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VOL. XVII.

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GLADSTONE.

The "Gladstone Letter" on Washington has been read by most of our readers, perhaps, but as the letter and the subjects discussed in it are of no ordinary interest, and thinking some of our readers might care to preserve what the greatest living Englishman thinks of Columbia's greatest son, we print it in full.

WHITEHALL, Oct. 4. '84.

Dear Mr. Smalley:

I was unwilling to answer your letter hastily, and I therefore postponed writing for two or three days, but I find this does not in any degree relieve me from my dilemma.

The first point raised by you is, indeed one that can be briefly disposed of. When I first read in detail the Life of Washington, I was profoundly impressed with the moral elevation and greatness of his character, and I found myself at a loss to name among the statesmen of any age or country many, or possibly any, who could be his rival. In saying this I mean no disparagement to the class of politicians, the men of my own craft and cloth; whom in my own land, and my own experience I have found no less worthy than other men of love and admiration. I could name among them those who seem to me to come near even to him. But I will shut out the last half century from the comparison. I will then say that if, among all the pedestals supplied by history for public characters of extraordinary nobility and purity, I saw one higher than all the rest, and if I were required at a moment's notice to name the fittest occupant for it, I think my choice, at any time during the last forty-five years would have lighted, and it

would now light, upon Washington. The other subject is one on which I hardly like to touch in a few lines, for the prospect it opens to me is as vast as it is diversified, and it is so interesting as to be almost overwhelming.

Mr. Barham Zincke, no incompetent calculator, reckons that the English-speaking peoples of the world an hundred years hence will probably count a thousand millions. Some French author whose name I unfortunately forget, in a recent estimate places them somewhat lower; at what precise figure I do not recollect, but it is like 600 or 800 millions. A century back I suppose they were not much, if at any at all, beyond fifteen millions; I also suppose we may now take them at an hundred.

These calculations are not so visionary as they may seem to some; they rest upon a rather wide induction, while the best they can pretend to is rough approximation. But as I recollect, it was either Imlay, or one of those with whom the name of that creature is associated, that computed, a century back, the probable population of the American Union at this date; and placed it very nearly at the point where it now stands.

What a prospect is that of very many hundreds of millions of people, certainly among the most manful and energetic in the world, occupying one great Continent, I may almost say two, and other islands and territories not easy to be counted, with these islands at their head, the most historic in the world. In contact, by a vast commerce, with all mankind, and perhaps still united in kindly political association with some hundreds of millions fitted for no mean destiny. United almost absolutely in blood and language, and very largely in religion, laws and institutions.

If anticipations such as these are to be realized in any considerable degree, the prospect is at once majestic, inspiring and consolatory. The subject is full of meaning and of power; of so much meaning that the pupil of the eye requires time to let in such a flood of light. I shall not attempt after thus sketching it, to expound it. It would be as absurd as if a box-keeper at a theater, when letting in a party, should attempt to expound the piece.

I hope that some person more competent and less engaged than myself will give this subject the study it deserves; taking his stand on the facts of the last century, and the promise, *valeat quantum*, of the coming one. I cannot but think as well as hope that a good understanding, in the future near and far, among English-speaking peoples, though it may not be a matter of certainty, yet is beyond the necessity of going a begging, so to speak, for recommendations from any individual, earnestly and with my whole heart as I, for one, should recommend it.

Clearly if the English-speaking peoples shall then be anything like what we have now been supposing, and if there shall not be a good understanding among them, there will have been a base desertion of an easy duty a *gran rifiuto*, such as might stir another Dante to denounce it, a renunciation of the noblest, the most beneficial, the most peaceful primacy ever presented to the heart and understanding of man.

On the other hand, great as it would be, it would demand no propaganda, no superlative ingenuity or effort; it ought to be an orderly and natural growth, requiring only that you should be reasonably true and loyal to your traditions, and we to ours. To gain it will need no preterhuman strength or wisdom; to miss it will require some protentious degeneracy. Even were it a daydream it would be an improving one, loftier and better than that which prompted the verse

super et Garamantas et Indos
Proferet imperium; jacet extra sidera tellus,
Extra anni solisque vias.

because it implies no strife or bloodshed, and is full only of the moral elements of strength.

Believe me, dear Mr. Smalley
Very faithfully yours,
W. E. GLADSTONE.

