

Mikael Agricola, the bishop of Turku, in 1548. He also wrote the first Finnish ABC book and a prayer-book. Because some doubt had been expressed as to the propriety of talking to God in the Finnish language he wrote at the beginning of the book. "He will hear the Finnish language, who understands the minds of all men." The Protestant king of Sweden, Gustaf Adolf (died Nov. 6th, 1632), was the most powerful earthly weapon in the hands of the Reformation in Finland, as well as in Sweden. The whole Bible was published in Finnish in 1642. The state church is now "Evangelical Lutheran," the chief of which is the Czar of Russia, who names all the bishops and ministers.

As a nation the Finns have long ago expressed their stand regarding the liquor question. The House of Representatives has three times already voted unanimously for entire prohibition, but His Majesty every time refused to give his sanction. The present war, however, changed the attitude of the Russian government, and at last the longed-for prohibition is in force **almost** to the letter.

That most modern "flower of civilization," the woman-suffrage question, has also been settled in Finland, where the vote of the woman is now as good as that of the man. In the House of Representatives there are at present several members of the "fair sex."

The principal political parties in Fin-