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THE RED LIGHT INFAMY.

We agree with the Tribune that the "American" party is not responsible for the "red-light" district. And as it is not very often we have an opportunity of acknowledging agreement with that paper in anything, we hasten to make a note of this extremely rare exception. The party as such, is not responsible for the "district." It is not in any sense a party institution. Having made this acknowledgment, we expect the Tribune to admit, some time, that "neither is the Church responsible for acts and opinions of individuals."

But, as we have said before, an "American" chief of police first publicly proposed the stockade; another "American" official endorsed the plan and the "American" police department has done nothing to close the cribs, though it is the duty of the chief of police to apprehend all persons violating the ordinances of the City.

Since these are the facts, some of the "American" party leaders must necessarily shoulder the responsibility for that infamy. Many of the voters of the "American" tickets are innocent. They were deceived by high-sounding promises, as they will be deceived again, if they permit themselves to become fascinated by the siren songs of "American" pretenders. Those leaders could have prevented the building of the "stockade." If they had not given their consent to the infamous plan, it would not have been attempted. So, while it is admitted that the "American" party, as a party, is not responsible for the "stockade," the same cannot truthfully be said about the leadership of that party. Some of the leaders are guilty of conspiracy to break the laws and ordinances against the establishment of an immoral business, while at the same time they were howling themselves hoarse against polygamy and unlawful cohabitation.

We repeat that "stockades" belong to the Tribune plan of reforming the "Mormons." Years ago it suggested in an editorial that saloons and brothels would be more potent agencies of liberty than newspapers. And it has not, to our knowledge, changed its views on that subject.

We are aware that many good people are of the opinion that immorality is a necessary evil and that a stockade, for that reason, is something that must be tolerated. They argue that, since the sin cannot be entirely suppressed, it is better to confine it to a certain district than to permit it to contaminate every part of the City.

We are not now entering upon a discussion of that very broad question, but even if the force of that reasoning is admitted, it does not follow that this particular "stockade" arrangement is a good thing. The promoters of this infamous enterprise have not undertaken it for the purpose of restraining immorality. It is neither a moral nor a philanthropic institution. It is a business enterprise, in which the stockholders have engaged for the purpose of making all the money they can. It is dividends they are looking for. Consequently, the managers of it are going to get all the "trade" they possibly can get. They are going to import women to fill their hell-holes. They are going to solicit "business" everywhere, where possible. They are aiming at the creation of a monopoly in prostitution. And it is easy to see that the result will be that the nets of their fishermen for souls will be cast in every direction, in order that the coffers of those who have invested their blood money in the cribs may be filled. Can any Christian lady or gentleman view the establishment of such a business in the community without feeling a righteous indignation, and without trembling for the consequences?

If the "red-light" district were placed under the control of parties who would, and could, run it to place proper restraint upon vice, something might be said for it, just as a great deal can be said in favor of the Gothenburg system of liquor selling; but this is not the case. This "district" is simply a proposition to make a fortune out of sin, and greed will see to it that many a young boy will there be ruined. "Have you a boy to spare?" If not, throw your influence against the institution and the administration that tolerates it.

The "stockade" will not close the other places of ill-fame. They may close some of them. The managers of the cribs will see to it that their satanic monopoly is not infringed upon, as far as they can do that. But they cannot close all other places, as has been pretended. Vice will flourish in all parts of the City in spite of that enclosure, as long as we have a police chief who refuses to do his full duty. This is another reason why the "stockade" should be closed, and the energy of the citizens directed toward the redemption of the City.

YES, WHY NOT?

"By the by, the church organ hints at visits to Ogden and dealing with managers in Ogden with respect to the putrid 'underworld' there. Does the News claim that the American party established the Ogden 'red-light' district? Does it deny that it was established by one of the church parties? Has it ever denounced the party responsible for that establishment in that

city? If not, why not?"—Tribune, May 22.

Yes, we did "hint at" visits to Ogden by parties intimate with "American" party leaders, during the previous "American" administration, but not for the purpose of dealing with managers in Ogden with respect to the "underworld" there," as the Tribune says, but HERE. So the question whether we claim that the "American" party established the "red-light" district in Ogden, is entirely superfluous, not to say foolish. Neither Ogden nor any other city than Salt Lake is under discussion.

Do we deny that the Ogden "district" was established by one of the Church parties? Certainly. As no Church party exists, it must have been established by some other agency. Tribune ravings about a Church party that does not exist will not avail as a means of directing the attention of citizens here from the infamous business on the West Side.

