

Letter on Prohibition.

The following letter was written by the Rev. F. P. Gretorex to the *Bridgetown Monitor*, and as we think it will interest many of our readers, we insert it here.

To the Editor of Monitor:

DEAR SIR.—In one of your leading articles last week you made the assertion that any minister who opposed prohibition occupied an unique position, and that every church in the land will array itself against the opinion of Principal Grant.

cles in the Dominion by his pronouncement at a conference in Winnipeg against the proposed plebiscite on the question of prohibition. His Grace, on that occasion, stated emphatically, before the session of the Anglican Synod of Rupert's Land, that he would vote against prohibition if there were a plebiscite. He had come to the conclusion, he said, that while the scriptures condemn drunkenness in severe terms and make it a special sin, chiefly because the drunkard often sits in the seat of the scorner, yet they

legislate the people into a condition of piety and high morality as to prohibit the sale wines and liquors." Canon Ellgood, a venerable clergyman, who has been nearly 50 years in the ministry, said a week or two ago: "I am most strongly opposed to a prohibitory law, as I consider that instead of preventing drinking it would rather promote it, in consequence of the opportunity all along the boundary-line between the two countries for smuggling. It is of course unnecessary to say that I am strongly in favor of temperance, and it is for this

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You should certainly, when making such a sweeping assertion, have omitted the Church of England, for most undoubtedly a large majority of the members of that Church are not in favour of prohibition.

The Archbishop of Rupert's Land who is Primate of all Canada, a man universally honored and respected, was interviewed on this matter a short time ago in Montreal by a reporter of the *Star*. The *Star's* account was as follows: "The Archbishop, it will be remembered somewhat startled temperance cir-

regard wine as the good gift of God and the very emblem of joy.

His Lordship believes that prohibition would be interfering with the free rights of the people and would be a grievous wrong to a large section of the community.

The proper treatment of the abuses of the liquor traffic lay in legislation with regard to the saloons. These might perhaps be removed altogether. But as to a prohibitory law, such as was proposed by the advocates of the plebiscite, he decidedly opposed the idea. As well might an effort be made to

reason that I am opposed to a prohibition law."

The late Bishop Binney, with whom many of your readers were personally acquainted,—a man of great force of character and sound common sense, used the following weighty words in synod shortly before his death: "I find that suppression leads to hypocrisy, and deceit and fraud, without accomplishing the desired object. I believe that total abstinence is necessary for some persons, but I believe that God in His good providence purposely places us in this