

to bear the ridicule of those who sneer at "new fangled notions" (and they are very numerous); preach in season and out of season that prevention is better than cure, and that cleanliness is next to Godliness. Would it be too much to dream in the future of a great alliance between parson and doctor? They used to talk in England of the squire and the parson being in alliance, why not the doctor and the parson?

THE LEGISLATION OF THE FUTURE.

We are slowly, but only very slowly, and with infinite difficulty beginning to see that the forward movement of the future in all national and international polity must be preventive and not curative. Disease, poverty, misery, crime, must all be prevented. There is a well known simile that will illustrate this. Supposing there were a dangerous precipice close to a public road, and accidents were frequent at that spot, which would be the wiser course to take, establish an ambulance and hospital at the bottom of the cliff so that those who fell over should receive prompt medical attention, or build a fence along the edge of the precipice so that no one should fall down at all? Put in such simple language as that of course the dilemma is an absurd one, but when one reflects that we are still and have for centuries been succouring the injured, the sick, the starving and the homeless, without trying very hard to find out whether we can't get to the root of the trouble and stop people becoming sick or starving or homeless the simile doesn't seem to be quite so pointless after all. We have built hospitals enough in all conscience, but have we determinedly grappled with the causes that make people sick? We say with a kind of pious resignation, "more babies die in that city ward than in all the others put together," and having stated that lugubrious fact, we leave it at that, evidently strong in the belief that God, in His infinite wisdom or mercy, has ordained that such and such a city ward shall kill one baby in every four, to the advancement of His Kingdom and the glory of God. Construction, reconstruction, that will be the battle-cry of the future, the banner under which the Church, the State, and all humanity must march. We must be seized with that divine discontent that will not let us rest while there are things to be done which cry out for us to set our hands to them, while there are wrongs to be righted that demand our courage to grapple with them, while there are crooked paths to be made straight, and captives to be set free.

And what else should lead the way but the Church? Science? Science must indeed show the path, but the Church must lead the