In the closing questions of the paragraph quoted the Tribune takes for granted that one of the political parties is responsible for the Ogden "stockade." But the paper is very indignant at the mere suggestion that the "American" party, whose leaders control this City, is responsible for the "stockade" here. Consistency? May we ask, has the Tribune ever denounced the party leaders responsible for the Salt Lake establishment? If not, why not?

ONE SINGLE ISSUE.

The Tribune boasts about "American" improvements and hopes to make a campaign on that issue alone. Here are the exact words: "And all that the American party asks of the church politicians, is that they give us a fair opportunity to present to the people of this city the single issue, and let it be fought out on that line."

Very good! There are no "Church politicians." Whatever politicians there are, are Republican, Democratic, Socialist, or what not; but not "Church politicians." That is an absurd term, contradictory and misleading. So, if the Tribune want a campaign on one issue, it should reform its terminology and make it conform to facts. Then the issue can be presented fairly and squarely.

It seems to us that the politicians of the various parties might accept this challenge, and if the "News" could, with propriety, give political advice, it would certainly say, make it a "single issue." If the contest is waged on that line, the outcome can be in doubt.

The Tribune is boasting of the marvelous improvements of the "American" party. What are they? Specifically, by all means. Let us deduct the O. S. L. railroad station, the Newhouse buildings, the Church buildings, and the improvements around the Temple block. For neither of these are due to the "American" party any more than are the improvements in San Francisco. Let us except, further, the water and sewer extensions planned by the Morris administration, for which a million dollars was borrowed. Then what improvements are there that the "American" administration ought to have credit for? Let us have the particulars, by all means.

Some paving has been done for which the tax-payers have been charged exorbitant rates, considering the quality of the work. The City taxes have been spent on salaries, and money has been borrowed to meet other expenses. Is there any credit due the management for spending more money than the revenue amounts to and then borrowing money for "improvements?" By all means, let the issue be presented to the citizens, in order that they may understand the matter clearly. That is all that is needed.

MR. ROOT'S ABILITY.

The Chicago Inter-Ocean notes that when Mr. Root made a brief and apparently casual remark in the Senate the members of that august body listened attentively.

After Mr. Cummins had finished a speech against the glass schedule of the Aldrich bill, Mr. Root quietly remarked that it seemed to him that "those figures, which accord with the statements made here today, do call on the gentlemen who wish to maintain this duty for some explanation."

This was all that was said by the new member from New York; and the Inter-Ocean asks:

Why was all this attention given to a commonplace remark related on its face only to a practical detail of legislation, from a man who never poses in any way as superior to his party or attempts to speak as one having authority to which lesser men are bound to bow?

The paper attributes the deference to Mr. Root's remarks to the ability and the sincerity of the new Senator. Another paper, the New York World, which is not in political accord with Mr. Root on questions of principle, says that of Mr. Root's mental power and great legal abilities, "there can be no question; and doubts whether 'any other members of the Senate is intellectually his peer.'"

The latter paper further believes that "with the reputation acquired as a lawyer, as Secretary of War, as Secretary of State and as Senator from New York, and with the influence of President Taft behind him, he can compel a tariff that will reduce the cost of living and shift much of the burden from poverty to wealth."

The Free Art League has issued a statement showing an imposing array of names of great Americans who have favored the abolition of duty on works of art. Among them are Presidents Arthur Cleveland Harrison, McKinley, and Roosevelt; and such able secretaries of state as Blaine, Frelinghuysen, Olney, Hay and Root. From the

FREE ART.

time of Stephen A. Douglas to the present day men who have thought at all on the subject have deplored the ridiculous policy of excluding from this country the works of the foreign masters. McKinley is quoted as follows:

"Art is a universal republic, of which all are citizens, whatever be their country or clime. . . . I should regret very much if this provision of the bill (free art) were stricken out. . . . It has been asked for by substantially all the artists of the United States."

Grover Cleveland in a letter dated Princeton, April 22, 1906, said:

"I am entirely willing to be counted among those who believe that on every ground the United States should not only permit, but affirmatively encourage free art."

It seems to us that if the artists of the country are willing to have the duty on works of art removed, there can be no valid objection. It is a matter that should not enter into politics.

May wheat continues to soar like a skyball.

President Taft plays golf and says nothing.

