

frage an enterprise of world-wide interest. The solution of the problem of the right government of crowded populations by a free ballot is a matter of transcendent importance to all civilized nations. Constitutional Prohibition, therefore, with its allied political issues, is a reform of which the field is the world. The formation of a new political party enshrining a great moral idea is an event of high religious as well as secular significance. It is a strategic step in both National and Cosmopolitan progress.

"New occasions teach new duties; Time makes ancient good uncouth;
They must upward still and onward, who would keep abreast of truth.
Lo! before us gleam her camp fires, we ourselves must Pilgrims be;
Launch out Mayflowers and steer boldly through the desperate winter sea."

LOWELL: *The Impending Crisis.*

II.—EVANGELIZATION OF OUR CITIES.

A SURVEY OF THE FIELD.

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NO. I.

ABOUT one-twentieth of the population of the entire United States is in and about New York City. This fact is sufficiently suggestive to call attention to the cities of our country as the chief field for evangelizing efforts. There are single wards in the cities of New York and Brooklyn in which there are not more than one or two Protestant churches (and those feeble), whose inhabitants outnumber those of some of the Territories where the Home Mission Societies of several denominations are sending missionary after missionary, and building churches by the score. If it should be published abroad that in such and such a Territory, where the "population is pouring in in a continuous stream" (such is the set phrase in which our Home missionaries describe the growth of the Territories), there were but two Protestant churches—or, at most, three or four—the fact would arouse the attention of all the Christian churches in the land, and we should feel that we were shamefully neglecting the frontier of the kingdom. And yet there are hundreds of thousands of the same kind of people in our cities as those who emigrate to the Territories, who are practically neglected and passed by so far as the efforts of the churches are concerned for their evangelization.

It would be easy to point out a score or fifty western towns in which there are not a thousand people, big and little, and yet for whom each of four or five different denominations have built a church and sent a missionary pastor; while in New York, Brooklyn, and other cities there are tens of thousands for whom no efforts of an aggressive kind are being made; where at most a mission Sunday-school and a Bible woman is provided. I do not say that less ought to be done for the scattered population of the West, but I do say that