Notwithstanding the havoc created a few evenings since, by the Seniors at Prof. Philbrick's home another company of young people joyfully responded to the call to assemble in the pleasant parlors last Tuesday evening. All that were present can testify that conversation is not a "lost art;" mesmerism not "a fraud;" original conundrums do sharpen one's wits while disclosing some facts; one does dream of one's dead grand mother after he has altogether too generously partaken of cake, lemon ice with other delicacies; and finally one is sure of agreeable entertainments at Prof. Philbrick's hospitable home. The faces of our dignified Seniors relaxed into smiles of genuine delight when the invitations to the first Senior party of the year were issued last week. Prof. Philbeck, knowing that no other evening could be spared from study by this overworked (?) class, very considerably named Friday evening, that a few hours of recreation might pleasantly close their week of toil. The Zets, (loyal fellows) bravely filled their places on the society program before joining the happy company which was being so pleasantly entertained by Prof. and Mrs. Philbrick at Wood Lawn. A few quiet games were played which gave opportunity for a full play of Senior wit. The jokes which were perpetrated and the puns made, proved that the invaluable general ability student could shine in any sphere. The moonlight at last proved irresistible and, after refreshments were served, a merry group of grown-up children played

"Ring-around-the-rosy," "Drop-the-handkerchief," etc, upon the lawn. A few rollicking college songs "loud" if "not 'sweet,'" formed a fitting prelude to the homeward march. Among the pleasant recollections of college life, for the members of the class of '85, will be the evening they were so royally entertained at Wood Lawn. *

A NARROW ESCAPE.

The sun was rapidly sinking beneath the western horizon on last Tuesday afternoon when Messrs. Skiff and Hostettler, of the Senior class, wended their way to the boat-house north of town to forget for a few short hours, the cares of student life, in a row on the placid bosom of the Iowa. But their pleasure was doomed to a very damp termination. The boat was launched with Skiff at the oars. In a short time it was seen slowly drifting toward the dam. Whether the occupants were lost in a fit of abstraction, (which is by no means unreasonable) or whether the oarsman sought to measure his strength with that of the river current is not definitely known; but at any rate boat and all went over the dam. While pitching down the falls the boys hastily measured the distance to the shore and after emerging from the boiling waters, which they declare is fifteen feet deep, struck out boldly for the shore which reached after considerable kicking and splashing. There they were received by friends and their wants attended to; but they have not yet so far recovered as to be able to state just exactly why they went over the dam. They agree however, in objecting to a repetition of this very dangerous experiment which might have been attended with more serious results.

Sir James Fitzjames Stephen had no very exalted opinion of Americans in 1873 for he then said we were "an immense multitude of common-place, self-satisfied, and essentially slight people." Several Englishmen said something in 1861-5 which was just as unwelcome. Mathew Arnold, for example; he writes in a different strain now:

Hoe corn, gentlemen, hoe corn! Whittier was hoeing corn when he saw his first poem in print; he was hoeing corn, also, when he received his first invitation to become an editor.

The average annual expenses of a student at Harvard is \$800; Amherst \$500; Columbia \$800; Lafayette \$400; Princeton \$600; Yale \$800, and Williams \$500.—*Ex.*

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Society Directory.

ERODELPHIAN SOCIETY.

ESTHER SMALLEY.....President
MAY WILLIAMS.....Secretary
Sessions on alternate Saturday evenings.

HESPERIAN SOCIETY.

METRA HELFRITZ.....President
KATE HUDSON.....Secretary
Sessions on alternate Saturday evenings.

IRVING INSTITUTE.

W. J. MAUGHELIN.....President
B. D. CONNELLY.....Secretary
Sessions every Friday evening.

ZETAGTAHIAN SOCIETY.

D. C. BLASHFIELD.....President
E. A. PATTERSON.....Secretary
Sessions every Friday evening.

STUDENTS' CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

N. M. CAMPBELL.....President
E. H. GRIFFIN.....Secretary
Prayer meetings every Tuesday noon in
President's recitation room. All
are cordially invited.

LOCAL.

Banquet.
Alumni invited.
All friends invited.
Citizens will participate.
No class day.
Read "Dixie Dots."
The circus is coming.
Freshmen to the front.
"A clear cut translation."
C. L. Powel is in the city.
Sweeney is in school again.
Special providence, rain on drill day.
C. B. Miller returned to school Thursday.
Freshman program in Irving Hall to night.
Academy commencement Thursday night June 11th.
High School commencement Friday night June 12th.
E. H. Griffin is out of town for a few days on business.
George Bremner '83, was in the city in the early part of the week.
B. D. Connelly made his appearance at school again Tuesday.
Ed Moore was called home last week by the death of his aunt.
C. R. Brown is at present in the employ of the Hawkeye Insurance Co. of Des Moines.
It is reported that one of the sergeants got rattled in Monday's drill, imagining himself on a surveying tour.
Efforts are being made to get Col. J. P. Sanford, the famous traveler lecturer and humorist, to lecture in the city.
J. H. Gates visited his many friends in the city several days this week. He is employed in a bank at Waterloo.
The broad spreading branches of the trees in the campus sheltered several society and class meetings during the week.

J. A. Vandyke will deliver the alumni oration at the Academy commencement.

The May party Thursday night was a success considering the extremely unfavorable weather. All present report a good time.