A joy ride is neither a thing of beauty nor a joy forever.

If you scout the idea of a big navy, do it with scout cruisers.

There is no place like home when house cleaning is being done.

For the Senate to hurry the tariff bill along would be infra dig.

So far as the tariff bill is concerned, the consumer is in the consummation.

There will be no more cheap coats. But will there be no more cheap men?

Aeronauts have this advantage over other people—they can always fly from evil.

To own an automobile is no certain sign of wealth. Sometimes it indicates a mortgage on the home.

The University of California is to have a chair of forestry. It should be made from a sequoia gigantea.

Is Pottawatomie county, Oklahoma, trying to rival San Francisco county, California, in the matter of corruption?

"Is service or culture the ideal of woman's clubs?" asks an exchange. "Gossip," says an irascible old bachelor.

Where is the poet who will sing the charge of the rhinoceros as Tennyson sang the "Charge of the Light Brigade?"

An Illinois judge has ruled that the evening meal is not dinner but supper. Whichever it is it is something equally good.

All public improvements should be supplemented by private improvements. It is the only way to make a city really progressive.

If Uncle Sam had such a scare on him as John Bull has, how many Dreadnoughts would be provided for in his naval program?

A man can build his tomb, erect a monument and have carved thereon his epitaph, but he can't tell what people are going to say about him when he is dead.

Senator Gore's idea of senatorial courtesy as exemplified in his very rude and ungentlemanly remark to Senator Smoot, is one that will not generally be accepted by the Senate.

The Philippine assembly has passed a resolution in favor of independence. If they were out from under American control they would soon be under the sway of their own political bosses. True independence is a mental condition.

The refusal of the authorities of Westminster to permit the ashes of George Meredith to rest in the famous abbey will be a great disappointment to his friends, relatives and admirers, but really he was not of the size and calibre that warrant interment in England's Pantheon.

The Tribune is evidently worried about the independent citizens' movement. We know very little about it, but when the Tribune deems it important enough to honor it with its editorial denunciations, we naturally conclude that it is not without merit. We notice the Tribune calls the movement "non-partisan." The reports that have appeared designate it as "independent."

CHOOSING A BUILDER.

The Circle.

The selection of a builder is quite as important a matter as the selection of a house as the choice of an architect. Don't choose the cheapest builder merely because he is cheapest. If you accept his bid find out the reason of its cheapness. Frequently the builder is a man of little means and often he operates on borrowed capital. Should the builder bankrupt, or fail to pay for his labor or materials, the owner, under the mechanics' laws of most states, becomes liable for the builder's debts. This is true even though the owner has paid the builder for his work. In order to obtain his house free and clear, in such a case, the owner must meet the builder's obligations. The prudent owner will, of course, pay for his house only as it is constructed. Even then it would be a useful caution to make sure that the builder has paid his indebtedness on the house. Payments are usually made to the builder when the foundations are done, when the frame is up, when the house is closed, when the plastering is finished, and when the completed house is turned over to the owner.

PLEASURES OF LIFE AT 40.

A. C. Benson.

A life to be happy must be compounded in due degree of activity and pleasure, using the word in its best sense. There must be sufficient activity to take on the serious and arid humors of the mind which, left to themselves, poison the sources of life, and enough pleasure to make the prospect of life tolerable. The necessity is to get rid, as life goes on, of all conventional pleasures. By the age of 40 a man should know what he enjoys, and not continue doing things intended to be pleasurable,

either because he deludes himself into thinking that he enjoys them, or because he likes other to think that he enjoys them. I know now that I do not care for casual country house visiting, for dancing for garden parties, for cricket matches, and many another form of social distraction, but that the pleasures that remain and grow are the pleasures derived from books, from sights and sounds of nature, from sympathetic conversation, from music and from active physical exercise in the open air.

MRS. KENDAL YOUNGEST OF 22.
New York Press.

Many stories have been circulated about Mrs. Kendal and her brother, "Tom" Robinson, playing together as children, but no one of them is true. The fact is that the actress when a child played with two children of her brother. "Tom" Robinson was the eldest and she the youngest of a family of twenty-two children. The actress celebrated her 60th birthday last week. If her genial brother was now alive he would be in his 90th year. He was born when his mother was 19, and the last of the family came when the mother was 48. Mrs. Kendal herself laughs at the stories told about her and her brother, and made the denial of them one of the merry incidents of her birthday celebration.

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