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In Albany, New York, an organized movement was recently started for the purpose of suppressing profanity. The prevalence of that habit-for it has become a habit with a great many people -is said to be marming, and the assistant rector of St. John's cathedral in that city has stated that profanity is as widespread, or nearly so, as the custom which prevailed four hundred years ago, when swearing was almost universal throughout Europe, and a Catholic movement was inaugurated for the purpose of denouncing it.

Profane swearing ought to be discouraged by all persons laying claim to respectability. It is not only shocking to the religious sense, but is positively vulgar. We do not believe that profanity is anything like as prevalent today as it was some centuries ago, but it is frequent enough to give cause for energetic protest. Out west, it is perhaps heard oftener than in the east. There is a lack of restraint in the comparatively new States and Territories which gives license to speech, and thus what some people regard as "strong language" becomes habitual.

With the growth of population and the increase of church facilities the custom of using profane words gradually diminishes. People with any appreciation of refinement come to regard, more and more, the feelings of others who are sensitive and devout, and so they restrain their speech out of respect for what they may regard as the prejudices of their associates. This is true courtesy and it should be valued and encouraged.

The habit of profaning the name of

heautiful that a believer has ever formlated, is the quintessence of Jewis ideas cohcerning the relations between man and his Creator. The Sermo on the Mount is the substance of rab binical sthics; its figures and compari sons are common among the rabbis. Jesus is soul of our soul, as he is fight if our flesh." The only reason, Nordau thinks, why

the Hebrews so universally have reected Jesus is this that they have been persecuted in His name. He argues:

"If the Jews have not to the present time paid that tribute of public honor o the exalted moral beauty of the char-acter of Jeaus, the ground for this is to be sought in the fact that those who to be sought in the fact that those who tormented them did so in His name. The Jews concluded what the Master was from the doings of the disciples. This was a wrong, but it was pardon-able on the part of those who were eternally the objects of the never-end-ing hatred of so-called Christians. But very time that a Jew went back to the original sources concerning Jesus and learned to study Christ without re-eard to his followers, he was compelled to exclaim in amazement: With-out accepting His Messianic claims, this man is of us! He honors our race and we claim Him as our own, as we also claim the synoptic gospels as eximples of genuine Jewish Hierature." As to the question of a revision of the trial. Nordau says that has been lone long ago. Jesus was not condemned to death by Jews, but by Ronans. He says:

"Jesus would never have been conmned to death on the cross before a ewish court, as this method of punishng criminals was not allowed by the Jewish law; and it never could have taken place on a Friday, the evening before the passover, as the law string-ently forbade (an execution on that day. If the Jews had condemned Jesus the manner reported by tradition, then they would have com-mitted a series of crimes, each of which would have been severely pun-ished by the Jewish law."

This is now a somewhat common mode of stating the case, but it has no historical basis. It may be excused on the ground of an existing desire to create mutual good feeling between adherents of the Christian and the Mosaic faith, but it can certainly not

be stated as a fact. It is true enough that the Romans were the executors of Jesus. In their hands rested the civil authority. But it is equally true that the entire plan was laid by Jews. But for their insistence, the tragedy would not have taken place.

Not that the common people were the movers in the terrible drama. Neither the body of the Pharisees nor of the Essenes would probably have put Jesus to death. But it was different with the Influential Saducees. The ecclesiastical leaders of the people belonged to this faction. They had been publicly insuited when the Nazarene cleared the Tample ground, undoubledly amid the joyful shouts of the people. They decided on his death from that hour. And they accomplished it by unlawful methods and by appeals to the prejudices of the people and the branded conscience of a Roman governor. This is history.

The position of Max Nordau regard-Louis as a Jow of the Jews

Dr. Becker says:

"On so-called 'blue' days we are constantly mayed to a 'sense of injury' from fancied aloofness of our friends. Madam Lofty slights us, and our jaun-diced imagination has it that she has heard something detrimental and dis-likes us. But lo! today, when the iver is released, madam smiles sweet ly, and never heard a thing." At any rate the condition is one to

be combated in the interest of happiness. It is an old observation that the world is to us what we ourselves see in it. There is much truth in this, and the exceptions prove the rule. How important then, to be in that frame of mind, in which all the world looks like a picture-even the shades serving the useful purpose of giving relief, perspective and beauty to the landscape,

#### THE GOEBEL MYSTERY.

There may not be any danger of an utbreak of civil war in Kentucky, but the condition there is by no means satisfactory. There are practically two State legislatures and two executive officers, and the result is the breeding of antagonisms and disorder. A correspondent of the New York World calls attention to the fact that it is now about a month since the asi sassination of Goebel occurred, and yet no serious effort has been made to discover the murderer. The first impression that the shot came from the executive building, he thinks, cannot be maintained. But where did it come

from? The physicians seem unable to decide whether the fatal bullet entered from behind or in front. One woman claims to have seen the shooting done by a stranger following the victim.