Mrs. Lieut. Thurston is in the city, the guest of Prof. Smith. Friends desiring to call will find her at home Wednesday afternoons until after commencement.

Prominent among the speakers in the decoration exercises will be Messrs. Noble and Campbell, who will deliver appropriate declamations.

C. F. Kuehne '81, visited University friends Wednesday. He is practicing law at Denison, Iowa, with the firm Shaw & Kuehle.

T. G. Newman, Collegiate '83, law '84, visited friends in the city during the week. He is meeting with success in the law at Burlington.

Carrie Cavanagh visited last week at Newton where she has been employed as a Grammar School teacher for the year beginning next December.

At a called meeting of Irving Institute Tuesday afternoon, N. M. Campbell was elected to represent the Society as orator at the society anniversary vice P. K. Holbrook resigned.

We are glad to learn that F. B. Tracy, who has for the last year been teaching in southwestern Iowa, has secured a position as assistant principal in his home school at Brighton.

Powell, one of the '85s of S. U. I. has been looking over the University in the spare hours that he could find during a week's stay in Lincoln. We are glad to have made his acquaintance—*Hesperian student Lincoln Neb.*

Denman Thompson, as "Joshua Whitcomb" will be the last entertainment of the season at the Opera House. Don't miss it. Monday June 1st. Reserved seats at Finks.

The New Ground floor. Elite Studian Dubuque St. is now ready for business. Your orders for fine artistic photographs solicited. Everything new and latest styles. Remember no stairs to climb. D. Rad Coover, operator.

The Juniors interested in base ball held a meeting this week and appointed a committee to pick out a nine. The Freshmen, flush with their late victory over the High School boys, are looking for more worlds to conquer, and may take occasion to challenge some of the higher classes. The Seniors also, it is reported are preparing to contest for honors of the diamond.

The match game of ball arranged some time ago between the Freshman and High school nines came off Tuesday afternoon on the ground west of the University resulting in a Freshman victory. The score standing 11 to 18 in their favor at the close of the seventh inning. Some very good playing was done on both sides. Orelup did nobly behind the bat and Heald as pitcher. It is un-

derstood that they are now looking for "more worlds to conquer."

Several Senior meetings were held during the early part of the week, having in view the election of a class day programme. At first it appeared that one would be made out; but the short time for preparation and other reasons perhaps of equal weight, finally decided it in the negative and the class of '85, we regret to say will have no class day exercises.

Through the kindness of Pres. Pickard, Dr. Northrup has been secured to lecture in the University city and will lecture in Zet Hall, Monday afternoon and evening. To the afternoon lecture all students are admitted without charge. Lecture in the evening will begin at 8 o'clock. No one can afford to miss hearing the Dr. who for many years has been superintendent of instruction of Connecticut and stands foremost among the leading educators of the country.

The Iowa City Dry Plate Co. has opened up a new photograph studio at No. 11 Dubuque St. ground floor. Their outfit is entirely new and the best made. They have the largest style of camera manufactured, and are prepared to take all kinds of artistic photographs. With their large camera, they will make a specialty of taking groups. D. Rad Coover, well and favorably known in Iowa City, has charge of operating department.

The managers of the Iowa City base ball team, consider their action on Friday the 22d, as justifiable. Those who desire to know what became of their money will find by calling on T. J. Rigg an itemized account showing where every cent was spent. On the order of the management gate money was refunded to all who called for it before a game was organized to take the place of the one advertised. The Chicago team promised to come as can be seen in a letter in Mr. Rigg's possession and it was no fault of the Iowa City team that they did not come, and more than this the home team is compelled to make up out of their own pockets several dollars to cover necessary expenses. Their explanation seems satisfactory.

Last Monday night quite a fair sized audience assembled at Irving Hall to listen to the lecture of Prof. Parkeron "Colonial Contribution to National Life." The lecture was given under the auspices of the Nineteenth Century Club, which has kindly furnished to the public several lectures of more than ordinary interest. So much ground was covered by the Professor's lecture that a synopsis even would hardly do it justice. While due prominence was given to English influence, the social and political customs peculiar to the colonies were especially emphasized. The course of Massachusetts, the stronghold of the dissenters, was carefully traced down to the time when she joined hands with Virginia, persistently loyal to the king and the estab-

lished church, in leading the colonies to Independence. The religious toleration sought by the dissenters was justly commended and the toleration practiced in Catholic Maryland under the Calverts received a glowing eulogy. To all the lecture was very interesting and especially so to all students of history. It is to be hoped that the Prof. can be prevailed upon to lecture again.

