

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

FORTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

No. 2.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF
STATE LIQUOR COMMISSIONER
OF
MAINE,
A. D. 1869.

To the Governor and the Executive Council of Maine:

This Report for the year ending November 30th, 1869, presents a detailed account of sales to the towns in this state, for their respective Agencies. It will be noticed that the amount of sales and number of Agencies supplied have continued nearly the same for several years.

Previous to the establishments of this office, the fact became apparent that few of the Municipal Boards or their Agents were competent judges of the quality of liquors, and consequently were liable in their purchases to serious impositions. No one, therefore, could have any assurance that the liquors on sale at the Agencies were suitable for medicinal purposes, or that they were not adulterated with ingredients actually poisonous.

By providing a State Commission for wholly supplying the town agencies, to be carried on by a reliable judge of liquors, who should be required to have every article sold to the agencies analyzed and ascertained to be pure, it was hoped this evil might be remedied. Whether the State Commission has been conducted in a manner to entitle it to public confidence and prove its utility, those who are constituted its special supervisors as well as others

who have taken pains to investigate its affairs are competent to judge.

As a great portion of the liquors furnished to the Agencies are supposed to be used medicinally, distinguished physicians have been fully consulted in reference to the selections most appropriate, and frequent invitations have been given to the members of the Medical profession at their State conventions, to visit this institution for the purpose of examining the quality of the liquors kept on sale and the guarantees that they are all pure, and the best grades are always furnished to the City and Town Agencies, whenever ordered by a municipal Board or their authorized agent. No inconsiderable number have availed themselves of an opportunity to do so, and the sentiment indicated by critical judges is that the State Commission or some kindred institution is indispensable and would be equally necessary were there no prohibitory law—especially while physicians so generally prescribe liquors in their practice and so large a portion of those sold outside of the agencies are mere adulterations.

A large majority of the agencies in the State, it is believed, are wholly supplied from this office and well conducted. Some, however, have obtained their liquors from other sources, and at several agencies forfeited liquors have been put on sale. I have received numerous samples of these liquors and found most of them not only adulterated but of the lowest type. It is, therefore, obviously expedient that the sale of forfeited liquors at the agencies should be prohibited and provision be made for their disposal to any authorized distiller, for their alcoholic value.

Various reasons are assigned, by different parties, for carrying on the agencies in violation of the law, but in all cases where spurious and unauthorized liquors are sold, the prime object seems to be to realize the largest possible profit. Such liquors, if seized at an agency, would be forfeited to the town, and as the law now stands, the Municipal Board, if so disposed, might place them back in the agency again, and their sale would then be lawful. If, therefore, it is of consequence that the liquors kept at the agencies for medicinal use should be known to be pure, it is important that the law, relating to forfeited liquors, should be amended as above suggested. Respectfully submitted,

EATON SHAW, *Commissioner.*

PORTLAND, December, 1869.

LIQUOR COMMISSIONER'S REPORT.

Sales to Cities and Towns for the year ending November 30, 1869.

