

METROPOLITAN CHURCH—

Chairman, Rev. Dr. Dewart, Toronto.

Devotional Exercises, Rev. L. S. Rader, Jacksonville, Fla.

Address, Rev. W. F. McDowell, D.D., Denver, Col.

Address, Rev. G. W. Briggs, Owensboro, Ky.

Address, Rev. J. W. Hamilton, D.D., Cincinnati, O.

COOKE'S CHURCH—

Chairman, Bishop John F. Hurst, D.D., LL.D.

Devotional Exercises, Rev. D. S. Hovck, Picton, Ont.

Address, Rev. A. Coke Smith, D.D., Lynchburg, Va.

Lecture, "Africa," Bishop Walden.

Christian Missions and the Temperance Reform.

BY H. L. MACCALLUM.

WE beg to draw the attention of our Epworth Leagues to a *Leaflet*, entitled "Christian Missions and the Temperance Reform," recently issued by the Woman's Missionary Society. By a strong presentation of the havoc wrought in heathen lands, through the liquor and opium traffics, evils forced upon defenceless people by Great Britain, Holland, Germany and the United States, the writer, Mrs. Thornley, of London, successfully proves that every citizen of any land is personally responsible for the government of his country; every man, every woman, is a separate stone, a separate timber in the building up of some nation. In view of the present agitation for Prohibition in the Dominion—a movement led by Methodism—the young people of the Church will do well to supply themselves with copies of this *Leaflet*, to place in the hands of those whose education on the Temperance question has been neglected. From this sheaf of convincing arguments we quote the following:

"Hudson Taylor declares that in China opium does more harm in a week than all our Christian missionaries are doing good in a year. . . . The whole cause of missions in West Africa is imperiled by the liquor traffic. . . . The tap-root of the whole wrong lies in the licensed breweries, distilleries and liquor shops of Christian lands. . . . And Canada! What of her? Is she where, with consistency, she may cry out against the spoliation, for gain, of these 'children with adult passions?' Surely not. There is too much guilt upon her skirts.

"Only 5,000,000 of a population, but between seven and eight millions of a revenue from drink drops year by year into the coffers of the Dominion Government. Each Provincial Government, and every municipality that tolerates the curse, must also take its share of what Dr. Storrs calls "this coin of hell." Every winter grinding, bitter poverty, even amongst people willing to work, increases, while the drink traffic costs the country annually, 93,000,000 of dollars, throwing this enormous sum into channels that actually decrease our national capital, paralyze personal and corporate industries, and blot out the image of God in thousands of human souls . . .

"What, then, is the remedy? Surely the only road to answered prayer for these heathen lands, that 'lie bleeding at every pore beneath the wounds of European and American traders,' is to make clean the inside as well as the outside of the platter. To pour out our prayers over the liquor traffic in foreign lands, while we shut our eyes to the shame and pain and soul-loss coming from the same



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source and lying at our own doors, is but a mockery of the One who taught us, through the picture of that helpless man on the Jericho road, that we may not pass by our brother, wounded and dying on the highway of life, to attain some distant good for ourselves or others. If each one of us gives gladly the little or much of prayer and effort that is within our power towards Prohibition in Canada, then can we pray God, with a clean conscience, for our heathen brother and sister."

These *Leaflets* may be obtained at two cents each, from Room 20, Wesley Buildings, Toronto. Postage, two cents extra.

The Liquor Traffic.

WHAT HAVE WE TO DO WITH IT?

THE position of our Methodist Church in relation to this subject was well and forcibly put in the Report on Temperance and Prohibition as adopted by the General Conference at its last session. The following is a part of the report:

"That the liquor traffic of to-day is the greatest stumbling-block in the Church's progress, is fraught with untold evils to humanity, and spreads desolation over the length and breadth of our fair Dominion.

"That the efforts put forth by the Governments to restrain, by license laws, this cyclone of destruction, have failed in their purpose; be it therefore,

"Resolved, (1) That we are unalterably opposed to all efforts to regulate the traffic by taxation or license, high or low. These afford no protection from its ravages, but, on the other hand, entrench it in the Commonwealth, throw around it an artificial garb of respectability, and make the people partakers of and responsible for the evils resulting therefrom. 'It is impossible to legalize the traffic without sin.'