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Mammon's in the Way.

HE who attempts to right a wrong,
E'en in our boasted day,
Has need of faith and courage strong,
For Mammon's in the way.
If with a wrong that's lived too long
You hint what you would do,
Be sure at once both knave and dunce
Combine and turn on you.

The gods will try you in their schools,
With deep humiliations ;
Let loose upon you all the fools
With horrid imprecations.
Some old iniquity ye'd crush
That's been a plague for years,
Lo ! what a host of hornets rush
All buzzing 'bout your ears.

And Ignorance and Impudence
Will in their wrath belie you,
All flunkeydom in anger come
To insult and defy you ;
For if you would do any good
To our benighted race,
Look out for base ingratitude
And insult and disgrace.

You're told reform will ruin bring ;
And every precious dunce
Will prove that 'tis a wicked thing
To cease to steal at once ;
The devil is to go ahead,
The world in bondage stay
Because some coward is in dread
That Mammon's in the way.

But he's the Hero who can brook
The insult and disgrace,
And yet has nerve enough to look
The devil in the face.
Be sure ye're right, and then proceed
To sweep the pest away ;
Those very men that now condemn
Will in the end hurray.

Time on his route wheels things about :
Those that to-day look grim
Will be the very first to shout
" We aye believed in him."
Then never faint in self-restraint,
Nor yield to passion's heat ;
'Tis not by roughs and fisticuffs
That Mammon can be beat.

ALEXANDER M'LACHLAN.

WHAT MR. BLAKE MUST HAVE SAID.

DEAR GRIP—I don't know where you read the report of Mr. Blake's speech which you so heartily commended last week, but in any case it was not the official report, for Mr. Blake assumes no responsibility for the *Globe's* utterances, editorial or otherwise, and is no party to the "purity business" in which the *Globe* represented him to be senior partner ; while of course the *Mail* is not to be depended on in anything it says about Blake. Knowing Mr. Blake as I do, I feel confident that what he said on the Temperance question was not the colorless stuff the *Globe* attributed to him, but the following straight and manly deliverance :—

"There is another question, young gentlemen, which is rapidly coming into the arena of practical politics, and pressing for settlement ; and if we do not grapple vigorously with this new antagonist it may prove too strong even for us who feel safe in the intrenchment, formed by those great liberal principles which we hold, and which I have been expounding to you. I refer to the question of the total suppression of the liquor traffic by a general

prohibitory law. You will remember in discussing this question with your neighbors, that the present measure of prohibition by counties and cities was given to the people by the Reform Government of Mr. Mackenzie, of which I had the honour of being a member. At that time both Conservative and Reform temperance men urged upon us the passage of a measure of total prohibition, but Mr. MacKenzie, with that canny shrewdness characteristic of the race to which he is an honor, told the advocates of temperance that he would give them only a tentative measure in order to test their sincerity. The Temperance Act of 1878, popularly known as the Scott Act, was therefore passed. Since then our friends, the temperance people have succeeded in carrying the Act in sixty-six counties and cities in Canada, and at the present moment the greater portion of this Province is under the operation of the prohibitory law. The majority by which this Act has been carried—some fifty thousand—has emboldened the temperance men to ask in louder tones for what was demanded in 1878—a measure of total prohibition of the liquor traffic throughout the Dominion. In view of our possible return to power, as the result of the next general election, it behoves us as statesmen, present and prospective, to calmly and judiciously consider this question from the standpoint of practical politics, if not philanthropy. I have already laid down the simple principle upon which my own conduct as leader is guided, and on which I desire that those who are enrolled under the Liberal banner should be guided. That principle is for each one of us, leader as well as follower, to follow the dictates of that inward monitor called conscience, even though the jangling of party dispute and the blare of party trumpets threaten to drown its tones. A party may suffer temporary defeat by keeping too close to this principle ; but, gentlemen, I trust you will always put principle before party. Looking at this question, then, in this light, let me remind you, young gentlemen, that some years ago I gave up entirely the use of wine, not in my own interest, for that was never allowed to suffer by its use, but for the sake of young men such as I see before me to-day, the flower of my native and beloved land. In that case I followed my conscience ; and though it was a somewhat bold step, exposing me to the charge, even by my own political friends, of asceticism, I am happy to-day to state that my example has influenced others to such an extent that public banquets are now common in which no intoxicating liquor is used. This being my personal conviction and experience, my attitude towards the question in its broader aspect can be readily understood. That same course of reasoning which made me a personal prohibitionist, makes me also a public prohibitionist, and I desire that you young gentlemen will come out firmly on the side of the only true temperance—moderation in things which are good, prohibition of things which are evil. I need not here discuss the effect upon my party of the stand which I have taken on this important question. Even though it should strain the allegiance of that section of our party who are allied with the accursed traffic—happily a comparatively small and unimportant section—and much as I desire that we, as Liberals, should enter upon this arduous struggle as one man ; yet let us keep our consciences clear in this matter, regardless of temporary defeat, for—

Right is Right, as God is God,
And Right the day must win ;
To doubt would be disloyalty,
To falter would be sin."