

ness leading to the recent accident in the Fourth Avenue tunnel, New York City, whereby six persons lost their lives, has caused much discussion. Mr. Depew says it is his "nearest approach to the criminal classes." But it is an important step in the right direction, if our courts have but nerve and truth to follow it up. Whether any degree of blame attaches to the directors in this case, it is not our province to say. It would need a knowledge of the conditions and possibilities of railroad management far beyond the scope of religious journalism. But the principle that no man can merge individual responsibility in a corporation, and that everyone is individually guilty for wrong done by the consent of all, greatly needs to be emphasized. It is the principle of Divine law, "Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished."

Let us suppose that, to save the vast expense, the road had decided to dispense with track-walkers and inspectors, and a train had been wrecked and lives lost because of rotten ties and a broken rail; would not every man who voted for that fatal economy have been responsible for all those deaths?

It is to be hoped this case will be fully and fairly followed through, and the clear precedent established of the criminal responsibility of all corporate officers for death or injury caused by any preventable misfortune occurring through their fault or neglect. Personal responsibility is inalienable, and cannot be sunk in corporation, nation or church.

The Cause of the Shadow.

DR. VAUGHAN, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Salford, has written a letter to the *Manchester* [Eng.] *Guardian*, in which he reminds the public that "the drink demon lies at the bottom in every effort at social regeneration, mocking at the philanthropist and religionist alike"; that so long as "we plant a drink shop in the midst of every forty families, refuges, shelters, and colonies will be needed."

Yes, start where we will, attempt what we will for human elevation, this one "horror of great darkness" meets us. We must not neglect the individual sufferers while waiting for general reform. It is much to lead a forlorn hope out of "Darkest England." But the darkness will be there—and here—till we remove the cause of the shadow.

BLUE MONDAY.

The Best Parishioner.

A MODEL PARISHIONER—THE PASTOR'S JOY.—He has lately come to us from an adjoining State. About the time he came we were beginning a series of special meetings. Although his work in our town was new, he was present at the very first special meeting, and attended every one of them for three weeks. He determines, if it will encourage the pastor to see him in his place, he will endeavor to be there. When the sermon helps him, he speaks of it, and by his presence and words indicates to others that he is a friend to his pastor. It is needless to say that he is liberal with his means. In our special meetings we desired to use the "Gospel Hymns," and borrowed some for the occasion. This parishioner quietly ordered a supply of new books for these and the weekly meetings, and sent them to the pastor's address, the only clue to the donor being the statement enclosed, saying they were "from a

friend." As the attendance on the services increased and more books were needed, he furnished a second supply. He is ready to do whatever he can to further the work of the church. He sings in the choir. He plays the organ in the absence of the organist. He has a class in the Sabbath school, and is the assistant superintendent, reviewing the lesson each Sabbath at the close of the lesson study by classes. He conducts the weekly Teachers' meeting. He is president of the Christian Endeavor Society. He does personal work in the hope of leading the unsaved to Christ, and is a model parishioner, the pastor's joy, and I am glad to say that such, and more, is my best parishioner. G. H. S.

The Meanest Parishioner.

ANYTHING GOOD ENOUGH FOR A PREACHER.—In a certain parish in New York State a young minister in his first charge was one May day