

REFORM IN RELIGION.

CHEATING AND STEALING THE VICE
OF OUR TIME — THE METHODIST
CONFERENCE AND BOOK-ROOM
FRAUDS — SATAN AMONG
THE CLERGY.

The reasons assigned by members of conference for not re-electing Dr. Lanahan are worth study. They are that his charges have been extravagant and his general behavior "violent." He has been, it is said, "too violent for his own good;" his conduct has been "impolitic, to say the least," and so on. These phrases explain the spirit in which the whole investigation into these frauds has been carried on, and the nature of the difficulties with which Dr. Lanahan has had to contend. As we pointed out when we commented on this matter over a year ago, that feeling which his charges have excited in the body seems to have been not so much horror, or disgust, or anxiety to learn whether they were true, as grief and indignation over the "scandal" they were sure to cause; and Dr. Lanahan has evidently, from first to last, been judged not as an investigator, but as a stirrer up of strife. In fact it is impossible for anybody who has followed the history of the affair from the beginning to resist the conclusion that the ideal church of most of those who have taken part in these proceedings is not a church of unquestioned purity, but a church in which there would be no dissension, and that would rather bear with the thefts, frauds, false entries, and erasures in the Book Concern than with the violence and uproar attendant on bringing them to light. We venture to say that nothing more discouraging has turned up in "politics" within the last five years, and this is saying a good deal. For it must be remembered that the Methodist Church is the one Protestant denomination in this country and in England which can be said to retain any firm hold on what is called the masses. It is the only Protestant denomination which in any country, enters into anything like real competition with the Church of Rome in bringing religion home to the common run of men as a rule for daily conduct. It is said to muster over twelve million members and it grows apace. The spirit by which such a body is animated is, in our day, of the last importance. It must, of course, have its vices, like all organizations made up of men, but it is rather disheartening to find that they are the very vices of the society which it is expected to reform.

The great vice of our time is not licentiousness, as was that of ancient Rome, or highway robbery, as was that of the Middle Ages. It is simply cheating and stealing, and the necessary accompaniment of lying. The business world is acknowledged to be in a bad way in this particular field of iniquity; and, if we are not mistaken, the weaknesses, base compliances, rascalities and frauds of business men are a favorite pulpit topic at Christmas, Thanksgiving and other great Christian feasts and anniversaries. One would, therefore naturally expect that when the church undertook to do business—that is, to buy and sell and manufacture commodities—it would do it in a way that would furnish business men with a model. The Catholic Church has, of late years, at least, been on this point purely itself. It gets money in some queer ways, but its accounts will bear examination. The quarters of the servant girls go where they were intended to go without sticking to anybody's palms. Doubtless rogues sometimes turn up among the administrators, but they disappear under swift and savage condemnation. There is a careful avoidance of scandal and prodigious mystery about the machinery, but there is no tenderness for a thief. People thought they might expect the same spirit from the Methodists, but they have been disappointed. The church went into business in the Book Concern, and achieved a prodigious success, but Satan got hold of the books and falsified the entries, stole goods and sold them on his own account, pocketed commissions to which he was not entitled, and, in fact, reproduced on a small scale the very operations he was carrying on in the City Hall. When Dr. Lanahan got in he found him out and collared him, and was trying to drag him to the police-station, but the old culprit was actually able to get the clergy and laity about him, persuade them not to examine his books or the contents of his bag, and to give his accuser into custody on a charge of brawling and disorderly conduct.—*New York Nation*.

A NOVEL MARINE PROPELLER.

The Action of The Waves To Be Utilized.

A number of gentlemen interested in shipping met on Thursday afternoon at Canada Basin, to examine a new mode of propelling ships, which has been invented by J. J. Allingham, of Hamilton Road, Everton. Mr. Allingham's idea is to make waves, acting upon the hull, propel the ship, and this he promises to do by a very novel contrivance. Beneath the keel of the vessel he would fix two oblong steel frames, each fitted with two sets of blades, to open and shut cross-wise. One frame he would fix to the fore part, and the other to the stern. Both frames will be fixed at an angle. When the vessel rises on the sea, the pressure of the water upon the frames would of necessity force her forward. When she sank, the blades, opening, would form the opposite angle, and the onward motion would thus be continued. The apparatus would also have the effect of steadying her. When she rolled over to the right, the blades of the left side of the frame, being shut, the frames would tend to bring her back; and when she rolled to the left, the closing of the frames on the right would have a similar effect. The angles of the frames would have to be increased or lessened according to the state of the weather. To stop the vessel it would be simply necessary to close the blades in the frames. It will be seen that the action of the appliance depends solely on the action of the waves; but at sea it is rarely the case that there is not sufficient motion in the water, to lift the vessel several feet. The inventor believes that the apparatus would be a sufficient propelling power for vessels not required to travel at great speed, but at the same time would supply the ship with a limited quantity of rigging, as auxiliary power and to provide against accidents. The working of the invention was shown upon a model vessel, seven feet in length. The little vessel held its own against the tide, and even in comparatively calm water, travelled at considerable speed. The opinions of the spectators seemed to be that the invention was in a somewhat crude condition, but that it was founded on a sound principle, which, skillfully applied, would be of very great value to the mercantile marine of all countries.—*Liverpool Albion*.

