

THE HOMILETIC REVIEW.

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REVIEW SECTION.

I.—SYMPOSIUM ON PROHIBITION.

OUGHT PROHIBITION TO BE MADE A POLITICAL QUESTION? IF SO,
WITH WHAT LIMITATIONS?

NO. IV.

By JOSEPH COOK, BOSTON.

SLAVERY, before the Civil War, did not cause the destruction of 50,000 lives each year, as the liquor traffic now does in the United States. Slavery never whipped, or starved, or worked to death as many human beings in any one year previous to the Rebellion as the liquor traffic now kills every year in our nation. Slavery never cost the people as much in any one year outside the war as the liquor traffic now costs them. When the liquor traffic, which is already more murderous than slavery ever was, becomes as domineering as slavery became, its death-knell will be sounded. The crack of the whiskey-dealer's whip in municipal, State and National politics, is already becoming as resonant as was once the slave-dealer's lash.

The writer of this article, owing to the exigencies of travel, was unable to vote in the last Presidential Election, and is to be regarded as an advocate of a National Reform party, rather than of any existing third party.

Is it advisable to attempt a reorganization of political parties on such lines as to make Constitutional Prohibition a National issue? Besides the use of all moral, religious and educational measures applicable to the case, a new political party was found necessary to the abolition of slavery. Besides all moral, religious and educational measures, the use of which in their utmost vigor is here taken for granted, can it be shown that a new political party, or a reorganization of parties, is necessary to the abolition of the liquor traffic?

I. The political necessity of dethroning the liquor traffic in municipal, State and National politics will ultimately force the people to make such new arrangements as are necessary for their self-protec-