

The Advocate.

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HEAD OFFICES

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LEGALIZED VICE AND SO ON.

WHAT legalized vice may be we must leave Lady Henry Somerset, Miss Willard and Dr. Lunn to decide. It is sufficient for us to know that the trio are preparing what is called a monster polyglot petition, the object of which is to interfere with the business of countries to which they do not belong. We are told that "during the last seven years the World's Women's Christian Temperance Union has been preparing a monster polyglot petition against the traffic in alcohol, opium, and against legalized vice, to be presented to all the governments of the world. Lady Henry Somerset and Miss Willard have been appointed as the deputation to convey this petition to the different governments. The petition itself has now reached the unprecedented length of over two million signatures, and, with the attestation of certain great societies, not less than three millions. Rev. Dr. Lunn has been requested by these ladies to organize a demonstration round the world. With this purpose in view, a first-class steamer is to be immediately chartered, and a party of 100 will be organized to accompany Lady Henry Somerset and Miss Willard in this remarkable crusade. The crusade is to commence at the annual convention of the World's Women's Christian Temperance Union, to be held in the United States next October. The American delegation will then proceed to Washington, where the polyglot petition will be presented to the government. Leaving New York on October 24th, the American contingent will join the British contingent in a great demonstration in Exeter Hall on November 1st or 2nd. The crusaders' steamer will leave London on Saturday, November 3rd, arriving at Naples on Monday, November 12th. A visit will then be paid to Rome, where it is hoped that His Holiness the Pope and the King of Italy will each receive the delegation. The next capital to be visited will be Athens, where the King of Greece will be presented with the petition. Jerusalem will be the next point on the programme, and the petition is to be presented to the Patriarch of Jerusalem, after which the Khedive will be visited at Cairo. It is intended to reach India in time for the National Congress, and a six weeks' tour will be made through

India in a special train, visiting all the principal towns of India, and holding great [sic] meetings in each of them. From Calcutta the steamer will proceed to Ceylon, and thence to Siam, with the object of presenting the petition to the King of Siam. Each Australian colony will then welcome [sic] the delegation, after which the course of the pilgrimage will be directed northward to China, where it is hoped that the Viceroy, Li Hung Chang, will receive the delegation. Japan will also be visited, and the petition will be presented to the Mikado. After this the eastern circuit of the world will be completed by a journey across the Pacific. It is intended at later dates to present the petition to the northern and central governments of Europe."

Dr. Lunn, Lady Somerset and Miss Willard are wise in their day and generation. They may make some profit out of their scheme. If they do not they will at least make a long advertisement for themselves. But what right have they to charge every government in the world with immorality, with "legalizing vice." That vice exists everywhere it is hardly possible that anybody will attempt to deny, but to assert that a government licenses it is to wilfully charge that government with trading in the souls of men and women. In the face of such an extravagant accusation our opponents dare to accuse us of using strong language! The greatest offense we charge against our adversaries, against those who would deprive us of our personal and mental liberty, is that many of them are narrow and prejudiced in their views, and tyrannical in their acts. We would join in no petition to any government to restrain them, but we do dispute their right to charge almost every civilized government with something worse than wholesale murder. If vice is legalized in the United States, in England, in India, in Australia, by the northern and central governments of Europe, it rejoiceth us to know that Canada, not being seemingly included in the list of countries to be visited, is a happy exception to the rule. We are a pattern people!

In no spirit of exultation do we thank Dr. Lunn, Lady Somerset and Miss Willard for exalting us from the exercise of their polyglot power, but we wish they could convert their admirers in this country to their way of thinking. Then they might be content to leave well enough alone for a time instead of bending all their efforts to the reduction of our revenue, to the wholesale confiscation of property, to the banishing of thousands upon thousands of people from their homes, to the continual lessening of trade and to the spoliation of vested interests that form a most important item in the commerce and industry of the country. Touching upon the latter phase of the question we would remind prohibition agitators that Great Britain's sense of mens and truth is so correct and proper that she paid many millions of pounds for the emancipation of slaves in the West Indies, whose ownership was never licensed, while they propose to violently seize upon property that has not only been

licensed, but actually fostered by the state, and that has contributed liberally to the funds that have brought the country up to the present high state of development.

LOOK BEFORE LEAPING.