Town of Abbott,.....	\$60 87	Town of Lincolnville,.....	951 17
“ Albion,.....	32 25	“ Lisbon,.....	375 86
“ Anson,.....	685 90	“ Livermore,.....	346 71
“ Andover,.....	517 90	“ Lovell,.....	542 32
“ Appleton,.....	32 20	“ Machias,.....	2,178 66
“ Athens,.....	1,222 70	“ Madison,.....	140 98
City of Auburn,.....	2,353 41	“ Mercer,.....	271 90
“ Bangor,.....	2,140 31	“ Mexico,.....	482 29
“ Belfast,.....	852 51	“ Minot,.....	580 99
“ Bath,.....	3,883 00	“ Monmouth,.....	538 92
Town of Belmont,.....	215 15	“ Mt. Vernon,.....	115 16
“ Belgrade,.....	819 55	“ Milton plantation,.....	84 35
“ Benton,.....	202 73	“ Naples,.....	62 00
“ Bethel,.....	1,065 03	“ New Gloucester,.....	512 53
“ Bingham,.....	506 96	“ New Portland,.....	663 05
“ Bowdoin,.....	328 82	“ New Sharon,.....	626 91
“ Bowdoinham,.....	852 37	“ Norridgewock,.....	328 40
“ Bradford,.....	393 80	“ Norway,.....	859 49
“ Brunswick,.....	2,230 81	“ Orono,.....	291 88
“ Buckfield,.....	1,329 39	“ Oxford,.....	556 17
“ Bucksport,.....	692 89	“ Palermo,.....	209 75
“ Burnham,.....	450 60	“ Palmyra,.....	273 99
City of Calais,.....	220 97	“ Paris,.....	1,623 52
Town of Canaan,.....	1,115 72	“ Peru,.....	225 35
“ Canton,.....	1,630 83	“ Phillips,.....	927 25
“ Carratunk,.....	787 62	“ Poland,.....	325 83
“ Camden,.....	492 85	“ Pittsfield,.....	813 30
“ Chesterville,.....	375 41	“ Porter,.....	157 99
“ Cornville,.....	187 11	City of Portland,.....	6,128 79
“ Cherryfield,.....	957 70	Town of Raymond,.....	338 04
“ Clinton,.....	402 08	“ Readfield,.....	679 41
“ Columbia Falls,.....	726 83	City of Rockland,.....	817 95
“ Cornish,.....	550 62	Town of Rome,.....	87 55
“ Denmark,.....	403 04	“ Richmond,.....	769 90
“ Detroit,.....	513 77	“ Ripley,.....	353 78
“ Dexter,.....	595 32	City of Saco,.....	249 31
“ Dixfield,.....	1,087 28	“ Sandy River plantation,.....	430 63
“ Dover,.....	649 50	Town of Sherman,.....	125 87
“ Eastport,.....	173 14	“ Skowhegan,.....	712 85
“ East Livermore,.....	1,322 57	“ Smithfield,.....	247 87
“ East Machias,.....	459 44	“ Sidney,.....	121 73
“ Enfield,.....	75 07	“ Solon,.....	307 94
“ Fairfield,.....	2,032 97	“ Starks,.....	719 99
“ Farmington,.....	1,495 07	“ Strong,.....	305 32
“ Fayette,.....	292 73	“ St. Albans,.....	193 02
“ Foxcroft,.....	60 15	“ Sumner,.....	308 93
“ Frankfort,.....	410 88	“ Turner,.....	454 41
“ Franklin,.....	111 30	“ Vassalborough,.....	1,122 22
“ Freeport,.....	915 04	“ Vienna,.....	847 44
“ Freedom,.....	160 12	“ Waldoborough,.....	857 26
“ Greene,.....	154 69	“ Waterford,.....	679 08
City of Gardiner,.....	2,955 39	“ Waterville,.....	747 70
Town of Greenwood,.....	611 58	“ Webster,.....	175 92
City of Hallowell,.....	340 73	“ Wayne,.....	834 63
Town of Hanover,.....	1,004 35	“ Weld,.....	337 58
“ Harmony,.....	716 73	“ Wellington,.....	785 74
“ Harrington,.....	29 04	“ Whitefield,.....	939 20
“ Hartland,.....	90 49	“ Whitneyville,.....	97 08
“ Holderness, N.H.,.....	31 59	“ Woodstock,.....	535 56
“ Hebron,.....	233 30	“ Wilton,.....	1,226 28
“ Kingfield,.....	412 31	“ Winterport,.....	571 56
“ Kittery,.....	1,154 38	“ Winthrop,.....	759 15
“ Leeds,.....	364 37	“ Wiscasset,.....	1,036 48
City of Lewiston,.....	7,652 07		
Town of Lexington,.....	18 38		
“ Lincoln,.....	379 07		
		Whole amount of sales,.....	\$95,195.65

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, January 7, 1870.

On motion of Mr. LINDSEY, laid on the table, and one thousand copies ordered to be printed.

SAMUEL W. LANE, *Secretary.*