Taking his clue from this statement, the correspondent of the World suggests that one of Goebel's own friends may have done the shooting, in order to enable them to play the card of intended assassination in their political game.

This is noted as one of the theories of the Kentucky tragedy. There has of the investigations held are not made seems to be no particular desire to have | dation in fact. full publicity. The mystery remains a mystery.

And this is the reason why the condition in Kentucky is deplorable. The failure to pursue to the bitter end the perpetrators of a crime that has attracted the attention of the civilized world cannot but encourage further lawlessness and violence. Such failure is a curse and a blight upon any State. Sooner or later it calls down the judgments of heaven. If human history be read with a view of tracing the connection between effects and causes, it will be found that great calamities, such as wars, pestilence, famine, etc., often are preceded by moral deviation. Diseases are bred by physical uncleanliness, and in the same way moral putrefaction very often is a precedent of

desolation, of calamity.

natural effect of bodily disease. As the merits of the situation, independent of the selfishness or antagonism of one or the other side.

> Another fatal railway wreck is reported today-this one at Brazil, Indiana. From the circumstances reported of several severe rallway disasters recently, there is ample room for prosecu. tions for criminal neglect on the part of the railway officials.

We now have Moses as one of the aw-givers to the Fillpinos, in the commission appointed by the President. He is likely to find as much of a rebellious spirit to the edicts promulgated as the ancient and more eminent Moses found among the Israelites at times.

Admiral Dewey does not seem to be much in favor of battleships, and says he could fight one with an armored cruiser. The admiral has great faith in the maneuvering tactics which sent Montejo's fleet to the bottom of Manila Bay.

The big whisky club of Arkansas and vicinity is alming to extend its membership. If it would only include the victims of whisky, the number of members would be large enough, though the quality, affected by the use of whisky, would be inferior.

The English chancellor of the exchequer reported to parliament on Monday that the estimated expenditure of the war then was six times as much as had been estimated in October last. The comparative figures tell their own story of mistake or otherwise in calculation.

Another and terrible gas explosion is reported from West Virginia today, in which fifty men are said to have lost their lives. The lack of precaution claimed to cause these disasters should be made a severe load on those responsible for the neglect.

The London Morning Leader sizes up Cecil Rhodes's loyalty to the British flag to be only so long as the latter is "a valuable commercial asset." That been no formal inquest, and the results is a pretty stiff arraignment, but coming from such a source, it cannot be public, at least in their entirety. There | brushed lightly aside as without foun-

> Chicagoans are trembling lest their water supply should be cut off by the storm and cold wave now prevailing there. St. Louisans are gratified to learn that there is something to make Chicagoans shiver with fear, as a partial revenge for their dumping sewage into the Missouri town's water supply.

> Prof. McGiffert of Union theological seminary is about to leave the Presbyterian church and join the Congregationalists. The Presbyterian church is too narrow for men of modern views and aspirations. McGiffert was threatened with a trial for heresy. He no doubt felt that he would save the church that trouble.

> The Yaqui Indian campaign is far from being closed. The redmen have



Deity does not always indicate disbelief in or disregard for the Supreme Being. nor is it always to be considered in the light of cursing. It is a pernicious manner of using expletives that, often indulged in, becomes a kind of second nature. It is no real mark of a vigorous mind, but is rather a defect. It is curable, however, and can be overcome by an effort on the part of the person addicted to it, and by the force of public opinion. It is ungentlemanly and should be so regarded. It should be viewed as a breach of good manners, and frowned down by respectable men as much as by ladles, before whom no true gentle- he preside? man would so far forget himself as to indulge in it.

We believe the habit can be more readily and completely checked by the influence of social order, and the tacit understanding that swearing is obnoxious to good manners, than by any religious crusade against it. At the same time, all religious influences that can be wisely brought to bear to oppose it should be exercised.

