

of preventing the indiscriminate liquor traffic which the present Lieutenant-Governor authorizes and encourages.

"That this abuse and the fearful immorality attendant upon it have grown to such appalling dimensions as to constitute an imperative demand for the immediate interference of the Dominion Government and Parliament, in the interests of morality and justice, with any measures that may be found necessary to prevent the further continuance of a policy unmistakably contrary to the method of suppressing the liquor traffic which our Dominion Parliament deemed should be carried out in the North-West Territories."

THE PRISON REFORM COMMISSION.

We trust, that very important results may flow from the Prison Reform Commission which is now taking evidence on this important subject at the principal penal institutions of this country and the United States. We utterly dissent from the opinion expressed by certain so-called experts, that crime is almost solely the result of atavism or heredity, that criminals are such by force of their inherited instincts and are scarcely responsible for their criminality. While heredity has, of course, much to do with depraved dispositions, yet removing the viciously inclined from their vicious environment, especially the young, and surrounding them with wholesome moral and religious influences, will often rescue them from their viler selves and lift them up to the dignity of men and to the fellowship of saints. The record of such a degraded felon as Jerry Macaulay, who became a very apostle of righteousness to the criminal classes of New York, and won scores of trophies of divine grace, confutes and confounds the materialistic pessimism of the scientific experts in atavism and heredity. If the Gospel of Christ can transform in a generation a race of cruel cannibals like the Fiji islanders into a Christian community, it can pluck as a brand from the burning souls on which the fires of hell has already kindled.

The Apostle Paul, writing to the Corinthian Christians, enumerating some of the vilest of characters, adds "such were some of you, but ye are washed, ye are sanctified." The Gospel of Christ is still the power of God to salvation to the uttermost. It can still pluck the vilest of the vile from the jaws of perdition. Even in the worst there is a spark of the divine which the purpose of prison discipline should be to kindle to a flame. It should try to wake up the dead or dormant better nature of the criminal, and by some reflection of the mercy of Heaven lead the prisoner to hope for the forgiveness of God.

THE FEDERATION INJUNCTION.

THE important decision of Judge McMahon on this subject does much to clear the way for the carrying out of the policy of University Federation. It may be confidently expected that very soon every legal barrier will be removed, and that, with the hearty concurrence of all concerned, that result may be attained. It will doubtless be shown that there is no disposition to evade or deny any just claims of the town of Cobourg, or of the subscribers to Faraday Hall.

We cannot afford to go into this new educational movement as a divided church. Nor is there any likelihood that we shall. Those who have hitherto been opposed to Federation, and those who have been in favour of it—when once it is understood that no legal barriers exist and that amplest justice shall be done to all vested interests, and that the policy of Federation is, to use the language of Judge McMahon, "largely in the ascendancy," both as indicated by the successive votes taken on the subject and by the subscriptions received in its behalf—will, we trust, unite in carrying out that policy with the utmost vigour and to the most successful issues.

It will tax the ability of even a united church to place our federated university on such a high plane that it shall command the respect not only of our Church, but of the entire public. With such united efforts we look for the beginning of a new era