

THE COURT AND LICENSE.

The Supreme Court rules that, "Whether licenses should be granted is a legislative not a judicial question. Courts sit to administer the law fairly as it is given to them and not to make or repeal it."

Under our present license law the Court has some discretionary authority. It is important to people that they know their proper limit, otherwise they are liable to incur the Court for that which they themselves are to blame.

In the first place the law seems to assume that no person has the right to sell alcoholic beverages without a license, and, second, that places where such beverages are kept and sold are necessary for the accommodation of the public.

These questions are outside the jurisdiction of the Court, fixed facts in law, which the Court must keep in view.

Suppose from a Ward or a town hip in which there is no licensed house there comes to the Court an application signed by fifteen citizens, and a remonstrance signed by three hundred.

The law must be presumed to intend that for which it provides. It prescribes the license. It requires the necessity for licensed houses. The entire provisions of the statute rest on this fact. It provides for license where twelve sign the application. The principle on which the "local option law" was based, was that in localities where the people were opposed to license, there should not be granted.

The law was specifically enacted for the present one enacted in its place. This act is directly opposite in principle. It provides for the accommodation of the minority in a community, even though small. If the Court were to adopt the practice of refusing licenses where the majority of the people were opposed to its being granted, such practice would amount to a practical repeal of the law.

The Court is ever under the necessity of regarding the law as the authoritative expression of the will of the people. The man who holds license holds it by virtue of this authority. He is the agent of the people for this specific purpose. If he disobeys his instructions by violating the law under which he holds the license, the Court will revoke it. If it is proved that an applicant has done this the Court will refuse license. Or if there is a much larger number of applicants for license in any community than is needed for the accommodation of the public, it comes within the discretion of the Court to grant only so many as may be deemed necessary to answer to the practical needs of the wisdom of this policy the Court is not the judge. That is a question for the people and their law-making agents to decide. The Courts are to administer the law as it comes to them. It is General Grant I believe who made this truthful remark: "That the best way to get a bad law repealed was to faithfully administer it."

If the people command one thing while they want another they must expect their commands to be obeyed while their requests are disregarded. Several legislatures have been elected since the present law has been in force. With but one exception the "local option" State have held their annual conventions without expressing any condemnation of the repeal of the "local option law," or instructing their nonlicensees in favor of the repeal of the law now in force. So that, so far as authoritative expression of the people is concerned it may be regarded as in favor of the present law. There has been no important question of State policy before the people for years so justify their neglect of this question that they desired make any radical change in the law. The few who have indicated such desire by their votes are but a drop in the bucket as compared to the great mass of voters in the State.

The license asked for is granted.

A Smile of Satisfaction. This from the Cleveland (Ohio) Penny Press, carries its own suggestion: "Recently meeting Mr. H. G. Keffler, treasurer of the Cleveland Herald, our representative inquired of that gentleman, after stating his mission, if he personally knew anything about the Great German Remedy, St. Jacobs Oil. A smile played across Mr. Keffler's expressive face and his eyes twinkled merrily as he replied in the affirmative. He will not refuse to state my experience with it. This went on at intervals for over three years, and I could not obtain relief. Last winter I applied the St. Jacobs Oil and it completely cured me. I have not since felt a return of the pain."

Bishop How, of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, is to be presented with a handsome pastoral staff on the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination to the ministry, which will occur on January 18th. The Bishop is a native of Bristol, Rhode Island, and was formerly for many years rector of St. Luke's Church in Philadelphia. He is now in the sixtieth year of his age, and still in vigorous health, giving his constant and active attention to the affairs of his diocese.

One of the most popular medicines now before the American public is HOP BITTER. It is a tonic, a stimulant, a "people taker," and a "good effect." It builds them up. It is as pleasant to take, as it is to drink. It is more like the old-fashioned "honey-taste," that has done a world of good. If you don't feel just right, try HOP BITTER.

STONE—Flourishing, Caps, Sills and Stairs of most excellent quality and durability. Also, a large stock of building stone, granite, marble, and all kinds of stone work. Estimates given on application. Address: HICKS & CO., 100 N. 2nd St. (Near the Court House), Philadelphia, Pa.

Miscellaneous.

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A LIFETIME SURPASS. Sewing machines with all the latest improvements. Johnson & Co., Chicago, Ill.

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STORY OF THE SEWING MACHINE. A detailed account of the history and development of the sewing machine.

Miscellaneous.

JAMES McCABE. Headquartered for choice groceries, cash paid for butter, eggs, etc. Goods sold at the lowest living rates.

NEW FIRM! SWARTS & GORDON. Groceries & Provisions. Complete assortment and choice stock of new goods.

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High Valley.

Table with 4 columns: Station, Eastward, Westward, and Time. Lists train schedules for High Valley.

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REMEMBER! That you can save money by buying at the old-established Clothing House of M. E. ROSENFELD.

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