

The hostility of the Turkish Government to the spread of the Bible, is perhaps as much a sign of the breaking-up of the solidity of the Mohammedan faith, as anything else. As in France, with respect to the Roman church, the Moslems are losing faith in their religion, and are restless in consequence. In Arabia itself, the Word is being circulated. A small beginning, but growing. The Bible Society agent at Aden says rumor tells him that some of his Bibles have reached Mecca itself.

There is nothing too great for faith. And no race nor creed are too hostile or too degraded to be reached and blessed by the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

EXORCISM.

Whatever was the necessity, or whatever the powers granted, for exorcism of evil spirits in Apostolic times—we know that now this kind only go out with prayer and effort. You cannot get evil to be so ashamed of itself, as to refrain from coming back, the moment your eye is off it. You have not only to put down evil habits, but keep them down. We have been pained above measure at the great and noticeable increase of smoking among boys and young men, since the great increase of the tobacco duties have stimulated cigar factories all over the Dominion. With a duty of two dollars a pound on cigars and cigarettes, and a duty of thirty or forty cents a pound on manufactured tobacco, while the raw material is free, all the fences in the country are covered with staring capitals, to smoke this or that brand of cigars, at five or ten cents.

And here is where it effects the Church. Men are not born into the Church, as they are born part of a certain nationality. The Church is an army, which is daily recruited from the world. And if a great majority of boys learn to use tobacco, a somewhat smaller majority of the recruits gained for the Church will be tobacco-users. And a man will, when converted, cease lying, and stealing, and cheating—but he will not always quit his pipe. In perhaps the majority of cases, he makes ineffectual attempts; and finds that the habit has mastered him, and that he is a slave. Oh, shame!

The traditional and effectual British plan of

preventing the invasion of their Island, is to attack the enemy's fleet in the enemy's own ports, and before it can get under weigh. So with evil, attack it where it is growing, and don't wait till it is manufactured into weapons against you.

And what shall we say of old men, Christian men, who are slaves of this evil habit, and by their practice recommend it to the young? We pity them. We never wrote an article with more pain than this; because we know it will trouble them. Brethren, you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. That grace that has kept you from falling. But this habit has kept you from rising! Your devoted wives and daughters have been working in "Bands of Hope." But *you* could not recommend the Threefold Pledge, against liquor, tobacco, and profanity—because you broke the *middle strand* of that "band," every day! You felt that the little ones ought to look to you for help and hope; but they couldn't get it!

Said one of the two or three highest medical authorities in the world—Dr. Carpenter, "If tobacco-users formed a class by themselves, and intermarried only among themselves, there would soon be produced *an inferior grade* of the human species: inferior in all mental and physical characteristics." Now, what right have you to be on that side?

We will not stay to prove the evil of the practice; that *has been proved* a thousand times, with reiterating and abounding evidence. We want to speak of Christian duty, and the encouragements of success in practising it. There is nothing this side of death in a man's life, but he may change. Every man and woman of mature years, can cite encouraging instances of Christian men who have exorcised this evil habit, and stepped out into a freedom for which they blessed God. What has been done, *may be done!*

Our head swims, our heart swells, our eyes are dim, over this desolation of Zion. Said an old man, in deep feeling, to us once, "When, years ago, I was earnestly praying for a *clean heart*, I thought I ought to keep a *clean mouth*, and I put away the tobacco."

Brethren of the churches recommending young men to the colleges—find out first whether they smoke. Churches seeking pastors say to tobacco-users, "We can't have you with us; we want to