either do business on false pretenses or else falsify when the assessor comes around.

4. That the social and political rank of these men in the community, in so far as it rests upon wealth, is absurd, when compared with the above figures.

5. That for one, Mr. John Plankinton, with a commercial rating of millions, and an assessed valuation of personal property in his hotel and private residence of only \$45,830, exclusive of the packing business which goes under the firm name of Plankinton & Co., seems to have placed the balance into a dark "corner" where taxes cannot penetrate through ordinary assessors eyes.

6. That the halo-covered high priests of political and personal morality, known in this world as Horace Rublee, John L. Kaine, and H. C. Payne, who jointly pay in taxes on personal property the enormous sum of \$17.90, with Mr. Payne paying nothing at all, are just the very men who should be left to decide how much "license" other citizens should pay, in order that their philosophy, reform, morality and respectability should as heretofore blossom untaxed.

7. That our argument in favor of a \$500 license for brokers on "Change" is at least as sound as the reasons for imposing licenses on poor hucksters and peddlers, and upon dogs and saloons, even if only for the purpose of placing gambling in wheat at least upon the level of keeping a saloon, and tearing it out of the company of certain other industries that cannot be licensed because they cannot be recognized.

8. *That it is high time for the assessor to do his duty and for the people to see to it that he does.*

In conclusion, we claim that our figures will give abundant food for thought and reflection for the mechanic, the small dealer and the large mass of citizens in general, upon whose aggregate industry other people fatten, and we commend our statistics to their kind and serious consideration.

THE MORAL SIDE OF THE PROHIBITION QUESTION.

Being strongly opposed to Prohibition and all such measures which directly or indirectly tend towards it, we are charitable enough not to interfere with anybody's opinions or habits. If some one thinks that from drinking alcoholic beverages more evil than good will result, let him cherish such opinion. We will try to convince him of his error by argument and persuasion, but we ask for no legislation that compels him to abandon his conviction and to adopt ours instead. In the present age, there is so much work being done under the trade mark of philanthropy and charity, that to deny the right of existence to associations which attempt to remedy the evil of excessive drinking would be considered folly and malice at once, and rightfully so. Any sincere action or enterprise for the purpose of remedying existing evils is welcome and deserves general sympathy, and no less is our party, though opposed to Prohibition, ready and willing to join in the good work of suppressing drunkenness and the evil consequences resulting therefrom. If any man abstains entirely from drinks for conscience sake, let him do so, even at the cost of depriving himself of a healthy pleasure or enjoyment, or of improving his health. If a man thinking there is no harm in moderate drinking, and, formerly enjoyed his glass of beer, wine or whisky, does now renounce it, for the sake of setting an example to his family, relatives or workingmen, we do not reprehend him, but respect him instead for bringing such a sacrifice; though we might be able to suggest to him more effective means for reaching the end he is aiming at. If a man abstains for the sake of his health, nobody will find fault with him. As long as considerations for humanity or health are the real and true motives of one's abstaining entirely from drink, we certainly appreciate such action, without inquiring whether such conclusion is the result of wise or unwise logic and judgment; but when such people say that, because drinking *may* be indulged in to excess, the manufacture and sale of *all spirituous* beverages must be stopped, we are compelled to antagonize them.

The right of society to interfere with individual liberty is clearly limited to cases necessary to secure the object for which society exists, viz.: security of person and property from external and internal attacks, consequently the prohibition of the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages is not within the right of society. But aside from the legal or constitutional aspect of the question, is it fair, is it just, is it reasonable or expedient, because some take to drinking to excess, that it should be denied to hundreds of thousands to whom it is a necessity, a daily pleasure and enjoyment, with no attendant harm? Is it fair to prevent a hundred men from drinking, because one of them will take more than is good for him?

