Editorial Notes.

1893.]

ing Christian citizens keep their stores open on Sunday and sell, or go to the stores to buy, or go off on excursions or picnics, or go to the races where gambling is carried on (and perhaps take a chance themselves), or let out their property for the sale of liquors, or put their money into enterprises the principal income of which is from Sunday work, or vote for corrupt men, or vote for men simply because their party has nominated them, they have no ground for throwing stones at the officers and for laying all the blame upon them. "Judgment must begin," or should begin, "at the house of God."

And then good citizens do not properly encourage and sustain such officers as try to do their duty. They permit these officers to grapple with the vicious almost alone. Such officers must be supported. The good citizens must rally about them and sustain them. Such an officer is a treasure, and should be prized.

(c) The power and duty of the executive is not properly understood. People generally seem to think, and the officers too, that if the executive quells fighting, riots, etc., and stops burglary and incendiarism, etc., that it has done its duty; that if the other laws are to be enforced it must be done by making special complaint, in which the complainant must give bonds for the cost; hence private citizens will suffer long before they will go to law.

What is the remedy ?

(a) Every citizen who loves his country should obey its laws.

(b) All good citizens in every community should band together to see that all the laws are enforced, through the proper officers if possible; if not, in spite of them.

(c) Political parties must be purified, or else abandoned and pure ones created. If the vicious element controls the election of officers, it will also control those officers.

(d) The ministers of the Gospel must continually hold up before the people the sovereignty of God and His interest in the government of men. A moral sentiment must be created to sustain the laws. The historical fact must be proclaimed that no republic has gone down by the force of arms, but that republics have always perished by the weight of internal corruption.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Preaching People Out.

WE are hearing much in these days concerning the best methods of win ning the masses to the Church and holding them there. In prosecuting its search for a pastor, one of the first questions asked by a congregation concerning any candidate is, Can he draw? Has he the attractive power as a pulpit orator to gather large numbers of young and of old to the services of worship, to fill the pews, to make the church a paying institution? For it can hardly be denied that with very many, perhaps with the majority, the ideal church is one of large membership and unlimited financial resources.

One thing, however, seems very clear,

and that is that the churches, whether large or small, are not reaching the great masses of the people. They shun mission chapels as they would poison, recognizing in them an expression of the class spirit that says to the rich, "Sit thou here in a good place," and to the poor, "Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool." Nor is it a false pride that leads them to feel thus. One may not be ashamed of his poverty and yet be unwilling to be ticketed a poor man. It is the advertisement of his poverty from which he shrinks.

There are, then, two factors entering into the present problem : churches, including pastors, struggling to reach an ideal bigness which they identify with success; and multitudes of perishing