Like the gurgle of a mountain brook or the first breath of Spring, when sweet primroses peep out from their green beds, so is "Joshua Whitcomb," the New Hampshire farmer, in the hands of that superb character actor, Den. Thompson. It is a play of which the public never tires; it is so simple, so home-like, the very odor of clover and grasses that hang about Swazey are transplanted to the stage, and we laugh and cry in quick succession at the intense yet natural situations with which it abounds. "Joshua Whitcomb," is not a play; it is an idyl, in which the mirror is held up to nature itself. Mr. Thompson is a native of Swazey, "thirty miles from Keene," and all the characters he brings into the entertainment are taken from real life in his old New England home. His work is beyond criticism; he has long since been beyond the reach of the carping critic, and the writer who would attempt to pick any flaw in his work from the time he makes his first run to a fire until the curtain goes down on the happy company at Josh's farm, would at once advertise his ignorance of what true acting is.—*Columbus (O.) News.*

YOU ARE INVITED.

A quarter of a century has passed since the reorganization of University and it has been decided to properly celebrate this quarter centennial of our State institution. The University authorities aided by the Alumni Association are making special arrangements to entertain all Commencement visitors and friends of the S. U. I. Besides the other attractive features of the week there will be given a grand banquet under the auspices of the above named authorities to which are invited, the Faculty and their friends, all the alumni, all commencement visitors, all citizens who assist in making the necessary arrangements and lastly, but not least important, all students of the University. This grand banquet and reception is being prepared for the alumni and friends of the University by the University authorities and alumni association in fitting acknowledgment of 25 years of unparalleled growth and it is earnestly hoped that as many as possible will be present. Almost one thousand invitations have been issued to alumni and friends but undoubtedly, many names of former students have not found a place on this list. The graduates of our school find their homes in man States and although the University many loose sight of some of her graduates yet Alma Mater never ceases to guard with tender care the welfare of her children and now at this quarter centennial of her

THE NOBBIEST STOCK OF CLOTHING AT THE GOLDEN EAGLE CLOTHING HOUSE.

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reorganization, she cordially invites all her friends to join in joyous celebration of her success.

The executive committee of the Alumni association consisting of Fred Remley, Bohumel Shimek, Miss Joe Williams, Prof. Emil McLean and R. H. Allen have secured reduced rates on all of the leading roads for all commencement visitors that is all those paying full fare coming will be returned on one-third fare. It is hoped that as many will attend as possible bringing their friends; and unite in a grand reunion such as the University has never seen or will not experience again until another twenty five years shall have passed away.

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

REPRESENTATIVE AMERICAN ORATIONS; to illustrate American political history. Edited, with introductions, by Alexander Johnson. New York and London; G. P. Putnam's Sons, 3 vols.

These substantially bound and plainly printed volumes are designed "to show the best side of all lines of thought which have seriously modified the course of American history." The editor, Alexander Johnson, professor of Jurisprudence and Political Economy in the College of New Jersey, has shown himself eminently qualified to arrange the large amount of materials at hand, in the best and most satisfactory manner.

The whole work has been divided into (1) Colonialism, to 1789; (2) Constitutional Government, to 1801; (3) The Rise of Democracy, to 1815; (4) The Rise of Nationality, to 1840; (5) The Slavery Struggle, to 1860; (6) Secession and Reconstruction, to 1876; (7) Free Trade and Protection.

At the beginning of each of these divisions, the author has inserted an admirable essay; giving in concise but plain language, the tendency of the age, the questions mostly discussed, and their influence upon the people. These essays are the best we have seen on the subjects under discussion, but are no more than was expected from such an able man as Prof. Johnson.

The "Orations" which constitute the main portion of the volumes, are truly representative. Patrick Henry, Alexander Hamilton and George Washington are the representatives of the Colonial period, while Fisher Ames and John Nicholas are taken to represent the period of Constitutional Government. The names of Jefferson, Nott, Randolph, Quincy and Clay make the period of "The Rise of Democracy" a brilliant one.

"The Rise of Nationality" is represented by Calhoun on Nullification, Hayne on Foot's Resolution, and Webster's reply to Hayne.

Next comes the anti-slavery struggle. It is doubtful whether any country ever produced as many orators of note, as did ours during that exciting conflict. The names of Phillips, Calhoun, Webster, Clay, Chase, Brooks, Burlingame, Clingman, Sumner, Lincoln, Breckenridge, Seward and Douglass will make the his-

tory of the anti-slavery struggle an interesting and durable one.

Then follows Secession, Civil War and Reconstruction, Free Trade and Protection, with orators like Stevens, Cox, Lincoln, Davis, Stephens, Beecher, Sherman, Garfield, Hurd, and others well known to the present generation.

As illustrating the constitutional and political struggles of our country, these volumes are of the greatest value. They show, as can be shown in no other way, the intensity of the various conflicts through which we have passed. In his selections Mr. Johnson has been scrupulously impartial. All sides and all views are represented, and no one can complain of being unfairly treated. It is time we miss some orations which we have been accustomed to consider representative, but some must be omitted, and the author has endeavored to omit only those which seemed not to be "so closely related to the current of American history or so operative upon its course as to demand their insertion."

