

That every such soul ruined cries to Christian America from the ground and lays the charge of its death upon modern Christian (?) civilization.

That, while we are seeking to protect ourselves by restricting or abolishing the saloon, we are doing absolutely nothing to lessen the evil of exportation.

2. While these facts are in process of being realized, without waiting for their complete acceptance every effort should be put forth.

(a) To check the export to such places as the Congo, which are under international control.

(b) To strike at the root of the liquor traffic, which lies deeper than the saloons in the breweries and distilleries.

A community may protect itself by Local Option, High License or Prohibition, but its responsibility does not cease with that. So long as the liquor manufacturer is unrestricted liquor traffic will find ways and means to exist. Given a certain number of drinks and a certain number of drinkers the two will manage by some means to effect a combination, despite law and statute to the contrary, if not in one place then in another. That work is only half done which stops with our own shores. We are becoming, as never

before, one of the family of nations, and must assume the duties of our position. It is not only idle, it is crime, for us to feel that we are responsible only for ourselves.

It is one of the saddest facts, that the four nations most closely identified with Protestant missions are the ones most closely identified also with the liquor traffic in lands which they are attempting to evangelize. America, Great Britain, Germany, Holland, have done much to spread the Bible in Asia, Africa, and the Pacific. But they have also done more than any others to spread the curse of intemperance. At the Congo Conference in Berlin, the United States and England sought to exclude the liquor traffic, but Germany and Holland protested in the interests of "free trade," and there is no evidence that either of the other countries manifested great reluctance at being permitted to continue their exports of rum and gin.

From every pulpit in the land there should go forth an appeal that America's skirts at least may be clean of the stain of the blood of these innocent ones in far-off lands. In gaining that we shall gain the same for ourselves. Without that we may rub, and rub, and rub, and the accursed spot will but grow deeper and deeper in its dye.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

##### Civil Service Reform.

An appeal has been issued to the ministers of the United States, urging them to unite on Thanksgiving Day, or such other day as may seem suitable or convenient, in the presentation of the subject of Civil Service Reform.

In general, a pastor can scarcely be too careful with regard to the public expression of his views on such matters as may invite the heat of discussion, or engender rivalries between those of differing positions, classes or political views. He is and

must be first, last, and all the time, a religious leader. His one object, to which all others must be subordinated, should be to help men in their soul experiences to lead the life of Christ. As pastor he must know no Republican or Democrat, no employer or employed, no public official or private servant. His people are all individual souls, to be helped by him in their individual life with God. At the same time he is a citizen and not only may but must have personal opinions, on public affairs, which must guide his public action. How