

of a spiritual life ever culminative and ever advancing, might well be presented oftener than it is as a practical argument for greater Christian activity, and as a motive for missionary zeal. For indifference begets indifference, yielding after its kind.—*North-East.*

THE CHURCH vs. INTemperance.

It is plain to all thinking men that drunkenness is one of the growing evils of the times, the very hot bed of all other crimes, and yet the great body of temperance reformers, abandoning moral suasion and doubting the influence of the Church as a restraining power, appeal to the State for aid. It is a serious mistake; it is a fatal confession of weakness. The Church, by persuasion, by example, by expounding the Word of God, by discipline, if necessary, might do much where as yet it has done little or nothing to decrease the evil of intemperance. We speak not by way of accusation, but of warning. The benefits conferred by Christianity on society are inestimable, but the work of Christianity is not yet done. If the sentiments of the Christian Churches are unmistakable on the subject of temperance, intemperance would in a day lose half its power to harm society. Christian men and women have no right to appeal to the State to prohibit the use of intoxicating liquors until the Church itself has prohibited the use and manufacture of them as far as its power extends. It will be time to appeal to the State when the devil of intemperance has been chained by the

Church, and then it may be altogether unnecessary.

CHRIST THE FOUNTAIN.

"If any man thirst, let him come to me and drink!" This was an astonishing announcement. If Plato had uttered it from his Academy, it would have savored of boastful presumption. Yet a Galilean peasant, whose whole "school" of followers scarcely went beyond a dozen fishermen and publicans, makes this proclamation to all human kind: If any one is thirsty for pure happiness, I will satisfy him; if any one is suffering from a sense of guilt, I will relieve him; if any one is heart-broken, I will comfort him. There is no alternative. Either this carpenter's son from Galilee is an insane impostor or else he is a being clothed with divine power. No madman ever talked for three years without uttering one foolish syllable; no impostor ever pushed himself before the public eye for three years without doing one selfish act. Jesus of Nazareth, then, was what he claimed to be—the Son of God.

These words are written for those who are thirsty. Ye who have a real aspiration for a nobler and purer life, ye who have never yet been delivered from the plague and power of sin, listen to that celestial voice: "If any man thirst, let him come to me and drink!" There is a flock at the fountain now. Go and join them. Draw for yourself. Drink for yourself. Drink, that your joy may be full. In heaven there is a perpetual Thanksgiving day; for the Lamb Who is in the midst of the Throne is their Shepherd, and He leadeth