

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# FIFTIETH LEGISLATURE.

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SENATE.

No. 21.

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## REPORT OF THE STATE LIQUOR COMMISSIONER.

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*To the Hon. the Governor and Executive Council of Maine:*

My Annual Report is herewith presented, in which is given a detailed statement of sales as by law required.

It will be noticed that the amount of sales at this office, and the number of towns supplied are somewhat larger than during the preceding year. No efforts have been spared to furnish the very best liquors, according to the price paid, and it is believed they have given general satisfaction.

Considering the persistent efforts of interested parties to prejudice the public mind against existing laws for regulating the sale of intoxicating liquors, and to bias those who have the supervision of city and town agencies against the management of the State Liquor Commission, it cannot be surprising that some agencies are found to be perverted by the sale of spurious liquors obtained from illegal sources.

The agencies, to a large extent, I believe to be well conducted. It has been suggested, however, that some regulation should be adopted which would assure every person who has occasion to purchase at an agency for medicinal use, that the article obtained is pure and what it purports to be. The subject has been very fully considered, and it seems to me the only practical way to secure the object would be not to have any liquors sold on draft.

Were the State Liquor Agent required to supply the agencies with sealed packages of various sizes to meet the demand—put up in cases—with a label on each package describing the kind and cost, and bearing also the number of the certificate of the analysis, which the State Assayer should be required to preserve with a part of the original sample taken for analysis, it would throw the whole responsibility upon the State Agent. For if one of these sealed packages were sent to the State Assayer he would be able

to decide at once whether it was identical or not with the sample in his possession. This additional labor would add something to the cost of liquors to towns, but it would be quite or wholly made up by obviating all loss from evaporation and waste in drawing.

At some agencies the profit charged to purchasers is believed to be much too large. I think it should be limited not to exceed a certain per cent.

Under existing revenue laws the State Agent is required to pay \$125 annually for licences, and a tax of one per cent. on his sales. This is a heavy burden, as he is allowed to charge only seven per cent. commission upon the cost of his stock, out of which he allows one per cent. discount to the towns which pay down for their purchases, and has also to furnish the capital to carry on the business and defray all expenses of the same. If, therefore, it should be deemed expedient to require the State Agent to put up his stock in sealed packages as above suggested, it will be obviously necessary to allow him to add the expense of doing it to the cost of his stock, or to charge a commission of at least ten (10) per cent. instead of seven as now provided.

Whole amount of sales.....	\$105,591.56
“ “ “ commissions.....	6,782.49

Respectfully submitted.

EATON SHAW, *State Liquor Commissioner.*

PORTLAND, December, 1870.

LIQUOR COMMISSIONER'S REPORT.

Statement of Sales to Cities and Towns for the year ending November 30, 1870.

City of Auburn.....	\$2,557 90	Town of Highland.....	\$71 42
Town of Andover.....	151 49	“ Kittery.....	1,050 87
“ Athens.....	783 55	City of Lewiston.....	8,313 41
“ Anson.....	847 75	Town of Lincolnville.....	380 23
“ Appleton.....	15 95	“ Lovell.....	950 03
“ Albion.....	606 15	“ Lincoln.....	151 05
“ Abbot.....	73 91	“ Lisbon.....	413 50
“ Buckfield.....	1,248 83	“ Livermore.....	485 54
City of Bangor.....	4,347 31	“ Leeds.....	266 21
Town of Bucksport.....	2,100 83	“ Milton Plantation.....	23 62
“ Bethel.....	1,307 65	“ Minot.....	96 70
“ Belgrade.....	715 78	“ Monmouth.....	756 85
“ Benton.....	456 49	“ Machias.....	1,952 73
City of Belfast.....	1,676 76	“ Mexico.....	1,081 87
“ Bath.....	3,836 07	“ Mercer.....	467 71
Town of Brunswick.....	2,037 86	“ Naples.....	912 65
“ Bowdoinham.....	1,102 83	“ New Sharon.....	353 25
“ Burnham.....	912 84	“ Norway.....	1,150 85
“ Bingham.....	653 53	“ New Portland.....	431 91
City of Biddeford.....	449 19	“ New Gloucester.....	412 70
Town of Belmont.....	406 87	“ Newcastle.....	226 38
“ Bowdoin.....	509 23	“ Norridgewock.....	129 31
“ Bridgton.....	16 56	“ North Berwick.....	837 97
“ Camden.....	561 05	“ Oxford.....	169 01
“ Cornville.....	212 19	“ Oldtown.....	1,995 97
“ Cherryfield.....	1,175 71	“ Orono.....	346 72
“ Chesterville.....	459 81	City of Portland.....	8,110 00
“ Canton.....	1,979 46	Town of Pittsfield.....	718 19
“ Clinton.....	60 87	“ Palermo.....	141 61
“ Canaan.....	1,085 15	“ Porter.....	26 05
“ Carratunk.....	719 16	“ Phillips.....	970 91
“ Cornish.....	719 31	“ Paris.....	1,216 89
City of Calais.....	176 13	“ Palmyra.....	273 45
Town of Columbia Falls.....	591 78	“ Readfield.....	673 17
“ Dexter.....	898 76	“ Raymond.....	67 61
“ Dixfield.....	1,405 58	“ Richmond.....	590 18
“ Denmark.....	48 41	“ Ripley.....	398 41
“ Dover.....	642 42	“ Starks.....	246 68
“ Detroit.....	985 17	“ Strong.....	98 76
“ Damariscotta.....	962 21	Sandy River Plantation.....	163 43
“ East Livermore.....	1,398 75	Town of St. Albans.....	312 08
“ East Machias.....	520 33	“ Smithfield.....	604 74
“ Eastport.....	1,125 79	“ Skowhegan.....	707 93
“ Ellsworth.....	1,049 85	“ Sumner.....	400 28
“ Freeport.....	562 22	“ Somerville.....	920 47
“ Freedom, N. H.....	182 25	“ Sidney.....	66 34
“ Fairfield.....	248 20	“ Solon.....	128 17
“ Farmington.....	1,640 89	“ Turner.....	451 17
“ Fayette.....	350 98	“ Topsfield.....	310 87
“ Frankfort.....	834 03	“ Vassalborough.....	414 18
“ Franklin.....	121 02	“ Vienna.....	749 56
“ Foxcroft.....	602 94	“ Waldoborough.....	1,454 94
City of Gardiner.....	1,871 70	“ Wilton.....	1,192 40
Town of Greenwood.....	511 54	“ Waterville.....	2,232 68
“ Greenbush.....	15 41	“ Weld.....	442 16
“ Greene.....	154 26	“ Winthrop.....	185 27
Green Vale Plantation.....	56 11	“ Whitefield.....	1,574 46
Town of Hartland.....	168 86	“ Woodstock.....	513 83
“ Hebron.....	308 65	“ Wayne.....	712 48
“ Harmony.....	800 34	“ Wellington.....	621 66
“ Hanover.....	46 56	“ Winterport.....	492 92
City of Hallowell.....	513 67	“ Warren.....	37 17
Hamlin's Grant Plantation.....	1,353 88	“ Washington.....	450 37

STATE OF MAINE.

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IN SENATE, January 30, 1871.

On motion of Mr. CARVILL, laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

SAMUEL W. LANE, *Secretary.*