

and the relief of the wretched. They are schools, not prisons, homes, not places of confinement. They are places where the neglected and outcast children and youth of our Commonwealth. The success of the past is a sure guarantee of their future success. They should receive your aid and encouragement.

The "Blind" and the "Deaf and Dumb Asylums," in Philadelphia, invite our sympathy and ask to share the benefactions of our Commonwealth. They should not be disappointed. The blind, in their darkness—the dumb, in their silence—will cherish the gift, and bless the generous donor. The Legislature, in relation to all questions of moral and social reform, should be carefully and wisely considered and matured. On no subject, within the constitutional authority of the Legislature, are the people so sensitive; and no one more deeply interested every class and condition of society. Sumptuary laws, as a general rule, are of doubtful expediency, and as abridgments of the liberty and privileges of the citizen, can only be justified on the ground of necessity. Whilst it is admitted, it cannot be denied that the evils growing from intemperance, create a necessity for regulating and restricting by legislative acts, the traffic and sale of intoxicating liquors. To what extent this traffic should be restricted by positive law, is not a question to be determined by considerations of their own moral, physical and social welfare. Whatever may be our opinion, or that of the Legislature or the people, it is not for us to determine the law of the last session, to restrain the sale of intoxicating liquors, it must be admitted that a full return to the license system, in operation prior to the passage of the act, is not demanded by enlightened public sentiment, and would not promote the good order or happiness of the community. That the laws then in existence were imperfect and failed to accomplish their objects of intemperance, is a proposition too plain to be doubted—that they needed revision must also be conceded. In our large cities and towns, the evils of intemperance are too very felt. The facilities and cheapness with which licenses were obtained, operated as a premium to vice and immorality, and multiplied the traffic and sale of intoxicating liquors, under the authority of law, was not only permitted, but encouraged. My immediate predecessor, in his last annual message to the Legislature, in reference to the license laws, says, "The laws which relate to the sale of intoxicating liquors, are peculiarly prejudicial to public morals, and should be revised and amended to promote the good order and happiness of the community, and to restrain its evil consequences." In this opinion I fully concur. That a remedy was demanded, all will concede. Whether the law of the last session is the proper remedy, it is not my province now to determine. It is not for us to determine the law, it is for the Legislature to determine. It is not for us to determine the law, it is for the Legislature to determine. It is not for us to determine the law, it is for the Legislature to determine.

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**CITY AND COUNTY ITEMS.**

**THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.**—The Democratic County Convention, on Wednesday evening last, at the Lancaster Hotel, was held for the purpose of electing delegates to the State Convention, and for the purpose of transacting such other business as might come before it. Over 200 delegates in attendance, and the utmost harmony and enthusiasm prevailed in the body. The veteran and staunch Democrat, John H. Baker, presided, and the very next little slip, thanking the Convention for the honor conferred upon him. The resolutions were strong, and made mention of the various political topics of the day. The Convention held its session at Fulton Hall, and we hope that the next time a Convention meets there the large room will be comfortable especially at that season of the year.

**BY** a resolution of the 20th day of April, 1855, I was requested to procure from the Legislature, in relation to all questions of moral and social reform, should be carefully and wisely considered and matured. On no subject, within the constitutional authority of the Legislature, are the people so sensitive; and no one more deeply interested every class and condition of society. Sumptuary laws, as a general rule, are of doubtful expediency, and as abridgments of the liberty and privileges of the citizen, can only be justified on the ground of necessity. Whilst it is admitted, it cannot be denied that the evils growing from intemperance, create a necessity for regulating and restricting by legislative acts, the traffic and sale of intoxicating liquors. To what extent this traffic should be restricted by positive law, is not a question to be determined by considerations of their own moral, physical and social welfare. Whatever may be our opinion, or that of the Legislature or the people, it is not for us to determine the law of the last session, to restrain the sale of intoxicating liquors, it must be admitted that a full return to the license system, in operation prior to the passage of the act, is not demanded by enlightened public sentiment, and would not promote the good order or happiness of the community. That the laws then in existence were imperfect and failed to accomplish their objects of intemperance, is a proposition too plain to be doubted—that they needed revision must also be conceded. In our large cities and towns, the evils of intemperance are too very felt. The facilities and cheapness with which licenses were obtained, operated as a premium to vice and immorality, and multiplied the traffic and sale of intoxicating liquors, under the authority of law, was not only permitted, but encouraged. My immediate predecessor, in his last annual message to the Legislature, in reference to the license laws, says, "The laws which relate to the sale of intoxicating liquors, are peculiarly prejudicial to public morals, and should be revised and amended to promote the good order and happiness of the community, and to restrain its evil consequences." In this opinion I fully concur. That a remedy was demanded, all will concede. Whether the law of the last session is the proper remedy, it is not my province now to determine. It is not for us to determine the law, it is for the Legislature to determine. It is not for us to determine the law, it is for the Legislature to determine. It is not for us to determine the law, it is for the Legislature to determine.

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