Temperance Column.

CAN DRUNKARDS BE RE-CLAIMED.

No Christian ought to say that any human being is beyond the posibility of recovery, so long as, "the day of salvation lasts." The Apostle of the Gentiles, after declaring that drunkards and other transgressors named cannot inherit the kingdom of God, adds, "And such were some of you; but ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified." What was then true and verified by living witnesses in Corinth, has been witnessed since and is witnessed now. The managers of a home for inebriates in New York, the Christian Advo-cate states, "claim that more than 2.000 incbriates have been admitted to it during the last eight years, and that 1,000 of them have been saved from lives of misery." And who can estimate the misery that has been averted from families and friends of these rescued men?

There is, we fear, an increasing tendency to distrust on this point. Science is invoked to testify that inebriety is a disease transmitted to posterity, and that when complicated by heredity, the habit cannot be controlled by moral means. Some alloged reformations have proved to be imperfect and temporary, and one such case terribly weakens faith and hope. But we must not yield to discouragements. The blood of Josus Christ cleans-eth from all sin. The grace of God is mighty. Where there is regeneration as well as reformation, the reformation will be enduring. It is our duty and interest to secure the young, and to raise up a temperate generation. But there should be cure as well as prevention, and we who are put in trust with the gospel have no exeuse for distrusting and bolittling its power as "God's remedy for sin."—The Watchman.

The Church declares that everything points to the general acceptunce of prohibitory leglislation throughout the United States. The action of Southern communities indicates that there is a much deeper feeling against the liquor traffic than has been supposed. In Virginia, Georgia, and Mississippi local option laws have ceen lately adopted, and under those laws many communities have prohibited the sale of intoxicating drink. In the West, Iowa and Kansas have taken pronounced action on this question, and the Territory of Dakota is applying to be admitted as a State into the Union, under a Constitution which contains the prohibitory clause. Besides all this, the "Maine law" has everywhere been heard of, and Rhode Island has, within a few months, gone to the root of the matter, prohibiting by constitutional enactment the manufacture or sale of liquor in the State. And now the dominant party in Pennsylvania has introduced a temperance plank into its platform, so far at least as to favor the passage or a

law, by the next State Legislature, submitting the great question in volved to a vote of the people. All these things indicase the drift of popular sentiment. The conviction is widening and deepening that intemperance is one of the mightiest of evils for the removal of which the power of the law (enforced by the moral senti-ment of the people) must be invoked,

—"I must confess," says Mr. E. A. Freeman, "that I generally find extemporaneous prayer unpleasent. It is commonly accompanied by the the lack of all sacerdotal pretensions, yet it always has to me a certain savor of priestcraft. In an Anglican, Roman, or Orthodox church if I only understand enough of the service to follow it, I am something. I am part of a bedy whose doings are regulated by law and not by the arbitrary will of a single man, in a Presbyterian or Congregational church I am a dumb dog; I am at the mercy of another man who can put up what prayers he chooses in my name without having any part or lot in the matter."

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