

women, in all parts of Ontario, be very active this month in setting up good sound temperance and prohibition men for municipal councillors. The Local Option Law has been declared by the Court of Appeal to be constitutional; and in very many places it ought to be quite possible to prohibit the retail selling of liquor. The wholesale trade is under the authority of the Federal Government, and cannot be voted out under the Provincial Act. And the druggists would still need very close watching. In many cases even now, the drug shops are largely places for tipping.

A TORONTO SUBSCRIBER, renewing his subscription last month, after some complimentary remarks about the INDEPENDENT, says: "One fault, but not yours; our churches do not supply you with the items of interest which must be constantly transpiring in our churches." This is measureably true; we would be glad if our friends would keep us well informed on all local occurrences, and send the items *as soon* as possible after the event, and *don't* send us clippings from papers. We don't promise to insert these. We must use our own discretion about copying from other papers.

"INDIA publishes 600 newspapers and all but six are hostile to Christianity." Such is the sad wail with which a New York paper opens a missionary article. As I have recently been sending out hundreds of circulars to newspapers and receiving scores of replies, I look over my list and find over *forty* Christian papers and magazines issued in India. Besides these, numbers of papers are issued by Europeans who are usually friendly to Christianity and some of the editors are true Christians. Among the probably 400 papers issued by non-Christians I suppose that at least fifty are comparatively friendly to Christianity.—*Indian Watchman*.

THE JEWS.—The prominence which very properly is being given in the press to the terrible persecution of the Jews in Russia, is tending somewhat to obscure the fact that there is a sad persecution on foot of the Protestants of the Baltic provinces, and of the Roman Catholics in the Polish districts. The vehemence of the persecuting spirit seems specially to mark the crisis through which the land of the Czar is passing, and it is diffi-

cult to read Holy Scripture and to avoid the impression that the judgments of a righteous God are following fast upon the national oppression and tyranny which have been so ruinous to myriads of unoffending people.—*Christian*.

YES, WITH A "CONDITION."—If reports can be depended upon, they have in Hungary a judge who is worthy, by reason of his wisdom, to occupy his position. It seems that there is a fanatical sect, calling themselves Nazarenes, some members of whom requested this judge to be allowed to crucify one of their number, who, they said was "a Messiah called of Heaven to save men." The reply of the judge was: "I do not wish to interfere with your religious practices. If your Messiah wishes to be crucified, let him prepare himself for death. Remember, however, that if he does not rise again in three days, I shall cause every one of you to be hanged." The Nazarenes had sense enough not to expose themselves to be hanged, and their chief still lives.—*Religious Herald*.

PROFESSOR BRIGGS is not to be tried for heresy by the New York Presbytery. The charges against him were dismissed by a vote of 94 to 39. The *N. Y. Independent*, in editorially dealing with the subject, winds up by saying—

The dismissal of the case was, it is evident, largely due to the impression created by Dr. Briggs's statement in defence, and to the desire to avoid a trial. Perhaps also, there was a feeling that conviction was improbable and that a result which is not acquittal, nor conviction which is not a quashing of the indictment, nor a declaration that there was not probable cause, was preferable to an uncertain issue. While we cannot see that the action of the Presbytery has at all placed Dr. Briggs in a better light before the Church, his own words have. It is clear that on some points he does not hold what he was understood to hold—that we are glad to know; but it is equally clear that for a theological teacher he has a peculiar faculty for rash and unguarded statements. If he had been as careful in guarding what he said in his Inaugural Address as he was in his defence he would have saved himself much criticism. It is to be hoped that he appreciates the importance, as never before, of making himself clearly understood.

INSPIRATION.—Not that by which holy men of old spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost; but the lesser inspiration that comes to every man at times, enabling him to do something for which he seemed to be unable at other times. If it is a worthy work—something which might with propriety be