The St. NICHOLAS for June contains the opening chapters of "Sheep or Silver?" a new serial by the late W. M. Baker, author of "His Majesty, Myself." The story deals with and compares the experiences and final achievements of two brothers who seek their fortunes in the West,—one on a Texas sheep ranche; the other among the silver mines of Colorado. The illustrations will be furnished by James C. Menks and Henry Sandham. The other serials are carried on in interesting installments: E. P. Roe, in "Driven Back to Eden," keeps abreast of the season with pleasant accounts of outdoor work and play; J. T. Trowbridge tells how "His One Fault" involves the hero in still more trouble; Lieut. Schwatka gives a further account of the sports and occupations of "The Children of the Cold;" and Edmund Alton, in "Among the Law-makers," informs us how senate-pages and senators have a great deal of fun in and out of hours. Haydn is the subject of the third "From Bach to Wagner" sketch.

In addition to all this, there is a full quota of short stories and articles. Frank R. Stockton opens the number with a quaintly fanciful story, entitled "Old Pipes and the Dryad," illustrated by a frontispiece-picture by Kenyon Cox. There is a historical and practical article on "The Royal Game of Tennis," with illustrations showing the antiquity of the game; "Helen's Prize Dinner," by Anna McClure Sholl, one of the prize-winners in the recent competition, will find many interested readers; "A Terrible Gymnast" is a thrilling tiger story, by Mrs. M. Sheffey Peters; "Princess Papillonnes" is a bright butterfly story from Central America; and there are poems, stories and pictures, by Helen Gray Cone, Walter Learned, Celia Thaxter, John R. Coryell, Margaret Eytinge, Bessie Parker, Lizzie Chose Deering, R. B. Birch, Jessie Curtis Shepherd, W. A. Rogers, Culmer Barnes, and many others.

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D. RAD COOVER, Operator.

LAW DEPARTMENT.

B. F. GOOD, Editor.

Semi weekly examinations now engage the attention of both classes.

An immense amount of reading is now being done, but very little studying.

Kessler will spend Sunday under the parental roof. He will return in time for work on Monday.

It is said that there are 5880 lawyers, 2760 notaries and 750 commissioners of deeds in the city of New York.—*Ex.*

The mysteries of "The Law Merchant" are now being expounded by the Chancellor. This is one of the most practical and interesting studies of the entire course.

The familiar face of Thos. G. Newman was seen in the lecture room this week. Mr. Newman is a graduate of last year's class, and is engaged in the practice of law at Burlington.

The Senior class will be entertained by some professional friends a few days before commencement. The members of the class will no doubt endeavor to make the entertainment a success.

It is rumored that a quintette of Laws, are contemplating an excursion to some sequestered place in the adjoining forest for the purpose of testing their forensic abilities. The natives are hereby warned to give these luminaries a wide berth as a collision with one of these pyrotechnics would be fatal.

A recent number of the *North Western Reporter* was eagerly read by the students. This number contains the final decision of the Supreme Court, of the cases argued before Judge Adams during the Winter term. So far as we have been able to learn the decisions rendered here by the students have, with but one exception been reversed. "Great men will differ!"

Judicial Longevity:—The year 1885 finds no less than four English Judges still actively pursuing their judicial labors after attaining the age of four score. They are vice-chancellor Bacon, who is in his eighty-seventh year; Judge Petersdorff in his eighty-fifth; Judge Hulton in his eighty-third; Judge Bayley, of the Westminster County Court, also in his eighty-third year.—*Law Times.*

The memorial service at the Unitarian Church on Sunday evening was well attended. Rev. C. B. Whitcomb, a member of the Senior class gave the address of the evening. Lack of space forbids an extended mention of the address, but suffice it to say that the subject was treated in a manner which displayed the speakers thorough mastery of the subjects of History and Theology. Mr. Whitcomb has a forcible but graceful manner of delivery which is the result of long experience on the rostrum.

We desire a few copies of No. 13 of the VIDETTE, January 17. Please send to business manager.

ACADEMY COLUMN.

GUIDO H. STEMPER, Editor.

Pups!

Swimming.

What's it to you?

An original selection by Davis!

Chas. Mackey was home Saturday.

Will Kenyon plays with the H. S. B. B. C.

Jno. Sullivan spent Sunday at Nichols, his home.

Miss Minnie Sutliff spent Sunday with her folks at Solon, Iowa.

The Athenian society adjourned last Friday evening, for the rest of the term.

Ye editor tried to look out the translation of a French joke this week. Funny, but we don't see it.

J. A. Vandyke will deliver the oration before the Alumni Association, having been appointed orator last winter.

Murphy thinks, that between having a bull-dog behind one and a wire-fence before, it is rather hard on the trousers.

