

of all offices, is under the influence of perpetual canvass, this of Temperance became a party question; and governors were chosen and removed upon it. Four years ago its supporters were defeated, and a stringent licencing system was substituted in its place. For two years and upwards this plan was tried with every disposition of the authorities to favour its success. Pauperism and crime which under the prohibitory law had been reduced to an incredibly small amount, soon renewed their devastations; the public voice was raised loudly, and with rare concert, against the license plan; a resolution was passed at the State Convention that the liquor law should no more be treated as a party question, and the repealing act was, without opposition, itself repealed. Another effort was made to restore the repeal; but the resolution of the State Convention was referred to, which stood unrescinded: and all attempt to get rid of the liquor law was abandoned henceforth as hopeless. The happy result has been a continuance of the same diminution both of pauperism and crimes which had followed upon the original enactment of the law. Upon this very remarkable passage in the history of social science it may be observed that at least it affords proof of the experiment having been made, and successfully made, of dealing rigorously with the evil; and if the same preparation of the public mind which led to that experiment being tried, and secured its success, takes place in other countries, the great example may then be followed safely and successfully. Then the philanthropist would no longer complain with the Recorder of Birmingham, that into whatever path of benevolence he may strike, the drink-demon starts up before him, and blocks his way; or comparing what is cheerfully squandered upon the fuel of intemperance with what is grudgingly bestowed upon the means of mental improvement, lament to find tenfold the price of food to the mind paid for poison to the body; but would delight to hear our poor, reclaimed from the worst excesses, free from the yoke of the cruel though perfidious tyrant, declare, as they did to the American missionary, that the law must have come from heaven, for it was too good to be the work of man.

TRICENTENARY OF THE REFORMATION IN SCOTLAND.

We have received a copy of the programme of arrangement for commemorating the Tricentenary of the Reformation in Scotland, from which it appears that there is to be a series of meetings held in Edinburgh during four days, beginning on Tuesday, the 14th of August, 1860, to which not only Protestant Scotchmen at home, but Protestants from all lands, and of all evangelical denominations, are invited, and at which papers, forming the basis of conversation, will be read, illustrative of the civil and religious history of Scotland before, at, and subsequent to the Reformation.—*Witness (Edinburgh)*.

DR. WOOD'S TRACT.—A CALL TO THE MINISTRY.

An eminent and venerated Professor in a Theological Seminary, a few days since, stated, that there were now at least *eight* students of Theology whose minds had been decided to devote themselves to the ministry, by the perusal of the Tract on "A Call to the Gospel Ministry," by the Rev. James Wood, D. D., published by the Board of Publication. Within a few weeks afterwards, he learned that at least four other young men in another Seminary, had been led to the same decision by reading the same tract. What has been so useful to one and another, may be useful to many more. A large number of young men are examining the question of duty in respect to their vocation in life. We take this opportunity, therefore, of calling the attention of our ministers, elders, and members, to this excellent Tract of Dr. Wood, which has been already so much blessed to those who have attentively perused it.—*Home and Foreign Record*.

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