

LAUGH AT THE LAW.

Bottling Works In the "Nigger Tract"

DO NOT NEED A LICENSE.

The Authorities Suddenly Cease Their
Efforts To Close These
Establishments.

Few bottling establishments are still running in full blast in this city without such a thing as a license. There are as many, if not more, such places doing business, and doing a flourishing business at that, as there were at the time the News first called the attention of the city authorities to their existence. The proprietors of these places do not seem to realize that they are amendable to law, for they pay no attention to the law, and as often as they have the chance they entertain the officers who are not paid for winking at violations of the law, but are expected to see that the law is obeyed.

The illegal establishments in the "Nigger Tract" are causing the people of that section much annoyance, while the saloon men who have paid the city \$500 for the privilege of selling liquor complain because they are forced to contend with this ETAOIN ETAOIN contend against this illegal competition. There are three establishments in the "Nigger Tract," the proprietors of which have been two or three times convicted of selling liquor without license, "but a little thing like that won't make them stop selling."

These places are kept by James Gordon, John G. Strigle and Mrs. Jennie Brackett. It is a notorious fact that they run these illicit establishments. Last month they were each convicted in the municipal court by juries and released on their own recognizance. They were arrested a second time and convicted, and again Judge Reed showed them the same leniency. He warned them, however, that if they were again convicted of violating the law he would not be so lenient. The warning of the court fell upon them like water upon a duck's back. The three establishments are doing business as if nothing had ever happened to make their vocations hazardous.

A prominent saloon man who has a place on Pacific avenue and is prominent in the Liquor Dealers' Association, said to a News reporter in speaking of the matter: "If Ben Liverett or some other well-known saloon man attempted to run without a license in the same manner as the people in the 'Nigger Tract,' the authorities would arrest him 50 times a day if necessary until Ben found it impossible to get bonds." In the "Nigger Tract" cases, however, the parties are convicted at least twice, but treated leniently. That is all very well, but when the court warns them that he will not treat them so leniently the next time and they pay no attention to his warning and in effect laugh at it I can't understand why the authorities do not arrest them again. Let them close these places up. If they can't do it, let every saloon man in the city refuse to pay a license. The law-abiding people of this city are as much interested in this matter as the saloon men. If certain people are to be favored, even if it is in the liquor business, the people should know it. I think the News deserves credit for giving the public the facts in these cases, as I know that every effort has been made to keep the public from knowing that there is any unusual light on over the existence of illegal liquor houses."