Smith had an exciting adventure with a field-mouse, Monday evening, but came out victorious, with the field-mouse as prisoner of war. Shimek will prepare it "for exhibition."

The fire alarms, Sunday night, called forth the heroic cads, who, since they could not act, contented themselves with saying what they would have done if there had been a fire.

Ed. Marechal left Thursday morning for Dubuque, where he will spend a few weeks before returning to his home, Denver, Col., for the summer vacation. We hated to see Ed go, but when we saw the grief of the girls, we choked ourselves down.

Another critical was held last Wednesday evening, and although the "side-show across the way," attracted some of the might-have-been audience, quite an enjoyable time was had. Another critical next week will complete the trinity for the spring.

A student at the Iowa Agricultural College writes to a friend at the Academy: "Lights have to be put out at ten o'clock; but last year the boys organized a shirt-tail brigade and drilled after ten o'clock." We can imagine—but 'twere useless; no picture of the mind is as vivid as the stern reality.

Shame on you, Guido!!

Cheap croquet sets at Lee, Welch & Co's.

Best Cigars in the city at Rigg's Drug Store.

Groceries, provisions and fruits at Seydel's, corner College and Clinton sts.

Everybody uses Rigg's Hoarhound Cough Syrup for coughs and colds.

Croquet sets of all descriptions, at prices to suit you. Lee's Pioneer Book Store.

GLE CLOTHING HOUSE.

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Everything marked in plain figures. One-price only.

LOGICAL RESULTS OF MODERN TENDENCIES.

The age with all its vast advance in mechanical research, with all its application of natural law to meet the needs of man, is far from a solution of the many social problems that vex the heart and pain the soul.

Multitudes of men exist. No two probably are endowed with the same mental organization, and but few of all who now live upon the earth's surface, or have lived and passed away have had a full and complete mental and moral equipment and development.

There is as much difference in mental endowment perhaps as in facial and bodily characteristics; as much need for the development of the faculty of religious consciousness, morally and mentally, as for improvement in the physical appearance of the Laplander or the Bushman. Observation shows that between the potentiality of the fully equipped intelligence, and the uncivilization of the savage, as great dissimilarity exists as between the countenance and bodily appearance of an Alexander Von Humboldt and those of the Digger Indian.

In reality, man even the highest and best has always found the world infinitely too large for him. He feels like a sparrow on a ship in mid-ocean, or like a child alone on a runaway locomotive, or like a frog afloat on a lily-pad on the brink of Niagara. He searches through the obscurity surrounding his position, and aided by the flickering light of his own intelligence, interrogates Eternity for a solution. Isolated and unguided he examines the infinite Kosmos, an inch of ground at a time, as it were, and comes to an end, where his own perceptions fail to find any more standing ground.

Inch by inch, step by step, encouraged by finding some faint spark of light in the Everlasting Darkness, he searches on until living ideas become established, and rules of experience guide Reason and formulate logic.

But the most ardent aspirations after knowledge, will not discover truth, and imaginary wisdom with its evil results, will be accepted as surely as the most divine messages to the purest conscience. It is a well known fact that there are developments of scientific culture and art that tend directly against civilization. To have mastered, perfected and used the art of poisoning, to have invented the inquisition, for the repression of free enquiry and to arrest free expression, and to have manufactured a vile literature, are certainly outgrowths of an evolution against the general good.

The facts of experience when applied do not seem to harmonize man's physical and moral opportunities. There has ever been an impression that the sorrows of men are the result of their own mis-doing, and that no one can be chastised for the mis-deeds of others. Yet the laws of nature are general, and the rain falls on the just and the unjust. Recently the Brooklyn Bridge was opened to the public with loud acclamations of rejoicing on an imposing thoroughfare. But owing to a blunder in the architectural construction, numbers of innocent persons were caught in a jam and pressed

to a cruel death. Looking on those bruised and disfigured bodies, it does seem a cruel travesty on the idea of abstract right and justice to simply explain the phenomena to bereaved friends by the one word—blunder. According to our idea of retributive justice, the men who committed the fault should have suffered, and by that suffering restored the dead to life. While, the fact is, the men were paid for their work and excused for making the mistake, and have, or will probably be prosperous in life and die a peaceful death. The fact is man is not powerful enough to command the situation.

Because of the ill-adaptiveness of man to the harshness of nature, and the incongruities of the phenomena surrounding his mental and moral life, a feeling of helplessness constrained him to early economize his little strength, and make it more available by the use of various contrivances for the amelioration of his physical condition. Imagination can follow him from the cave dwelling to the tent, the hut, thence to the palace; and from living upon the natural products of the soil, to the keeping of flocks and herds, to agriculture and commerce, art and education, in a word to civilization. Contemporaneous with the improvement of his physical condition, is found the advancement of his spiritual perception. Fetichism, ghost-worship, animism, idolatry, polytheism, deism in ascending gradation.

