

and had spent most of their little money in bringing so far the feather beds they had prized in Ireland, while the friends they had expected to meet had died in Cincinnati before their arrival. My wife was much pleased with their manners, and gladly hired the girl; but here again the engagement came to nought. On the day on which we were to start, the mother could not bring herself to part with her daughter, and the daughter could not go with us against the mother's wishes. At Cincinnati, therefore, they remained; adding to the number of the Irish emigrants who almost starve one another on its wharves. I tried to persuade some of the porters and carmen how much better they would prosper farther up the country; but sure there was Mary and the children were hard to move; and sure they had spent all their money; and when they did earn a dollar, the whiskey was very comforting, and three cents would roll a man in the gutter, and make him good for nothing at all, at all.

Well might Father Mathew preach temperance to such people. The more settled

population of the country, however, needed him not; for before his arrival, the walls had been covered with handbills in favour of what was called the Maine Liquor Law, which forbids the selling, by retail, of all spirituous and fermented liquor. The votes were shortly afterwards taken on the question by universal suffrage; and by an immense majority of votes, the whole people of the state of Ohio (a territory more than half as large as all France), imposed upon themselves this vexatious, tyrannous, absurd sumptuary law!

We paid our bill, one dollar a-head per day for board, lodging, and service; found one Irish hackney coach driver, who consented to convey our children half a quarter of a mile to the quay for half a dollar; three others having turned away in disgust at my meanness in having offered only a little more than double the London fare. We crossed the busy quay, and embarked ourselves and our goods on "the river of beautiful waters," the bright Ohio.