

souri River to Colorado, and from Nebraska to Oklahoma, there is not a place which the thirstily wayfarer can enter and laying down a dime demand a glass of beer." But he has partially destroyed the force of an argument based on this condition of things by the preceeding admission, for the evil goes on in secret. However, as he says, it may be and we hope is true that the habit of drinking is dying out. Temptation being removed from the young and the infirm, they have been redeemed. "The liquor-seller, being proscribed, is an outlaw, and his vocation disreputable. Drinking, being stigmatized, is out of fashion, and the consumption of intoxicants has enormously decreased. Intelligent and conservative observers estimate the reduction at ninety per cent; it cannot be less than seventy-five."

The Senator concludes that prohibition is a success. "The prediction of its opponents has not been verified; immigration has not been repelled, nor has capital been diverted from the State. The period has been one of unexampled growth and development."

Mr. Murphy, while agreeing with the main features of Mr. Ingalls' logic, is equally as positive that prohibition is a failure, in that drinking to some extent still goes on, while men become hypocritical and sneaking who would otherwise not debauch their manhood in that way at least. Neither does he consider the defeat of a prohibitory amendment in Pennsylvania a verdict in favor of the liquor traffic. (It will be remembered that the people of that State rejected the amendment by an overwhelming majority.) He believes it a verdict in favor of practical Christian effort and a declaration on the part of the people that they refuse to surrender the control that they now have and take the chances of prohibition. He believes that the traffic in liquor will continue to be regulated by the people in the laws of the State, regardless of party, sect or creed.

He regards as the principal cause of defeat the fact that prohibition does not prohibit. "It is a continual war, a continual storehouse of malice, envy and of hatred, and has broken in pieces the unity of spirit and the bonds of peace. The use of it has proven beyond doubt that men cannot be made sober, or virtuous, or truthful, or manly, or noble

by legislative enactment. It is time for the church to pause and cease running to the legislature to save them from their sins."

The Brooks high license law in Pennsylvania, he says, has enabled the people to close more than half the saloons in Philadelphia and other large centres. It has been effective everywhere in the State by placing in the hands of the people the power to control the saloon according to the public sentiment.

Both Senator Ingalls and Francis Murphy are men whose opinions on such subjects are entitled to great consideration and respect; the fact that they differ so widely should be understood as a difference regarding the means employed, being thoroughly in accord as to the end desired—the curtailment of the rum habit to its lowest possible proportions. The better classes of every community are and must continue to be in consonance with them on the main proposition while each has and will continue to have his partisans. The high license plan prevails in Utah, and while it has not accomplished all that we could wish, in that some of the water from the surging tide beyond has often dashed across the dyke, it has still, nevertheless, stood between the people and the flood. It has its weakness, and almost any law or arrangement designed to hold a monstrous but still largely recognized and patronized evil must have. As for example, in Maine, Kansas and Iowa, where absolute prohibition prevails, instances of the law's enforcement have occurred the details of which have read like chapters from the blue laws. In the first named, a section provides that any person *suspected* of having liquor on his or *her* person may be thoroughly searched, their baggage opened, etc.; in some cases, with unscrupulous officers, this might lead to infamous results. In Iowa, one of the courts recently decided that under the law a man could not manufacture cider for his own use! In Kansas, a few years ago, a druggists' clerk was sentenced to eighteen years imprisonment and fined a large fortune for putting a small quantity of liquor into unforbidden preparations, when parties had asked for it. These are the extremes that come of fanaticism, and in making and enforcing laws, not fanatical zeal but a disposition to secure and maintain justice should be the policy adopted.

## THE KENTUCKY ELECTION.

THE election in Kentucky, which occurred on the same day as ours—Monday, August 5th—was for State Treasurer and members of the Legislature. There was no speculation on the result for the reason that, also like the Utonians, the Kentuckians hold pretty well together and have been supporting a party which they prefer to any other, for more than a generation. It is for this reason, probably, that the Associated Press has provided us with such meagre reports regarding the contest.

The fact is, that there was more of consequence pertaining to it than has been given out, for these reasons: It was the first general election since the Presidential struggle of last November, and was thus an indicator, to some extent, of how the popular feeling in a political sense is running; and through the embezzlements of the late treasurer, John W. Tate, now in exile, the Democratic party had an accountability to meet which it was supposed would militate against it largely, perhaps to the extent of actual defeat.

The result shows that Kentucky Democracy is not a sufficiently variable quantity to justify the hopes of the opposition at any time. The majority in the late State election, two years ago, when General Buckner was elected Governor, was only 21,000, a figure so slight as to cause the Republican candidate to send out dispatches, when the vote was about half counted, to the effect that he was the winner. Now the figures are back to the normal, being about 35,000, thus showing that the party is not held responsible for the criminal conduct of one of its members, and that the administration and Republicanism generally find no favor on Kentucky soil. The Legislature is also carried by an increased majority; in the last one the Republicans had about twenty members out of about 130, now they have probably a dozen. Whatever mistake there may be in the action of the Kentuckians, there need be none as to its meaning.

THE Mississippi Democrats are somewhat distributive in the matter of compliments. At their convention, which was held at Jackson on the 16th, they highly complimented the administration of Governor Lowry for its general integrity and ability, and especially commended him for his stand on the prize-fighting matter; they then nominated another man—J. M. Stone—for Governor.