

GLADSTONE'S BIBLE.

YOU, my boy, who are so ambitious to be great and beloved, so eager to improve yourself by reading and study, have you really given due thought to the greatest and most important book of all? Gladstone's is the greatest name of the last third of a century. Read what he said of the book he knew so well:

"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." As they have lived and wrought, so they will live and work. From the teacher's chair and from the pastor's pulpit, the humblest hymn that ever mounted to the ear of God from beneath a cottage roof, and in the rich, melodious choir of the noblest cathedral, 'their sound has gone out into all lands, and their words unto the ends of the world.' Who doubts

crowds of the court, or the forum, or the street, or the market place, when every thought of every soul seems to be set upon the excitements of ambition, or of business, or of pleasure, there too, even there, the still small voice of the Holy Bible will be heard, and then aided by some blessed word may find wings like a dove, may flee away and be at rest."

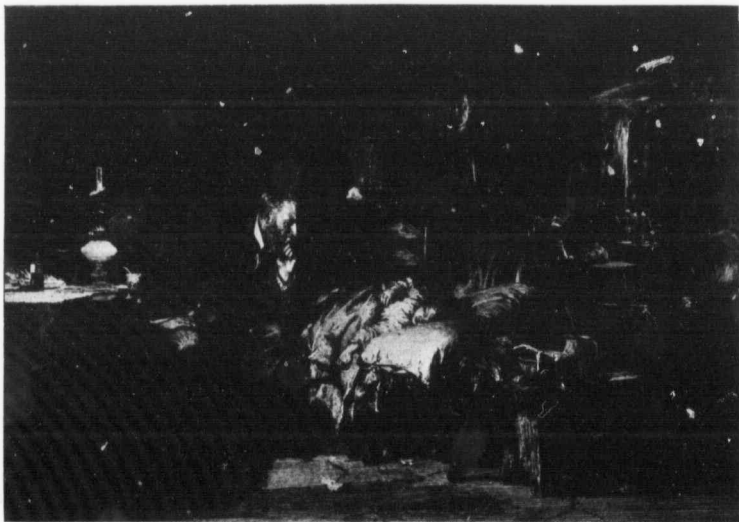
AGGRESSIVE EVANGELISM.

BY DR. CARMAN.

DEAR LEAGUERS.—What a wilderness of people is this London, the capital of our Empire! with a population about equal to that of our entire Dominion; and adding to itself a large city every year! Thoughtful men in London say they cannot imagine what is

if they only did their duty, and the people were eager to be saved from sin and vice, destitution, ignorance and crime. But alas, amid much good, neither of these is the case; the churches are not doing all their duty; nor are the people eager to be saved from sin, the mother of every destroyer and the source of all our failures and distresses.

Amid this vast turmoil of one hundred square miles, more or less, theatres and playhouses abound; and the rum shops, oh, the rum shops, gleam out, or blacken down, on nearly every corner—and these rum shops make many darker and more desolate places. Men drink and women drink, and their children grow up amid the ills and curses of drunkenness. Of course there are fine palaces and comfortable homes, and multitudes of noble people, and from the very intensity of the conflict, some of the staunchest and



THE DOCTOR.

that, times without number, particular portions of the scriptures find their way to the human soul as if embassies from on high, each with its own commission of comfort, of guidance, or of warning! What position is not hourly enriched by these words which repetition never weakens, which carry with them now, as in the days of their first utterance, the freshness of youth and immortality! When the solitary student opens up all his heart to drink them in they will reward his toil. And in forms yet more hidden and withdrawn, in the retirement of the chamber, in the stillness of the night season, upon the bed of sickness, and in the face of death, the Bible will be there, its several words, how often winged with their several and special messages, to heal and to soothe, to uplift and uphold, to invigorate and stir. Nay, more, perhaps, than this; amid the

to come of it. It eats its way outward on all possible sides, like a great monster, devouring hills, parks, gardens, villages, fields and estates; pushing out its railway and omnibus lines, its delivery, express, factory and market systems after the manner of the bloodvessels and nerves of a growing colossus. At the Bank of England and the Mansion House, the heart of this mammoth, there is close upon congestion every moment of every busy day. Yet, on speeds the amazing circulation amid the roar and din of the traffic and the travel. The vast majority are on business bent; and not mere idlers or pleasure seekers as we saw it in continental cities. The poor are pulling their way through to scratch up a living; and the rich are hauling away for larger piles. There are churches, large and small, and benevolent institutions of many kinds on every hand; enough to save all the people,

most zealous temperance advocates in the world; but they are scarcely dreaming of the prohibition of the liquor traffic in their generation. Newer countries, not so long enslaved, must lead the way and show them how. And may the Lord help us!

Quiet, easy-going, good-natured, self-satisfied religion—whatever it may do on our frontiers, or in our growing towns, will not do much in such a case as this. If it take the possessor to heaven out of the woods, it surely cannot do so out of the streets of London. Neither can studied appointments and gorgeous ritual for a select few in quarter-lighted churches. This is a case of a house on fire; and the firemen must rush to the rescue amid all the flame and flood. It is the case of a wrecked ship; and the life-boats, at peril and loss of life, must save the victims from the devouring sea. In our quiet