

how to vote for officers and on notices of motion.

(3) Proxies who are chosen by the Rec. Sec., and have written instructions handed to them now to vote.

Abolishing proxies would simplify our representation by confining it to two kinds of representatives. Also it secures a more real representation because a Union would be likely to select a member in their own district, known personally to them, and knowing the local conditions under which they work, also a delegate from their own district could probably give the Convention report in person, and a visit from their Convention Delegate would be the next best thing to a member of their own Union as their representative.

The experienced members who visit Convention at their own expense, could always be chosen by some Union in their own district, such arrangement being far more satisfactory both to themselves and the Union than being selected by Rec. Secretary to act as proxy for a Union they know nothing about.—Editor "White Ribbon.")

"I PROTEST".

To sit in silence when we should protest
 Makes cowards out of men. The
 human race
 Has climbed on protest. Had no
 voice been raised
 Against injustice, ignorance and lust,
 The inquisition yet would serve the
 law,
 And guillotines decide our least dis-
 putes.
 The few who dare must speak, and
 speak again,
 To right the wrongs of many.
 Speech, thank God,
 No vested power in this great day
 and land
 Can gag or throttle. Press and voice
 may cry
 Loud disapproval of existing ills;
 May criticise oppression and condemn
 The lawlessness of wealth-protecting
 laws
 That let the children and child-
 bearers toil
 To purchase ease for idle millionaires.
 Therefore, I do protest against the
 boast
 Of independence in this mighty land.
 Call no chain strong which holds one
 rusted link.
 Call no land free that holds one
 fettered slave.
 Until the manacled slim wrists of
 babes
 Are loosed to toss in childish sport
 and glee;
 Until the mother bears no burden,
 save
 The precious one beneath her heart,
 until
 God's soil is rescued from the clutch
 of greed,
 And given back to labour, let no man
 Call this the land of freedom.
 —Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

ALCOHOL IN AFRICA.

In the course of a statement in the "Daily News," Sir Harry Johnston, G.C.M.g., Administrator in several parts of Africa, said: "I suppose in course of time I have become a fanatic in regard to the drinking of distilled spirits or of brandied wines, because I am intensely interested in the British islands and the British Empire, and wish to see both prosperous, happy, healthy, and efficient, because in Central Africa I found alcohol far harder to fight than the Arabs; because in West Africa I found alcohol the main cause of the quarrels between the natives and the white men, between the natives themselves, the chief stimulant of horrors like cannibalism and "were-leopardry," secret poisonings, and the foulest intricacies of fetish worship; the principal cause of laziness amongst the blacks, or deadly ill-health amongst the whites; because in South Africa I knew only too well that the quarrels between British and Boers were almost entirely conflicts between Scotch or Irish whisky and Cape brandy, and that distilled alcohol was the one overmastering incitement to the native to rape, rob, revolt, and ravage; because I saw in India, and in the employment of the Sikh and Indian Mohammedans in East Africa, what serious damage the spread of alcoholic habits was causing among Oriental populations—the white man's example being the ally of the distiller; because I have seen the same in Egypt and in Algeria; because I know that just as the Jameson Raid was provoked, conceived, born, and miscarried in alcohol, so were the Ceylon Riots, and many a Kuli disturbance in Malaysia (according to the complaints of Planters' Associations). I saw this mischievous traffic first in 1882, when I certainly had an open mind and a horror of the goody-goody, when in my anxiety to be free from sentimental trammels, I was prone, rather than otherwise, to take the anti-missionary point of view. I saw it some years later, as both Consul and Administrator, and never ceased to inveigh against the mischief alcohol was working among the blacks and whites alike. My attacks on alcohol in Africa have continued from 1885 without intermission.

If the liquor traffic was prohibited, the loss of freight to the shipping

companies would soon be made up by a great increase in exports from a sober, industrious, and well-populated Africa."

A DANIEL COME TO JUDGMENT.

At the Society of Arts the other day the Archbishop of Canterbury put forward the moderate temperance view, and he was followed by Mr H. Charrington, who said that he was proud to have been a brewer for thirty years, spoke of teetotal fanatics, and declared his belief in the fine old vintages which many of those present were brought up on, and thank heaven, still enjoyed. Sir A. Pearce Gould, who spoke next, said that he was a teetotaler, though he did not believe that this question was to be settled by teetotalers, but by all classes of the community coming together. Speaking with a solemnity which visibly impressed the audience, he said that Britain could not last the next ten years if we reverted to pre-war drinking. To him the outlook was very grave from the point of view of the national future, and he pleaded with the distillers to give up making drinkable gin, and to make commercial spirit instead for manufacturing and motor purposes.

MAORI REPORT.

Miss Woodhead, now Mrs Harsant, wishes me to thank the Union for their good wishes and token of their appreciation of her services, which I forwarded to her at the time of her marriage in December last. She tells me that the epidemic worked great havoc amongst the Maoris in the North. Mrs Noda and all the women who were not laid up worked splendidly. She also helped herself until a few days before her wedding. They had it in a very bad form in that district, and Mrs Rebecca Harris, who worked for our cause some years ago as Rebecca Smith, gave her life in nursing the sick and dying in her husband's parish. She was indeed a great-hearted woman, and our sympathy goes out to her husband. We trust that the thought that she died such a noble death in the service of her stricken people may be some consolation to him in his bereavement.