There used to be an ordinance in Utah cities imposing a fine on any one convicted of profane swearing. If such a provision were now enforced, we think it would bring considerable money into the treasury of this city. Still we do not regard the evil as growing among us; on the contrary, we believe that it is getting to be considered both improper and unnecessary, and something only to be indulged in by the vulgar, or pardonable in an ebuilition of anger on some unusual provocation. When anybody associated with religion, explodes in this way, it is regarded as a reflection, not only upon his own sincerity, but upon the power of the religion which he professes, and it is doubly to be condemned.

"As a man thinketh so is he." is a wise saying, and as he thinks so will he speak, is equally truz. The Christian religion enjoins circumspection in speech as well as in act, and whether people are believers or non-believers in religion, elevated and intellectual society demands that profanity shall be banished from all its circles.

# JESUS OF NAZARETH.

An interesting correspondence has recently passed between the famous Catholic reformer, Pere Hyacinthe, and the well known Hebrew champion of Zionism, Max Nordau. A synopsis appears in the Literary Digest. Hyacinthe believes that the Jews once condemned the innocent Jesus, just as modern France condemned Dreyfus,and asks if the time has not come for a revision of the trial at Jerusalem.

To this Nordau replies. He waves the question whether Jesus of Nazareth is a historical character or a myth, but holds that in either case He is essentially Hebrew. On this point he observes:

"He observed the law; He taught the dity of Hillel-love thy neighbor thyself-he constantly occupied with matters of eternity; he himself felt himself in spiritual communion with God; He despised that which was mortal in his being and all the acci-dental things of this life on earth. All these are characteristic peculiarities of the best Jews of the time of the Roman supremacy, especially of the Essenes. And as to his origin and his ethical physiognomy, there, too, the language of Jesus was throughout Jewish. For all of his parables, parallels can be found in greater or less abundance in the Talmod. His prayer, the most

nighly interesting. For it shows that there is a possibility of the recognition of the great Nazarene by His people, And that is one of the events for which Bible students are looking. When that occurs, the salvation of the human race will be near at hand.

### WHO PRESIDES?

The following question has been asked of the Deseret News:

"If the superintendent of a Sabbath school should call one of his assist-ants to take charge of the school, does Should it be recorded in the minutes that assistant so-and-so presided? An answer to the above would be thankfully received by memschool," the Diamondville Sunday

When the superintendent is present he always presides. If he calls upon an assistant, or other person, to take charge of opening or other exercises, he does not relinquish his superintendency of the school or of the proceedings. If the superintendent is absent, that is another matter. The person then in charge presides, and it should so appear in the minutes.

We answer this question because the people desiring information are somewhat remote from headquarters, and may not be able so easily as others to inquire of the Stake authorities. There are many questions asked of the "News," which, we think, could be better referred to the officers in charge in the localities where they arise. We do not wish to invade their rights or to controvert any of their rulings.

The "News," However, is perfectly willing to reply to courteous inquiries, of a general nature in relation to doc. trine or discipline. We intend in making these remarks simply to suggest that honor should be given to whom honor is due.

ON ILL-WILL.

Dr. W. F. Becker, in Appleton's Popular Science monthly, has an essay on inviting ill-will, which can be read with great profit.

Briefly stated, the nuthor calls attention to the fact that those who invite ill-will generally get it. Society is so constituted that it laughs with those that laugh, while generally it turns away from those that weep. And so misanthropes often in the long run acquire some real ground for their complaints. Imaginary grievances materialize into real troubles.

Thus into an incident between two persons, one of them reads an affront to himself. He retaliates. The other, unconscious of having done anything to provoke hostility finds himself affronted, and he retallates. The grievance has come. A quarrel is the result.

This, indeed, is the story of most quarrels, most misunderstandings. The state of mind by which the words and acts of others are construed to mean an offenise is evidence of a mental disease, which, unless attended to, will become chronic. On the other hand, the habit of thinking no evil can be ac. quired by practice. Or, perhaps it would be more correct to say that it can he preserved. It is one of the characteristics of childhood. It is one of the qualities of the soul without which no one can enter the kingdom of heaven, or remain a useful member thereof.

Sometimes the morbid feeling is a

#### RAILROAD ACCIDENTS.

The record of railroad accidents for the past year, according to the Railroad Gazette, is the largest ever attained in this country. Of the 113 passengers killed in 1899, nearly one-half met their death in the months of January and May. In the former month occurred the butting collision at West Donnellen, N. J., where 16 passengers were killed, and the record of May includs the rear collision at Exeter. Penn., (28 passengers killed.) Deducting these two collisions, the total number of passengers killed still remains 5 per cent larger than in 1898, though only 3 per cent above the average for the past five years.