The Italian Bee.

The Italian Bee, which has been for years well known in Europe, has been successfully introduced into this country and is rapidly taking the place of the old species, or black bee. At first it was regarded with suspicion, but its good qualities are now conceded by all who have tried both varieties under similar circumstances. It is similar in form and size to the black bee but distinct in color, being of a golden hue, and also has three distinct golden rings below the wings about the body. It is found to be more active than the other bee, making three flights where the black bee makes two; it also is more hardy, working earlier and later, and in cooler weather. It gathers honey from plants which are not frequented by the common bees. Its queens are more prolific, so that they may be increased much faster with safety. Careful experiments have decided that one colony of Italians will store more honey than two colonies of native bees, and at the same time give more swarms; while some years, when the native bees do nothing, Italians gather large supplies. The general introduction of this bee into every part of our country is greatly to be desired.

[The above opinion by Mrs. S. E. Tupper, the well known Apianian of Iowa, we fully endorse, as we have proved it by the Italian Bee in our garden in this city.—*Ed California Farmer*.

A New Rifle.

The most astonishing fire arm ever exhibited in this city is the "magazine rifle" invented by Captain Meigs of Lowell, Massachusetts. This rifle, which weighs but half a pound heavier than the Springfield regulation gun of the army, and is no more cumbersome, is capable of firing fifty charges of fixed ammunition in as many seconds, and of being replenished with fifty cartridges in no longer time than is required to load an ordinary muzzle-loading musket with a single charge. We have

seen it, in the hands of the inventor, go through with the motions of firing thirty-four times in half a minute.

The neck-piece, as it is called, of the stock of the Meigs rifle is a hollow metallic cylinder. The ammunition is arranged in movable racks, fifty in each, one of which at a time is placed within this cylinder and so connected that by two motions, and without a change in the position of the hands of the holder, the spent cartridge is dropped, and a fresh one brought forward to its proper place in the chamber of the piece and inclosed. A soldier with such a weapon could precede his advance with a perfect storm of leaden missiles. He would be a whole company in the person of a single individual. A platoon would do the execution of a regiment. With all this the mechanism of the gun is very simple, easily understood and not liable to get out of order. The one on exhibition had been discharged thirty-eight thousand times, put through the motions of firing millions of times, and seems capable to repeat its experiences. It was shown to the officers of the army, navy and ordnance bureaus, and a number of members of Congress, who were unanimous in pronouncing it a marvel of ingenuity and efficiency. The inventor is still at work studying further improvements, especially in ammunition; and thinks he is on the track of an explosive which will give better results than can be obtained from gunpowder.—*Washington Capital*.

The Garde Republicaine Band at the Boston Jubilee.

The next and the greatest feature of the (Fourth) day was the appearance of the band of the Garde Republicaine. As they came in sight they were received with the wildest expressions of delighted enthusiasm, which continued until they were ranged in a circle and ready to play. They are smaller men than those composing the English and German bands, but are compactly built, soldierly in manner and appearance and quick in their motions. As the leader, M. Paulus, mounted his stand and raised his baton the applause ceased, and the band played "Hail Columbia," which was so great a surprise to the audience that they grew almost unmanageable in their demonstrations of satisfaction. After the applause attendant upon this performance had subsided, the band broke into Meyerbeer's fine "Fackeltanz," in B flat, No 3. This was given in a manner that can be characterized by no word less encomiastic than superb. The expression, the exquisite light and shade, the spirit, sentiment, fire and wonderful unity of feeling that distinguished their playing are things to wonder at. Their execution is wonderful in its precision, and the ensemble moved with such perfection that it seemed scarcely possible that over fifty men were playing. We have never heard this striking and characteristic piece given with such effect. The applause at its conclusion was deafening. The overture to "William Tell" was next performed. The opening movement was given with an exquisite delicacy and refinement. The storm was wonderfully given, even to the extent of the tremolo effects of the violins; and where the fortissimo breaks in, the effect was thrilling to a degree in the clear-cut tones of the trumpets, with the clear blare of the basses. The andantino, with its delicious oboe solo and flute accompaniment, was given with remarkable tenderness and expression, and the concluding allegro was full of fire and brilliancy. The manner in which the rapid passages—belonging in the original score to the violins—were rendered defies description, so perfectly articulated was every note. We have never heard anything to equal it. In fact, the technique of the whole band is something to marvel at. The brilliancy, dash, nerve, correctness and irresistible beauty of their playing defy description. A deafening storm of applause rewarded this splendid effort. A charming little polka with cornet solo followed, and here again the most beautiful and delicate execution marked the performance. Not a note was slighted in the most rapid and complicated passages. It was the most brilliant piece of cornet playing to which we have ever listened, as far as execution and expression are concerned. The tone was somewhat weak and muffled, but this is a peculiarity of French players upon this instrument. It was, of course rapturously applauded. The "Marseillaise" next followed, and was

