

increase, and the Church is losing ground in her conflict with sin ; she has almost ceased to be felt as a power. If a majority of our church organizations were to-day to become extinct, the world would hardly know it."

Rev. J. I. Swander, Freemont, Ohio, referring to ecclesiastical amusements, says : "They are ripening an epoch in the world's history, when Jehovah will again speak in thunder tones similar to those which began to shake the Continent of Europe in the dawning of the Reformation. What shall the harvest be if we continue to seal with the sanction of heaven the principles and practices of hell ? The old landmark between two distinct orders of human character is passing away. Sheep and goats feed in the same range of pasture, and there is, consequently, not much apparent difference in their respective wools. Progressive euchre and retrogressive religion move hand in hand. The most popular amusements are common to both saint and sinner. Both parties seem disposed to meet on a common level, and form a treaty of peace. Zeal for God ! Heaven have mercy upon such willing victims of deep delusion ! The only value of such religion is its prophetic utterances. They reveal the inward emptiness of mere nominal Christianity, and foretell the ultimate marriage with genuine iniquity. May the chariot wheels of God's beneficent providence move on with rapid speed, and bring the inevitable crisis."

The late Hon. J. B. Finch, speaking of the United States, says : "There is not a large city in the land that is not controlled by its grog shops."

Says Bishop Foster : "Rum engenders poverty, poverty and rum engender crime. From the Government rum-shop the wild beast hunts his prey. Is Christendom