

the dusky brother makes it without hesitation. He not only used his ministerial influence to get votes for Mr. Hogg but he engaged in a mercantile transaction with sundry thrifty members of his flock by which they, in consideration of a sum of money ranging from 75 cents in some instances to \$1.50 in others, were to deposit the ballots supplied them by the pastor. He prepared the tickets and his followers voted them—a proceeding which, according to the terms of the agreement hereinbefore stated, cost him the modest sum of \$60.00. This Governor Hogg now refuses to pay; but whether because he finds he did not need the votes, or because he disclaims previous knowledge of any such bargain, deponent saith not. If the former, justice-loving people everywhere will say he is acting real mean; if the latter, the zealous preacher ought to be thankful if his enthusiasm cools him no more than the \$60.00 already paid out. In either case, however, the priestly buyer and seller of ballots would seem to be upon the dilemma's pointed horn; and in view of his holy professions, would he not play the part of consistency and discretion by prying the beam out of his own eye before bewailing the visual obstruction of Mr. Hogg?

#### HE MUST BE MISTAKEN.

There are few men in this life who stand higher in public esteem or are freer from partisan assaults than George Washington Childs, founder and editor of the Philadelphia *Ledger*. He it was whose establishment was nearly destroyed by fire recently and whose paper appeared as usual, not a number being missed; however, this is no unusual thing in American journalism and is only spoken of incidentally. The thing more than anything else that strikes the general reader is the proposition of how it is that a man of Mr. Childs' well-known beneficence and good feeling toward all mankind could find it in his heart to say that the fire was the deliberate work of an incendiary, when there is no evidence supporting such a statement. He should remember that fires in large buildings are oftener than otherwise of very mysterious origin, probably because the builders left a flaw somewhere or because of one or more of a myriad of possible things we know not of. And he should not so underrate himself, the proud position he has gained by merit alone, nor the record of good he has done for others as to say or believe that there is any one in the world who would knowingly cause him such loss and harm. Certainly there are no grounds for vengeful feelings toward him; anarchists are not numerous in Philadelphia, and if they were there are other targets for their mischief much more inviting than the *Ledger* or its benevolent proprietor; and if it had been the work of an insane person detection would have been easy and certain. On second thoughts, Mr. Childs will hardly persist in that statement, we think; it was not like him to say it in the first place, and after the lapse of so much time with no evidence, to persist in it would be unbecoming.

#### THE SALVATION ARMY.

Whatever may be thought by sober people concerning the methods of the late phase of militant Christianity that marches under the banner of the Salvation Army, no one will deny that the motives actuating its exponents and the results as seen in its members are calculated to improve the condition of the most fallen of mankind. As an agency for good it is therefore entitled to respectful consideration; and so far as it accomplishes reform by entering fields at whose confines others shrink, and rescuing to a better life a class whose interest could not be aroused by a less demonstrative form of worship, it merits the aid, at least the sympathy, of every humanitarian whose sadness at the degradation in the world is not diminished by the fact that he has no remedy for it. We may have our doubts as to the acceptability of such a form of worship to the lowly Teacher whose walk and talk among men were an example of godliness and perfection, and who gave His life that we might live. His was not the combative spirit, nor were his followers designated by any term or fashion in mimicry or caricature of war. Still, the effort that would lead and does lead a fellow mortal to a better life may not be despised, no matter what its source; it can be praised for this much if for nothing more, that it at least lifts its beneficiary to a plane where further progress toward a true, pure ideal is not so hopeless an undertaking.

For ourselves, speaking now of all the sects, which, "having a form of godliness, deny the power thereof," whose creeds are man-made and whose observances are a mere matter of convenience, we cannot see that the Salvation Army is less entitled to consideration, toleration and respect than the most pretentious among them. It at least goes at the business of soul-saving in an earnest, practical way; and the difference between its methods and those of the average Christian, even as viewed by newspaper organs of the latter, is too conspicuous to be altogether ignored. We quote from one of these organs, the *New York Observer*:

The average Christian gives a hungry man on the street a dime for a supper or a night's lodging. He cannot afford to pay for a lodging at a respectable hotel, and the man would not go home with him if he was asked. But in nine cases out of ten he buys a drink with the dime, for every cheap restaurant has a saloon attachment. The Salvation Army takes the same man to a warm room, gives him a supper, and then provides occupation for his mind and heart. It has a prayer-meeting, in which brass horns and tambourines take a prominent part, and the hymns are sung to tunes which he has often heard used to other words. But it is only in that way that a religious emotion can be excited in his sinful heart. It would not be the way of the average Christian, but it is the way in which the people the Salvation Army is trying so successfully to reach can be most easily touched. It is not true to say, either, that the feeling thus aroused is only momentary in its action, for in a vast number of cases the genuineness of the conversions cannot be questioned.

All of which, being true, constitutes, as stated already, at least one reason

why the work of the Army, with all its dissonance and pageantry, can be sympathized with and in a measure encouraged and applauded by all save the bigoted and the pharisaical.

#### ROBBERY IS RIFE.

The World's Fair city is having a hard time of it with the lawless gangs which make it their headquarters thus far in advance of the big show, and the question now is where it will end and how. In addition to the open and nefarious work of the highwaymen it seems as if robberies of various kinds were rife and nobody is safe, not even the policemen. The papers cry out against it, call on the officers for increased vigilance and treat the subject editorially in all manner of ways—denunciation, reproach, ridicule, expostulation and calm reasoning, but all to no purpose; the bold burglar still "burgles," the footpad makes his all but regular nocturnal calls, the road agent is as audacious as ever, and even the various departments of sneak-thieving seem to be doing a flourishing business.

A recent issue of the *Chicago News Record*, after moralizing on the last named branch of the subject, says such reflections are called up by the report of an alleged attempt on the part of an "investment company" to beguile young women clerking in big stores on a weekly wage into placing their money in a lottery scheme. Like all lottery schemes, this one, it is said, has but one prize drawing—and that is made by the company. Money disappears in its "investments" as water vanishes through a sieve. Yet are there many—men as well as women—who cannot resist the specious promises of quick wealth by any scheme whatsoever. If, as is said, several of Chicago's young saleswomen have been cheated out of their dollars it is because they did not pause to think that "investment companies" are not lying awake nights thinking how to make other people rich.

The antidote for the specific complaint herein outlined is contained in the last few lines; if people would only use such judgment as they have, or at least not rely exclusively upon that of people who have a scheme on hand, the design of which is to secure them something for nothing, there would be less of that class of robbery committed. There are too many of our race who are as harmless as a dove without being as wise as a serpent.

#### AN EX-EDITOR'S SATURDAY TALK.

Alluding to Jay Gould in my last week's Talk brings to mind a transaction which occurred between two prominent business men who were members of our Church, in which Jay Gould was a party. The two gentlemen to whom I refer were warm friends, and had engaged together in a number of financial enterprises; they were shrewd business men and had the reputation of being money-makers. Mr. Gould, while on one of his visits to this city, was desirous of getting