

TEMPERANCE.

Alaska has been put into the dry column by the passing of a "bone dry" bill at Washington.

March 1 of this year, the Tennessee "bone dry" bill will become effective and it is now illegal to ship any liquor into that state for beverage purposes.

A state-wide prohibition bill has been passed in Indiana, making that state dry after April 1, 1918. The bill passed the House by a vote of seventy-eight to twenty-eight, and the Senate by a vote of thirty-eight to eleven. This means the prohibition of the manufacture, sale or distribution of intoxicating liquors in the state of Indiana.

The Anti-Saloon League would have its hands full in South America. Drink has nearly wiped out the Indians. In Valparaiso, Chile, there is one saloon for every 24 men. That city with a population of 140,000 had 600 more cases of drunkenness reported in one year than all London with 5,000,000 souls.

Reports come from England that the new Lloyd George Cabinet will favor national prohibition as a war measure. Not long ago there was presented to the British Government a petition eleven miles long, the burden of which was prayer for the prohibition of the liquor traffic during the war and for six months thereafter. Every class of citizens was represented but workmen are said to be in the majority.—The World's Work.

The change of attitude on the part of the public toward the liquor trade is seen even in the brewers' advertisements. At present in some New York street cars appears an advertisement of a certain brand of beer which will be sent "incognito to your home in a new plain case." Beer-drinking is losing its respectability, even the brewers themselves being judges.—The Christian Guardian.

WILL HE DO IT?

By A. T. Allis.

Tell us, ye who watch in Zion,
Tell us if your Lord be true;
Tell us if this precious promise
Was not made for such as you,—

You who stand as chosen heralds
Of Jehovah's gift to men;
Tell us if this broadest promise
Is a promise made in vain.

Will he do it? Dare ye try him?
Dare ye trust him when ye pray?
Or, if doubting, can ye wonder
That your prayers are turned away?

Can ye ask (until believing)
In the name of Christ alone?
Or, if faith be in your pleading,
Can the Lord his word disown?

May ye ask a Father's blessing
On his truth which ye proclaim?

And will not the Father grant it,
If ye ask in Jesus' name?

Need ye then, O brothers! need ye
Labor with so little gain?
Need ye see God's precious harvest
Waste and perish on the plain?

Has his cleaving sword—the Spirit—
Lost its penetrating power?
Has his hand refused to wield it?
Is not this God's chosen hour?

While ye have this precious promise,
May ye not expect to see
God's unsparing hand bestowing
Blessings on your ministry?

Will he do it? Yes: he'll do it.
his is not a trifler's word,
But the sure and faithful promise
Of our ever-faithful Lord.

Will he do it? Ye who languish
In the fetters forged by sin,
Dare ye throw your hearts wide open,
And invite the Saviour in?

Dare ye follow where he leads you?
Dare ye trust him when ye pray?
Then, as sure as God is holy,
He will wash your sins away.

Will he do it? Brother, sister,
Panting after holiness,
Conscious of your native vileness,
Dare ye prove his faithfulness?

Dare ye sacrifice your idols?
Dare ye yield your human will?
Dare ye lie upon his altar
Till the Lord his word fulfil?

Dare ye trust his hand to lead you?
Dare believe this promise true?
Then this richest gift of Heaven
Shall be given unto you.

Will he do it? Oh, his people!
Whatsoever we shall pray
In the name of Jesus, will he,
Will he, turn our prayers away?

March, 1866.

THE POOR IN SPIRIT.

One answered, on the day when Christ
went by,
"Lord, I am rich; pause not for such as I.
My work, my home, my strength, my frugal
store,
The sun and rain—what need have I of
more?
Go to the sinful who have need of Thee,
Go to the poor, but tarry not for me.
What is there Thou should'st do for such
as I?"
And He went by.

Long years afterward, by a palace door,
The footsteps of the Master paused once
more

From whence the old voice answered pite-
ously—
"Lord, I am poor, my house unfit for Thee;
Nor peace nor pleasures bless my princely
board,
Nor love nor health; what could I give
Thee, Lord?
Lord, I am poor, unworthy, stained with
sin—"
Yet He went in.

—Mabel Earle.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WATER OF LIFE.

By Leander Turney.

The water of life is the grace of God.

It is "living," that is, flowing water. There is nothing stagnant about genuine Christian experience. One who compares Christianity with any of the great religions of the East, Brahminism, Buddhism, Confucianism, or Mohammedanism, will observe that under their influence society stagnates; while in Christian countries there is always progress. Those religions are Dead Seas, and Christianity is a flowing river.

The grace of God is "living water" because it is literally living. The water of life is, indeed, the Life of God in the believer. "He that believeth on me, . . . from within him shall flow rivers of living water. (But this he spake of the Spirit, whom they that believe on him should receive.)" The living water is nothing less than the Spirit of God in the soul and the life of the believer.

The water of life is satisfying. Jesus said to the woman at Jacob's well, "Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again; but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst." It is not that once drinking of the water of life is sufficient for all time. It means that everlasting life begins when we drink, and as we drink daily the everlasting life more and more possess and masters the mortal life. It means satisfaction. There are lasting satisfaction in the spiritual, but not in the temporal things.

The water of life is upspringing in the soul and outflowing in the life. Sometimes a spring gushes up in the mountains, because it comes from a great reservoir of water high somewhere amid the melting snows. The life of God springs up so in the soul, because from the heights of God's nature the springs of the soul are fed. The water of the River of Life, which flows from the Great White Throne, reappears here on earth in the character of the Christian. But upspringing waters must flow out. Grace cannot be confined to its first recipient. We must tell our good news. The spring must become a stream.

The water of life is abundant, for the supply of grace is as great as the greatness of God. It is accessible, for it gushes up, and it follows us. It does not have to be dug for. No journey is required to reach it. It does not have to be filtered when it is found, for it is as pure as the character of Jesus Christ.

"Ho, every one that thirsteth!"—S. S. Teachers' Monthly.

Soar we now where Christ hath led,
Following our exalted Head;
Made like Him, like Him we rise;
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

"Hail the Lord of earth and Heaven!
Praise to Thee by both be given;
Thee we greet triumphant now;
Hail! the Resurrection Thou! Amen."

—Charles Wesley.