

ordinary pulpit coying with the personifications of wrong-doing. With him a spade was a spade, boodling was thieving, and the political ring an abomination in the eyes of God and all good men. And we are glad to think that the last of the prophets has not died with Dr. Douglas. In these times we need a phalanx of them to war against the combinations of cunning and canvassing that are to be found in more of the circles of Canada than the political circles. In a late issue of the *Illustrated American* the true function of the preacher who has the old spirit of the prophet about him is well illustrated in an article on the Rev. Dr. Tyrell of St. Louis, who, it says, has decided to throw off his coat, step down from the pulpit, and personally wrestle with the children of Satan. "Wherever crime is to be ferreted out," he says, "and evidence collected for its suppression, detective work is necessary." The reverend gentleman is the leader of the Law and Order League which purposes to follow the example set by the Rev. Dr. Parkhurst, of New York city—gather the evidence and wage relentless war against vice. When vice entrenches itself in a community, it is the duty of municipal authorities to enforce the law legislation has placed upon the statute book to control it, and these authorities should be held strictly accountable to the citizens by whose votes they are placed in office. If vice menaces a community, it is plain the law is not enforced and plainer still that citizens have lost the control of municipal government. The blame then lies with the citizens who do not enforce their rights. Throughout the country ambitious occupants of pulpits are entering the war against vice. They seek to eradicate it. However brave the work, however satisfactory the temporary results, it seems impossible that the vile and vicious turned from one quarter do not find shelter in another, for vice is as cunning as virtue is clever. In spite of all skepticism, the pulpit is the recognized source of moral guidance. The priest stands as the guide and watchman at the gate of Heaven, pointing out to man the way and calling the sinner to repentance. His influence upon the congregation, in the community in which he performs his mission, should be as leaven in the loaf. Under his teachings and influence men should turn from wickedness and, in steadfastly purposing to lead the right life, shun evil. This, and this alone, eradicates vice. Men turn to the pulpit to receive strengthening grace, and he who is the medium between God and man is best fitted to his calling who is not closely connected in the minds of his congregation with sensational exploits. What men need in