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ALL THE WORLD OVER.

*"I must have liberty,
Withal as large a charter as the wind—
To blow on whom I please."*

VICTORIA has reason to feel proud of one of her clergymen at least. I refer to the popular and eloquent pastor of the Metropolitan Methodist Church. Rev. Mr. Cleaver has shown a good example to his brother clergymen in his discussions of every-day topics, and while I do not agree with him in some of his views I am pleased to compliment him on the intelligence he has displayed in handling the subjects of his discourses. On the question of dancing I am forced to take issue with the rev. gentleman. Years ago, a short time after THE HOME JOURNAL was started, I had occasion to refer to this subject, and the ground I took at that time on this pastime was that dancing was not disastrous to good morals, and I have had no reason since to change my mind. It certainly would be a very harmless amusement if it were practiced as suggested by Rev. Mr. Cleaver.

According to the reports in the newspapers Mr. Cleaver, last Sunday night, said that he had not the slightest objection to dancing when properly conducted, and he even went so far as to point out that his text emphasized the fact that there was a time to dance. But, according to Mr. Cleaver, the time to dance is in the daytime. It appears to me that if dancing were only permitted to be indulged in in the daytime, none but the rich would be able to enjoy the luxury. Of a certainty it might conflict with the labors of those who are compelled to earn their bread by the sweat of their brow to throw down their implements of toil and engage in terpsichorean exercises during the working hours.

But Mr. Cleaver says that we must dance alone, each sex by itself, never men and women together. This would be an innovation the popularity of which many will be inclined to doubt. For my part I would like to see Mr. Cleaver make a practical experiment, and invite a dozen or so of the young men of his congregation to weekly dancing receptions, at which no women were present. To vary the monotony and that an invidious spirit might not be engendered among the members of the congregation, he might hold weekly receptions for women only. Just fancy the spectacle of Brother Smith walking up to Brother Jones and asking the pleasure of the good brother's company for the "bon ton." Then again, behold Sister Brown tripping up to Sister Jones and esteeming it as a favor to have the latter as a partner for the Virginia reel.

Is there any one foolish enough to believe that Mr. Cleaver's one-sex dancing academy would survive the winter?

The rev. gentleman pertinently asks, if it is good to dance, why not let the minister? So far as I am aware there is no law on the statute books of British Columbia to prevent a clergyman from gyrating in the mazy waltz, if he so inclines, nor yet is it proscribed by the laws governing the ball-room. There is, however, a well-defined suspicion that Methodist clergymen are not the most graceful nor yet the most proficient dancers among men. I am pleased to observe that Mr. Cleaver thought it wise to say nothing of the immoral objections which are frequently raised against dancing. In this respect he evinced a tolerant spirit consistent with the good sense which should govern the clergy.

Dancing, when indulged in amongst pure minded young people is not degrading in its tendency, and when not to excess it promotes healthy and pleasurable recreation. Of course I agree with Mr. Cleaver that it is inconsistent with Christianity to profane the sacred edifice of church by dancing in it.

Rev. Mr. Cleaver's Sunday night sermons are becoming popular, and, as I said before, although I do not endorse all he says, I am convinced that he is doing a noble work in this city, and the Metropolitan Methodist Church is to be congratulated on its possession of such a worthy gentleman as its pastor.

The sincerity of some well-