HON. MACKENZIE BOWEN has received a letter from Sir Charles Tupper, Canada's high commissioner in London, reporting the arrival of a consignment of British Columbia hops in Great Britain. Sir Charles says that the consignment has attracted some attention, and that Messrs. Norman & Co., limited, of London, who have a large connection among brewers in the old country, have written him as follows: "Many of the sample lots of the past season's growth which have reached this country have given great satisfaction, and many of our brewing friends have advised us that, subject to the East Kent character being maintained, the British Columbia hops are to be preferred to any that are imported, and further, would carry all before them." We trust our Prohibition friends will excuse us for asking if, when they have their own way, the growing of hops will not be suppressed by Act of Parliament. It will surely be accounted wicked to furnish other countries with means for making what we shall have decried and scourged. This Prohibition question is a far-reaching one and will have to be settled in the long run by reason and not by a rush of water.

The real concern of the agriculturist in the movement now going forward is well illustrated in the following paragraph from an English correspondent's letter: "I understand," he says, "that the total abstinence party here are fearful, that there will be no Local Veto Bill included in the Government programme for next session, and if report tells truly the surmise is correct, since I hear that the Cabinet have decided against the introduction of any Bill interfering with the liquor trade for some time to come. Probably they do not wish to offend the agricultural laborer nor his master the farmer, and since the trade contributes £23,000,000 annually to the treasury, it is possible that they do not care to risk the opposition of the taxpayers generally. Besides, the brewers have consumed in their business during the last three years 70,000,000 bushels of malt and corn annually, and 2,500,000 acres in the United Kingdom are under barley, and 60,000 under hops. The farmers would resent this part of their living being interfered with. Then again, 2,000,000 workers are employed, and if all public-houses are closed the majority of these men would have to join the ranks of the unemployed and so the standard of wages would be lowered. There are serious economical results that must follow the passing of any measure founded on the lines of the present Bill, and the Government may be excused if they do not like to run risks under the circumstances."

Why should the government of Lord Rosebery be excused, if it is honest in encouraging the teetotallers? In the mean-

time, we beg our friends to show the foregoing statement to the farmers, and impress upon them that they are equally concerned with the British grain-grower in the question that has been raised. It is not, however, entirely to the cupidity of Canadians we would appeal. Infinitely rather would we use reason, but such as those that cannot be reached through their minds must be got at through their pockets. We must have liberty—liberty to use the things that God has given us for our benefit. As Dryden says:

The lover of liberty with life is given,
And life itself the inferior gift of Heaven.

This quotation reminds us that when addressing the House of Lords in 1872 on the Liquor Licensing Bill of that year, the late Archbishop Magee, one of the cleverest and most enlightened men that ever entered a pulpit, declared that it was the right of Englishmen to be governed by the Estates of the Realm sitting in Parliament, and not by a haphazard majority collected by agitation and canvassing. "If," said he, "I must take my choice I should say it would be better that England should be free than that she should be compulsorily sober. I would distinctly prefer freedom to sobriety." What do the gentlemen on the other side think of such a doctrine as that? Yet it is a true one, and only the manifestation of a spirit that has carried the flag of England into every quarter of the globe, that has planted her standard o'er one-fourth of the world, and that has brought 200,000,000 people to speak her language.

ABOUT ADVERTISING.

A DISTILLER of tobacco manufacturer may place his advertisement in a daily paper of 30,000 circulation, and the paper will possibly reach 100 persons whom he is interested in as possible customers, and even then his advertisement is buried in the mass of others around it. But while he reaches a possible 100, he pays for 30,000. His trade paper has a circulation only one-sixth as great perhaps, but every one of its 5,000 readers is a possible customer of his, and besides his advertisement is given a peculiar prestige it would not have if it appeared in the daily. These are stubborn facts, and it is also another fact that too many advertisers ask only as to the number of circulation, and pay no attention to the quality.—*Indiana State League News.*

The above contains a truth so tersely and plainly put that it cannot be improved upon. Our canvassers come to us daily saying that so-and-so is doing so-and-so, and that we must come down in our prices. Our answer always is that our rates must be maintained. We cater to a class that most advertisers desire to reach, and as a medium for every species of business THE ADVOCATE cannot be beaten. Our patrons moreover are exacting and must be supplied with facts and figures to meet exaggeration. These require a great deal more time and labor to gather than it does to work one's imagination for the glittering generalities in which our adversaries indulge.