The Gazette believes, though, that the security of life and limb on American railroads is gradually improving. It admits that the number of accidents increases with larger number of trains run, but the number of deaths and injuries does not increase in the same ratio, a fact which cannot but be gratifying to all who must spend much of their time on the roads.

#### CAUSE OF LYNCHINGS.

Representative White of North Carolina, some time ago took occasion to give, during a speech in the House, some figures on lynchings in the South. The debate was on the Puerto Rican fine organs and expert players and bill, and he plead with Congress for legislation insuring the security for life and property of the inhabitants of answer. Something is said therein of that island.

In the course of his argument he said | class of doctrines set forth. there had occurred 163 lynchings in this country between Jan. 1, 1895, and April 25, 1899. Of these 155 disgraced the South and all but ten victims were colored people.

Mr. White, who, notwithstanding his name, is a negro, stated that in 63 cases of lynching, two persons were put to death for condemning lynch law, one for an act of trespass, one because he was the brother of a murderer, one because he was "a bad character." one because he professed "Mormonism," seven because "they wanted to work." and two because they defended a colored man accused of crime. Sixteen suffered death for assault, criminal and otherwise; nine because of alleged murder, one because he set fire to a barn and three for sheltering fugitives from lynchers. In two cases no causes were assigned; in two others Mr. White says the victims were innocent, and two were slain "because they talked too much."

The alleged lynching because of professed "Mormonism" probably refers to the case of a lady who was hit by a bullet intended for "Mormon" Elders. The picture presented is dark enough. It appeals to the nation for sufficient legislation to protect life. It shows the need of enlightenment, and of salvation.

Morrell Island, in the Pacific ocean, is said to have disappeared. Taken in by the earthquake, perhaps,

Sir Charles Tupper says Canada expects to get the worst of it in the Alaskan boundary dispute. The only reason for such a result is that our northern friend has the worst side of the controversy.

ward a further victory. By the way, the hangings reported indicate that rules of civilized warfare do not prevail even on the Mexican side of the contest. Such spectacles as those described as viewed between Potam and Torin, will only make the Indians' resistances more determined than ever.

Pope Leo XIII a few days ago celebrated his 90th birthday, and on the occasion he received the congratulations of friends and members of the household. In his address to them he spoke, it is said, of the heavenly mercy that had preserved him, expressed his desire that the bloodshed in South Africa. should cease, and, indeed, spoke of current affairs in much the same tone as if the anniversary were his 70th or even his 60th, and without any apparent sense of the fact that the affairs of this world were of less interest to him now than at any previous time. The pope is still said to be strong both mentally

A circular is said to have been issued to Methodist bishops calling upon them to arrange for a week of prayer, because the membership of that church is less than it was two years ago. Can it be supposed that the Supreme Power has any special interest in the membership of the body to which these 'bishops" belong? Methodism has spacious churches, high salarled preachers, singers. Why is the membership falling off? Search the Scriptures for an

and physically.

a worship that is "vain" owing to the

### THE PUERTO RICO BILL. Chicago Record.

The compromise Puerto Rican bill is cowardly makeshift that is no less objectionable to the believers in fair treatment for Puerto Rico than the measure as reported to the House by the ways and means committee. Th reduction in the rate of duty from 2 to 15 per cent does not make the meas-ure just or wise. If it is wrong and impolitic and contrary to the principle our Constitution to levy duties on the interchange of products between the United States and Puerto Rico i certainly is wrong and impolitic and unconstitutional to levy a duty of 15 per cent. If it is our "plain duty" to establish free trade with Puerto Rice is no fulfilment of that duty to cut down the barriers somewhat. To give the pending bill the character of a ternporary measure is but to intensify its mischlevous qualities.

#### San Francisco Call.

There is an existing crisis in Ameri-can agriculture that involves far more serious consequences than can fall upon Porto Rico. We affirm the wisdom of declaration of the League of Domestic Producers, that ; "There is no pressing reason for Congress to leg-isiate for Puerto Rico." Things should have been left in statu quo, lest worse divisions result than the recent one which has called for application of all eans of party discipline and has compelled a compromise, despite all efforts of the caucus. Eloquence and oratory are fine things in their place, and so is the flag; but fine things out of place are no longer fine. The flag seems to be that condition, and has been "nailed"

so many places that much soberness f mind and much time for study must determine what is to be done about it.

San Francisco Chronicle.

The passage of the bill in the House the controversy. It is frequently a good thing to do what an antagonist does not wish to be done; but it is better to proceed on to 15 per cent. This was at first of. Tel. 12.



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