The purpose of prohibitory laws is either to make men better who do not want to be made better, or such who have no self-control, in both cases at the expense of the rest of the population. "You shall not enjoy a drink, because if you can get it I can, and I shall then make a beast of myself," is the Prohibitionist's argument and conclusion, his doctrine in a nut-shell. It hardly needs any refutation, being made up of a concoction of ignorance and folly; and "where ignorance is bliss, it is folly to be wise." But is it just? Are such prohibitory laws warrantable? Does the public conscience sustain them? *It does not*, and therefore such laws will always be a dead letter, and, as a matter of fact, they have always been disregarded wherever they were enacted and imposed upon the people. Everybody knows that stealing is wrong and that disgrace follows conviction; everybody knows that selling or taking a drink is no wrong, and no discredit attaches to it in spite of prohibitory laws. The selling and buying of drinks will be carried on under all circumstances, and, when done against the law, the usual sequences of law breaking will appear: perjury, contempt of law, hypocrisy and moral degradation. The object of the law, however, will never be attained; on the contrary, drunkenness actually increases, as well as the number of saloons, while their character deteriorates, and the moral status of the people is being degraded by forcing them to have recourse to mean and evasive tricks. Compulsory legislation always leads to breaking the law. It is a wrong in itself to deny a right to A, and all the other letters of the alphabet down to Z, because Z abuses this right.

kept out of those quarters where they have built their costly residences. They tell us that a saloon in their neighborhood could not make a living for its proprietor. Most certainly ! Those apostles of moral reform and high license (which latter proposition they warmly advocate in order to reduce the tax rate on their property), have stuffed their cellars full of champagne, costly wines, sweet old whisky, bottled beer and cordials ; they revel in their private houses and indulge in the pleasure of drinking to excess whenever they wish. They have their club house where the same performance is gone through with almost every day, without paying to Cæsar that which belongs to Cæsar ; in plain words, defrauding the general and the city government of the license money rightfully due. And these same modern saints want to shut up the public house, where the laboring man and the majority of the middle class get their daily drink, where they enjoy the pleasure of a glass of wine, beer or whisky in a frugal and sober way, doing so before the face of all the world and not hiding behind the closed doors of a club house or elegant mansion. They will deny to the poor what they do not deny to themselves ; the laborer shall be deprived of an innocent pleasure and the rich revel in secret orgies. It needs just the enactment of such doctrines, now-a-days, to make the poor feel the ill usage he is exposed to from the rich, to stir up the spark of social discontent lingering among the laboring and oppressed classes. Close up one-half of the saloons and you will increase drunkenness and law breaking. Those drunkards who have the means to do it, will provide themselves with a store of liquids and sot themselves at home, with no eyes on them to check them, and thus imitate the rich as long as the means hold out. But the laboring man who lacks those means and has no cellar or store room, but is accustomed to trust to the saloon for what is a reasonable and wholesome enjoyment, finds no place to go to, and he will smart under a sense of the unfairness and injustice to which he is subjected. Let him become conscious of the difference in the treatment of the rich and of the poor, and he will surely reach out for a remedy of equalization, regardless of law and order.

HOW THE INTELLECTUAL DISPOSITION

Of mankind is affected by the use of alcoholic drinks is clearly proven by history. History teaches us that the best, and, in proportion to numbers, the largest quantity of brain work has been, and still is being done by the people of those nations in which the use of alcoholic beverages has been and is habitual. Do not England, France, Germany stand foremost among the civilized nations, and has not, in these countries, the use of beer, wine and liquor been an established rule for centuries? Or are these nations perhaps now on the down road to decadence or dissolution? And when we look at the work accomplished by those individuals who have distinguished themselves by their brain work in the onward march of mankind, we again reach the conclusion that they have done the best and most work, who habitually and temperately have taken alcoholic stimulants.

Look at the Chinese, the Japanese, and compare the whole Mahometan population with Christian peoples, and you will find among the former strict abstinence, religiously enforced teetotalism on one hand and stagnation in culture, ignorance and social depravity on the other. Take a glance back to the classic ages of Greece and Rome. The old Greeks, whose high culture our present age, in many respects has not surpassed, held "that their God, Dionysius, introduced among men the liquid draught of the grape, which puts an end to sorrows of wretched mortals." Going still further back, we read in the Rig Veda, the holy scripture of the Hindoos, and the oldest religious document in existence, "This wine, when drunk, stimulates my head. It calls forth the ardent thought." Horace, the poet laureate of the Romans, praises in manifold songs the value of wine, and surely the old Romans understood how to drink it. But those were nations who made the history of the world in their time. And how about the Jews and Christians? Noah planted the vine and drank the juice of the grapes; he found it most excellent, and not knowing the mischief of excess, indulged a little too much and became drunk. But the Lord did not punish him for that.