performed by the entire chorus, the organ, bands, orchestra, and cannon. The effort was inspiring in its thrilling effect upon the audience. It was demanded, and was repeated. Of course it is useless to attempt to describe the enthusiasm that prevailed. When Mr. Gilmore descended, the impulsive and patriotic leader of the French band gave him the accolade. The audience seemed as though they would never have enough, and applauded till the band played "Yankee Doodle" and "The Star Spangled Banner." Here ensued a scene that was as wild in its manifestation of unbounded delight as was that which made the English day so memorable. Handkerchiefs were waived in the air thick as leaves in Valambrose; the shouts were deafening; "huzzas" and "bravos" were echoed in every direction, and the general enthusiasm scarcely knew bounds. This part of the programme concluded with a performance of the Marseillaise by the French band, which was given with a verve that Frenchmen alone can impart to it.

Compared with the bands that had preceded it, this must be accorded the palm on the score of precision, brilliancy, correctness and artistic feeling. The tone lacks something of the refinement and richness of the English band, and a certain sentiment and grace that marked the playing of the latter; but for dash, technique and a certain irresistible abandon the French must be more highly commended. Still, we must do the Guards band the credit to say of them that, though they are rivalled, they are not surpassed. Each band has qualities that the other lacks, and each may learn something from the other.—*Boston Globe*, June 21.

A PROSPEROUS SETTLEMENT.

A German Village in California.

In Los Angeles County, California, is a German settlement called Anaheim, containing an industrious population of nearly 2,000, which affords an interesting example of the benefits arising from systematic and organized efforts in colonizing a new country. Anaheim was projected in 1859 by a party of wealthy Germans in San Francisco, who formed an association for the purpose of establishing a collection of vineyards and homes for a certain number of their deserving fellow countrymen. Eleven hundred acres of land were purchased twenty-seven miles from the city of Los Angeles, and divided into fifty lots of twenty acres each, reserving one hundred acres in the centre for a town site. The whole was fenced with willows; the boundaries of twenty acre lots made and fenced in the same manner. An irrigating canal ten miles long was constructed, which brought water from the Santa Anna River, and four hundred acres of vines were planted before the expiration of the second year. Eight acres in each lot were planted with grapes, leaving twelve acres for pasturage and other crops. Toward the close of 1859 the Superintendent had successfully carried out the plan of the association, at an expense of \$70,000, when the final action on the part of the society took place. This was to settle German families upon each of the vineyards, upon the payment of \$1,400, just one-fiftieth of the aggregate cost of the whole. The selection of the vineyards was made by drawing lots, and each purchaser received in addition to his vineyard one town lot, 14 being left for public purposes. In 1865 the thrifty Germans had made great improvements in their vineyards, and the whole settlement was in the most flourishing condition. The original vines were in excellent bearing order, and from four to eight additional acres to each vineyard had been planted. Small but substantial dwellings had sprung up in the willow ambush on every hand, while quite a bustling little town had come into existence in the centre of the plot. Anaheim is now fourteen years old, and is one of the most charming towns in California. It has its churches, school house, stores, shops, and a famous larger-bear brewery. The living willow fences, a liberal sprinkling of ornamental trees, its vines, and large patches of brilliant flowers, give the place a delightful appearance. The people are thriving and contented. They produce still wines, white and red, as delicious as any that can be imported, and manufacture large quantities of a superior article of brandy. Los Angeles County is the oldest and best grape-growing district in the State. Last year it made more wine and brandy than all the other counties in California.—*Ex*.