

no small proportion of its influence is due to the united action of the clergy of the State, in which it exists. One in their convictions as to the enormity of the evils which they have combined to overthrow, they have succeeded in stirring up their members to join with them in demanding the enforcement of laws already upon the statute books and in endeavoring to secure still better protection of their rights. Conscious that they represent the real voting force of the State, their legislators have felt the necessity of heeding their protests. That the forces of evil are in the minority in every one of our States we believe to be an acknowledged fact. Let there be but combination among the forces that oppose them, and the issue is certain. We call upon our readers to assist in this work of combination. Organize. Organize. ORGANIZE.

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**"Consistency, Thou Art a Jewel."**

*Out of thine own mouth will I judge thee.*

—Luke xix. 22.

It is always a pleasure to be enabled to turn his own guns upon the enemy. When he finds himself compelled to forsake his position and leave his batteries in the hands of those against whom they have long been trained, it is with peculiar satisfaction they make use of his ammunition to accelerate his retreat. So we confess ourselves feeling over the present attitude of two of the most strenuous advocates of the system of license, as the best means of limiting the traffic in intoxicating liquors, the one a well-known journal in the North, the other an equally well-known representative of the Southern press. The former, treating of the "fatal cigarette," says: "Certain reformers are urging an increase in tax on these troublesome articles. The tax is now 50 cents a thousand; but even if the tax were, as has been suggested, raised to \$8 a thousand, would there be any material diminution of the evil? If ten cigarettes cost 15 cents a certain

number of small boys might be compelled to smoke less frequently, but not all small boys would be restrained, and even at 15 cents a batch the cigarettes would still be a comparatively cheap means of dangerous enjoyment." Here we have set forth, as eloquently as any "fanatic" of prohibition could wish, the utter inadequacy of high license to accomplish that for which it might be imposed. The second journal to which we have referred, descanting on the iniquity of the lottery in the State in which it is published, argues against the sinfulness of deriving a profit from a system that is accompanied by such a train of evils, as would ensue should the desired license be granted. No comment is needed. Inconsistency is its own answer.

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**World's Fair Petitions Neglected.**

By REV. WILBUR F. CRAFTS.

THE *Interior* recently reported that 2163 petitions against Sunday opening of the World's Fair had been received in Chicago. This is the worst thing ever said against the pastors of this country. Not all these petitions are from churches; not even 2000 of them; which means that the great majority of the 70,000 ministers have for a year and a half turned a deaf ear to the calls for petitions sent to them again and again through the press and also by mail at great cost. At least 150,000 petition blanks have been sent out, many pastors having received at least five reminders by mail, besides others in their papers. Every pastor should have seen to it that the petition was endorsed by his church, by his Young People's Society, and by any college Y. M. C. A., W. C. T. U., or other friendly organization in his community. All these together should have sent 100,000 petitions to Washington and Chicago in duplicate, instead of a paltry 2000. The roar of our Waterloo in our ears and the couriers appealing for reinforcements, and this our response! When the roll is made up what a shame to the