A man's religion is the solution of the problem of the universe, and his capacity determines his choice of religions. If we acknowledge the Protestant religion to be the highest and best, still under the most flattering circumstances of our highest evolved structure of government and civilization, the lives of the most favored seldom produce anything like an even and harmonious unity.

Evidently a new revelation is needed. The student of historical antecedents, will find in the decay of Rome, the destruction of an advanced civilization for want of a living faith. The citizen of Rome worshiped Valor, Truth, Honor, Purity, Courage, as found embodied in noble families. But with the influx of the peoples from conquered nations came broader ideas, the artistic Greek, and the subtle logic of Sophists, and the luxury and Animism of the barbarian swamped the old religion, and Rome perished for want of a national belief.

"Intellectual emancipation, if it does not at the same time give us control over ourselves is poisonous," says Goethe.

Educated Christendom finds itself situated much as Rome was in the days of the Gracchi. Science asserts the survival of the fittest, and civilization lauds the man of wealth independent of the manner of getting it. Monopoly reigns and the sense of honor is lost in the mad race for power, wealth and position. Weaker nations perish, though they are Christian brethren, and faith cowers before unbelief.

Proletarianism is on the increase, and insanity is in proportion to the financial pressure, which robs the poor and enriches the rich. Political corruption and bribery are one of the admitted

factors of success, and the judiciary is venal and corrupt. Theology and belief are disjointed and logic is no longer able to adjust religion to a rule of action.

It must be conceded that our civilization, the rules by which men increase, or are suffocated and stifled, results still in finding the universe much too large to give us anything like perfection in our present fit. Tendencies now in operation, may hurl our present civilization to destruction as complete as that which overthrew the civilization of the Roman Republic, unless there is a revival of faith in some shape or another, the forces, whatever they be that control the boundaries in which human things adjust themselves, will make an end as they made an end before, of what are called free institutions.

A new impulse, which is not to be found in any teaching of Sakya-Mouni, Plato, St. Francis L'Arsisi, or St. Augustine, but which was surely foreshadowed by Christ and St. Paul, must rule the action of civilization, to guide and save it.

It would be a happy thing could there be a definition to that vaguest of terms, Free-Will. The West Minister Catechism says that freedom is to be found in serving God and praising him continually.

It is significant that philosophers of the materialistic and metaphysical schools are as negative on the doctrine of Free-Will as the most Orthodox Calvinist. Their doctrine is that there is a right and a wrong principle, or the principle of degeneration and development to be applied to every organism. There is a right and a wrong in each act of a man's life. When wrong is chosen, a man is led away by temptation. If he adheres to the right action, if he be not overcome by temptation, it is because he foresees inconvenient consequences, or the certainty of future pain is greater than the present pleasure; or because he prefers right to wrong, and the desire for good is stronger than the desire for indulgence. A man must learn to act as he learns to walk. To sustain him each time he totters is to render him inert. A fall may be a wholesome lesson to teach him to take care, but he is not left to learn that a gun is dangerous, he is restrained. He is forbidden to do what wiser people know will injure him.

In fact in our practical daily life we do not acknowledge free-will, we act on an entirely different basis, exacting stern discipline, and training individuals that they may be relied on with positive certainty. The sternest discipline is resorted to in the army, the navy, and in our fire and police departments to secure uniformity of motives and action.

The punishment of crime is of itself a proof that human will is not an indeterminate power, but that will may be influenced by motives to act this way or that, and that if punishment is systematically inflicted, the wrong-doers will be constrained to take a better and higher method to right-doing.

The education of the race is based on the fact that it is necessary to train the oncoming generation to the right-doing; feeling, and willing of the community,

and that the public faith may be based on the perfect conformity to law and honor by the citizen.

When appeal is made to law, it is with the full assurance that an impartial judge will rule according to the precedents and weighty reason of the law, and not according to his own will or hap-hazard reasoning in the case.

In opposition to the theological view, scientific investigation proves that the main tendency of human society during its long term of existence has been to pass from a savage to a civilized state.

When all else is passed away, when theologies yield up their real meaning, when creeds and symbols have become transparent, and when man is in contact with the hard facts of nature, it will be found that in the exploded religions of the various developed races of the earth there is much abnegation of self, and pursuit of an ideal which taught bravery, justice, purity and truth, and had in it much of pure religion. Christianity presents itself, as the universal and eternal religion, though it is capable of a still higher phase of development. We may look forward to a time when the strong soul will bear the burdens of the weak; when the strong nations will be responsible for the undeveloped race, teaching not only a morality that represses, but a system of manual labor that will increase and enlarge life and faculty; when the law of development will not be differentiation but homogeneity; when the true life is one that commands perfect sincerity; when the whole individual can be understood; then the light can be thrown on all sides, and the perfect freeman can be seen. In his library, his workshop, in his family, in his activities, he will live the true and perfect life. G.