THE CHRISTIAN STANDPOINT

Is indicated and defined by the miracle done by Christ at the wedding feast of Cana. In no instance does the Bible tell of total, still less of enforced abstinence. In the book of Proverbs we read: "Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy heart. Let him drink and forget his poverty and remember his misery no more." In Ecclesiastes, "Blessed art thou, O land, when thy princes eat in due season, and not for drunkenness." Psalm CIV.: "Wine that makes glad the heart of men." And Christ himself says: "I am the true vine." It is even against the true spirit of Christianity to compel men to abstain from drinking; it was left to that crazy imposter Mahomet, to make teetotalism a religious law and to enforce it with heavy penalties. Are our Christian brethren of the Prohibition party ready to accept Mahomet as an inspired prophet, and to exchange his teachings with those of Christ, and taking perhaps, the doctrine of polygamy with it into the bargain? There is absolutely no ground in the Christian doctrines upon which the Prohibition fanatic can take a stand, unless he takes the parts of the Pharisees who said: "We are the righteous, the good, the virtuous; and you are the wicked, bad, vicious." For the Pharisee's garment he is well fitted and in that role he tires himself out, in heaping contempt and ridicule upon those who find pleasure and enjoyment in a social glass. He calls those outcasts and criminals, who engage in the sale and manufacture of such beverages, hateful and envious because his heart knows no joy. Pull down your Christian mask, you blind fanatics, and show up your natural complexion of the Pharisee and hypocrite!

WITH THE HELP OF EXCESSIVE TAXATION

And unbearable license, our patrons of the high license class propose to remedy the evil of drunkenness by diminishing the number of saloons. Has such medicine ever effected a cure? The reformers of this class, which to some extent represent the wealth of our community here, point with certain pride to the fact that saloons as a rule are

EXCESS IN DRINKING

Is an evil but not drinking in itself, which is enjoyment, recreation and pleasure. To stop this evil, by prohibiting the manufacture and sale of all drinks, would be nothing else but a punishment of the very large majority of sober people who drink, for the shortcomings of a relatively small number of individuals who cannot or will not be moderate in taking beverages. But excess in all things is wrong. Men eat too much, and medical authorities have demonstrated that more harm is being done by overeating than by overdrinking. Some men read too much and others try to reform too much. There is the pulpit, the school, the public platform; let those agencies work in the right way, let them teach sobriety, demonstrate the evil of drunkenness, gluttony and fanaticism, let them instruct the young in the doctrines of righteousness, of temperance in all things and of charity towards all. Let the work of persuasion and reasoning go on with unabating power, impress those who indulge excessively in beverages with the necessity of moderation, or, if need be, of total abstinence; but do not compel others to do so and make them thus renounce their birthright of personal liberty. Do not interfere with other men's business, let the brewer, the liquor dealer, the saloon keeper tend to theirs, and every one to his own. If you want Prohibition, the first thing for you to do would reasonably be to stop the source from which the manufacturer of malt and distilled liquors is supplied with the necessary material. You will then stop the planting of corn, the sowing of rye and barley, the raising of hops, the planting of the vine, and the cultivation of grapes.

This could be a very large play ground or battle field, whatever they might call it, for these reformers, if they are so terribly in earnest. Let them take the bull by the horns and eradicate the evil, if it be such, from the root. There is plenty of ground over which the prohibition fanatics can ride their nefarious hobbies, in trying their hand at stopping the primary resources for the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages. Having done their mischief there, they might then put on the garb of the robber and highwayman, and

begin with the destruction of property and the demolition of legitimate business.

For the mischief that might be worked by the sale of liquor, there are abundant remedies provided in our statutes. Punish the mischievous drunkard, punish the man who sells to him; exercise sound discrimination in giving license for the sale of drinks, let the hand of the law fall with full force upon those who sell to minors and thus harm the young. But do not interfere with the innocent enjoyment of hundreds of thousands, in order to lessen the harm arising from the folly or evil propensities, not of themselves, but of others.

Trust to the good sense and improvement of mankind, respect the rights and opinions of those who do not agree with you; avoid the evils that attend on laws which have not the support of public opinion, feeling or usage. Be charitable to those who think otherwise than you and, above all, respect the individual's right to *Personal Liberty*.