

of Pharaoh's dreams. It begins thus:—"And it came to pass at the end of two full years that Pharaoh dreamed, and in the morning that (1) his spirit was troubled." The "orderly sequence" claimed for these lessons does not appear here, when it represents Pharaoh dreaming that his spirit was troubled. The truth is that the jumble has arisen from a clumsy attempt to join together parts of the first and eighth verses of the forty-first chapter of Genesis, from which the lesson is taken. What "orderly sequence" is there in making the thirtieth Psalm succeed the fifty-first, or the sixty-fifth follow the hundred and third. The most important lessons for use in our schools are to be found in the Proverbs, and in those taken from this book we find the strangest liberties taken with the text. One of the most instructive chapters is the twenty-second, yet it is mutilated by the omission of the fourteenth and seventeenth to the twenty-first verses, which are quite as pregnant with instruction as some of those introduced. Why should the following words be omitted from the lesson on page 162, which is taken from the twenty-fifth chapter of Proverbs, "By long forbearing is a prince persuaded, and a soft answer breaketh the bone. Hast thou found honey? eat so much as is sufficient for thee, lest thou be filled therewith, and vomit it?" Was it because the compiler had not the same experience as Solomon that he omitted from this lesson the following verse; yet it contains a wholesome truth that the girls of our schools should be made acquainted with: "It is better to dwell in the corner of a housetop, than with a brawling woman and in a wide house"? What poetic taste can he have to omit the following beautiful words from the next lesson, which is taken from the sixtieth chapter of Isaiah: "Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their windows"? One would think that of all parts of the Bible the Sermon on the Mount would escape untouched, yet the compiler thought he could mend even this by omitting a number of verses. We have here given the results of a slight examination of the "Scripture Readings"; what a minute examination would lead to is left for the reader to infer. The eight clergymen say "That it was the strongly expressed view of the Conference that such volume of Selections should be in the hands of the children as well as of the teacher." Had the Conference viewed the matter in a practical aspect, it would have known that parents would not go to the expense of providing such a text-book for their children when they had the Bible at hand, and that the Education Department would not risk its popularity by prescribing it for use, nor going to the expense of supplying it free to scholars as it has done to teachers.

A FEW days ago an influential and important deputation waited upon Mr. Mowat to urge upon his attention the claims of the projected Industrial School for Governmental assistance. Vice-Chancellor Proudfoot put the matter in a very proper light when he pointed out that the assistance given by the Government to this institution would well repay them by the decrease that would follow in the number of those who live upon the country as criminals in our gaols and penitentiaries. It is chiefly upon this ground that the Industrial School can claim the support of the Government, and not because it is a purely benevolent institution, such as the Lunatic Asylum, for example, as Mr. Mowat by his reply seemed to regard it. We have enough of confidence in Mr. Mowat's statesmanlike views to believe that when he comes to consider the matter with his colleagues he will see that any money given to further the efforts of the Industrial School Association in reclaiming boys from a vicious course of life, and making them useful and wealth-producing members of society, can be as well, or perhaps better, defended as an item of Government expenditure than that set apart for the support of a Deaf and Dumb Institution, or an Asylum for the Blind.

CENSOR.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications intended for the Editor must be addressed: EDITOR OF THE WEEK, 5 Jordan Street, Toronto. Contributors who desire their MS. returned, if not accepted, must enclose stamp for that purpose.

THE TORONTO RIOTS.

To the Editor of The Week:

SIR,—During the continuance of the late riots and subsequently, the present writer, in conversation with many sorts and conditions of men, learned to his great surprise how crude are the average citizen's ideas of his duties and rights in respect of his neighbour's property. It would not be, *a priori*, preposterous to think that the Street Car Company were justified in protecting themselves against a labour organization, one of whose avowed objects is to discipline "Capital," and that in endeavouring to do so they should receive the co-operation of not only those who are officially responsible for the order of the city, but of the respectable people who constitute the majority of the citizens. The experience of the last few

days, however, teaches that such an *a priori* conclusion would have been preposterous.

