

TEMPERANCE COLUMN.

THE INCREASE OF SALOONS.

At St. George's on Sunday evening, the 11th Nov., the Very Rev. Dean Carmichael, preached from the text, "Render, therefore, unto Cæsar, the things that are Cæsar's, and unto God the things that are God's."—St. Matthew xx, 21.

(Continued)

At a meeting held lately—one of the most influential public meetings I think I ever attended, and held in a central room of business city life a society was formed, mainly by leading business men of the city, for the purpose of regulating license and other matters of public interest. Now, Christian men of this congregation, I ask you to throw in your influence and money with this society. Such an opportunity of united action has never in my memory been given to the public, and it demands the countenance and monetary support of all interested in the moral well being of the city.

This is not a question of totalism or moderation; it is a question as to whether we are going to allow one class of the community, and that the least useful, if not the most dangerous, to exercise an influence in the city that is wholly bad all along the line of its operations. Hence I do hope that every leading business man, every employer, every father listening to me will take his stand on the side of this newly formed Society, and his name to the roll of members and give with liberality to its funds and thus aid in restraining the domination of a class at whose doors may fairly be held a broad indictment for at least one half of the crime and immorality of this growing city.

Again I would ask the ratepayers in each electoral district to wake up to the fact that under the new law they can practically regulate the number of licenses in a district, or say whether they will have any licenses issued in their district at all!

I feel sure that if we organized district committees working in unison with and as recognized agents of the newly formed Citizen's League, the whole matter would lie in our own hands. What we need is the combination and consolidation of the ratepayers on the side of law and order, the sinking of all differences of religion and nationality, and the construction of a solid electoral vote that legally and triumphantly would vindicate the better feelings of this city, and remove the blot that at this moment, under law, rests on its morality. So I leave you with the words of my text as a guide in this and many other public matters. Render to God the things that are God's. Be loyal to him and the principles of His government and loyalty to Cæsar will be a matter of natural and consistent growth. And the truest loyalty to Cæsar at times, may be, his regeneration; it is surely so in

the matter I have noticed; but then such degeneration must be legal. Through law, better laws must be born; and through law the great change must come, and hence the wisdom of the words that will ever be wise—Render to Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's and to God the things that are God's.

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