DIXIE DOTS.

It was no wonder that the poor soldier, when returning from a long campaign in the South twenty years ago, exclaimed upon reaching the north bank of the Ohio, "we are in God's country once more." From Cairo to Corinth the road traverses a forest of the finest hardwood timber in the South, being broken now and then by the axe of the sturdy farmer who has chopped himself a home in the wilderness. Now and then a village is passed, but not such a one as you will see in Iowa, with neat cottages, substantial business blocks, a prominent school house, and a church spire for every few hundred inhabitants. In these Southern villiages the cottage is too often a hovel, the business blocks are not imposing, the church and school house are not prominent enough to attract the attention of a casual observer. Soon after reaching Mississippi, we enter the great prairie region of the State, extending about two hundred miles south and fifty to one hundred east and west. In this region the farm houses are better, villages more business-like and soil has a darker hue—it was yellow most of the way heretofore. South of this prairie the splendid pine forests extend to the Gulf. Never have I seen such magnificent trees, towering high into the air,

and as strait to death for

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and that the public faith may be based on the perfect conformity to law and honor by the citizen.

When appeal is made to law, it is with the full assurance that an impartial judge will rule according to the precedents and weighty reason of the law, and not according to his own will or hap-hazard reasoning in the case.

In opposition to the theological view, scientific investigation proves that the main tendency of human society during its long term of existence has been to pass from a savage to a civilized state.

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and as straight as needles, but being bled to death for the resin they yield.

Soon after leaving Cairo we met Homer D. Cope, an old S. U. I. student. He had an engagement to render "Damon and Pythias" at some point in Missouri, that evening, and soon left us. He reports success, as most S. U. I. boys do.

At Corinth, Miss., small boys were selling shells and bullets from the battlefield near by. I bought the entire stock from one of them, and then led him into the confession that most of them were made in town. I call that *enterprise*.

An intelligent, well dressed negro boarded the train at Okolona, the former home of the fire eating States. He says this paper never reflected the sentiments of the community, and that it died for want of patronage. He says the negro in Okolona has every right guaranteed him by the constitution. Separate schools for white and blacks are an unnecessary burden for the South and must be abolished before education can be disseminated as it should be. He was on his way to New Orleans, where he delivered an oration at the Exposition, on the Colored People Day, which I am told was a very able production. He was a slave until after the war, and is now Justice of the Peace at Okolona.

Before the days of the Jetties, as large ships could load at Mobile as at New Orleans. It was the natural sea port for a large cotton region, and the blocks of warehouses attest her former importance. The Jetties gave New Orleans over five fathoms of water, while Mobile has only three. The empty warehouses, idle cotton presses and decaying warves bear silent witness to her downfall.

The Inter-State drill is the first great event Mobile has had since the Union fleet steamed past the forts and obstructions and captured the city, some twenty odd years ago. Then the Northerners fought every step they advanced. Now if any partiality was shown by the citizens it was in favor of the Northern men.

The Southern people are hospitable, with thousands of strangers in the city each asking questions, I have yet to hear of the first one who failed to receive a courteous reply.

The colors of the "Muscatine Rifles" were "blue and grey;" of the famous Chickasaw Guards, of Memphis, "red, white and blue." The majority of Northern companies were uniformed in gray, the southern in blue.

The exchanging of badges is a pleasant custom at military encampments. I saw a battle scarred veteran of Lee's "Grand Army" wearing a badge of the "Lee Association" with a portrait of the General upon it. I asked him if he

would exchange for one of mine. He said it was the only one he had, and did not want to part with it. Just then his eye caught my badge. He grasped my hand saying "You are from Iowa, ain't you?" and before I could remonstrate the "Lee" badge was pinned upon my breast.

Each military company entering the contest for a prize, chose a "Sponsor" who in turn selected a number of "Maids of Honor." These wore the colors of their company, and were seated in a part of the amphitheatre reserved for them. The man who failed to find beauty there, must have been intensely interested in the drill.

The drinking water on the camp grounds was obtained from wells sunk in the sandy soil, hence was not very good. The City of Mobile has the finest water passing through her mains I ever tasted. It is obtained from large springs, several miles from the city, is as pure as crystal, and tastes like water, and nothing else. It is soft too, and is as good as rainwater for washing purposes.

With such good water plentiful it is a pity that so little is used for drinking purposes. It seems to be universally the custom to hand the liquor around to guests, and few native southerners refuse it. They use it moderately however. With thousands of people on the drill grounds, I saw but two drunken men, and not one disturbance.

The remains of Mobile's land fortifications can be seen all around the city. Grass grows over them now and cattle graze where the cannon once were planted.

Near by are cemeteries for Union and Confederate soldiers. Until lately the graves of the heroic dead were decorated on two separate days, one for the blue, and the other for the grey. Now one day suffices for both.

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