In his book on "Popular Government," Sir Henry Maine aptly characterizes the classes into which society is divided—the leaders and the led. "Our leaders," says Sir Henry, "are manifestly listening nervously at one end of a speaking-trumpet which receives at its other end the suggestions of a lower intelligence." The "moral" support given to the strikers in these riots had its source in a lower intelligence. What inference is to be drawn from these unhappy facts and occurrences? This, I submit. These suggestions of a lower intelligence are calamitous to the rights of property: under our system of education, property bears the burden of educating the people; property is, therefore, entitled to demand that the lower intelligence be taught to know and respect the rights of its benefactor. "The rights and duties of the citizen" should find a place in the curricula of all schools under the supervision of the State.

M. J. F.

Toronto, March 15, 1886.

ALCOHOLIC DRINK.

To the Editor of The Week:

SIR,—THE WEEK is the only paper in Canada that I know of which is not afraid to handle the subject of the *Scott Act* and *fermented drinks*. Most men are cowards on the subject, and I confess that I share their terrors. I do not, therefore, sign my name, but I send herewith full particulars and references for your satisfaction: as every person can prove my statements for themselves, the public will require no references.

I am a brewer and distiller, although I do not follow either business. I was bred in a brewery, and my forebears for many generations have been brewers; the trade, therefore, comes to me as a natural acquisition. I have studied distilling closely, and can get as much spirit out of a bushel of grain as most men, so that I must understand that business also.

The subject of alcohol as a drink is very little understood, although that liquor is so largely used by all classes, more especially in its ordinary form of whiskey, which (let people believe as they may) forms the foundation of all spirits, and most kinds of wine.

Whiskey consists of two elements—one, a furious, overwhelming potion, which has all "the devil" in it; the other a harmless, and, indeed, a beneficial thing, which raises the spirits, calls forth wit and talent, and brings out accomplishments in most men, particularly in those troubled with *mauvaise honte* and timidity. These two elements in alcohol are easily separated; the first and worst ought never to be used as a drink or refreshment, the last may be used with great advantage and with no danger. These elements are easily separated. Take a pint or a quart of whiskey, put it in a saucepan or other vessel which will stand the fire; give it a boil, and the mischievous part will pass off rapidly with a strong smell; as soon as the smell weakens, and only the spirituous vapours come, take it off the fire, and make it into punch, with a proper quantity of water, sugar, and lemon juice, and a flavouring of the peel, and you have a drink which has all the virtues, and none of the mischiefs, of spirit not so prepared. It is wholesome, and large quantities may be taken without injury. It never affects the head disagreeably, and, in short, there is not "a headache in a hoghead of it"—there is no feeling in the morning of having exceeded the night before; you are neither sick nor sorry; it is a drink particularly adapted to ladies, and I never saw it refused or regretted. When entertaining friends I have often proved its virtues thus. I have, of course, the best wine on the table, both white and red, but I also have a jolly good jug of punch made as above. It, of course, has a fragrant smell, and very soon I am asked, What is that you are drinking? The answer is given by handing a glass of the liquor; and it is so approved of that it soon goes round the table, and there is an end to the wine-drinking; but a second jug of punch is always required, and may as well be made beforehand.

Now, how is this to be utilized? In the simplest way in the world. All distillers are absolutely under the thumb of the Government—they all pay duty, and must do as they are told. Let the Government, by Order of Council, require all distillers to prepare their spirit of the two qualities, one with the fiery part driven off and the other ready for consumption; the latter should be slightly coloured, as whiskey now is, the other may be deeply coloured, as brown brandy now is, or it may be slightly coloured red. There will be no waste. The dark or red spirit is of use for tinctures, varnishes, and all other uses to which alcohol is applied. The extra cost to the distiller will not be five cents per gallon, and any reasonable person will be willing to pay ten cents per gallon to have wholesome spirit supplied, without the trouble and waste of preparing it.

The greatest use of the fiery spirit I call the "devil" is, as Captain Marryat says, to "kill fools with," and it will soon do that—none but a fool will drink it. All the *delirium tremens* and "alcoholism," as the doctors call it, arises from this bad liquor; the other will never offend. In all the breweries I have been connected with or have known, I have never seen a drunken man, or one affected by the use of beer. The soberest place of business in Toronto is Gooderham and Worts's great distillery. They never allow any man inclined to drink to continue in their employment.

ONE WHO KNOWS.

Port Perry, Ont.

THE Paris *Figaro*, dealing with the agitation caused in the French capital by the proposal of Mr. Carvalho to perform "Lohengrin" at the Opera Comique, holds up the conduct of the Germans in such matters as an example worthy of imitation. Out of forty-six operatic performances in Berlin since August, fourteen have been works by French composers.