

scientific achievements of our time. Great triumphs in science have succeeded each other so fast that we have come to regard them as a matter of course, and do not stop to consider how greatly blessed we are beyond our fathers, of even one generation back. The nonchalance with which we learn of, and even apply some great scientific discovery, that adds to our comfort or well being, suggests a peculiar line of philosophical moralizing. Is a blessing which is not appreciated really a blessing? Is our happiness enhanced by the possession of comforts and luxuries, after we have ceased to regard them as such? With all our advancement beyond the status of our fathers, are we any happier than they were?

Unless the righteousness of the race keeps pace with its advancement in knowledge, the latter will not increase the sum total of man's happiness. The state of being happy is that mental and spiritual condition in which a harmony exists between the mind and spirit of the individual, on the one hand, and those laws and conditions upon which rest and peace of soul are predicated, on the other. Physical surroundings may or may not contribute to or detract from it; but knowledge will generally do one or the other. An increase of knowledge increases the lowering right lines spiritually; but if he is not, it will add to his responsibility and condemnation, and hence to his unhappiness.

Will the learning the world is receiving prolong or shorten its peace? As the masses of mankind advance intellectually, and without moral and religious growth, will they become more contented with the conditions that environ them? The fact that European universities are hot beds in which are being propagated the theories that are attacking the sub-foundations of civilization, portends a tremendous reply in the negative to these questions.

### CONQUESTS OF PEACE.

The enterprising Hollanders are about to undertake a gigantic piece of work which, when completed, will be a monument to engineering skill and a valuable addition to the wealth of the nation. The proposition is to erect a dam at the mouth of the bay known as the Zuyder zee, or "South sea," and to pump its water into the North sea. When this shall have been accomplished, about 500,000 acres of most fertile land has been added to the area of Holland.

The foundation of the dam, or dyke, will be laid of stone and be 150 feet in width. On this wall will be an earth bank planted with trees. As soon as the structure has reached above the surface of the sea, pumps will be employed to transfer the water from one side of the wall to the other. The cost is estimated at \$80,000,000, or \$160 per acre, but as land in Holland is expensive, the government feels satisfied that the enterprise will more than cover the outlay.

With the draining of the Zuyder zee the Hollanders propose to retake from the ocean a piece of territory formerly invaded by that enemy of the country. The formation of that bay is comparatively recent history. In the thirteenth century the North sea broke in over the low coast and formed the Zuyder zee. Beautiful gardens and fields were destroyed and 80,000 lives were lost. Such calamities have been frequent in the history of the country. Ten years before the inundations mentioned forty villages were destroyed in a similar manner. In the fifteenth century 100,000 lives were lost at one time.

Such experiences have taught the peo-

ple to be ever watchful against the inroads of the sea. On the dykes watchmen are on the lookout day and night. Whenever any sign of danger is seen, an alarm is sounded, and the male population of the district turns out to repair the damage. This condition has been created largely by the fact that much of the coast land is wrested from the sea and consequently is below the surface of the water. Not less than ninety lakes and bays have in the last three centuries been dried out and changed into farming land. Thus where the Harlem mere once was is now dry land that sustains a population of 10,000 people. It took four years to make this transformation. The work of pumping the Zuyder zee into the North sea is calculated to require five years. When this work is completed, another of still larger proportions is likely to be commenced. The government engineers are speaking about connecting the islands on the north coast with each other and with the main land, by means of dykes and in this way add 1,000 square miles of fertile land to the area of the kingdom. Honor to a nation whose ambition it is to make conquests without infringing on the rights of others—who by engineering skill accomplish what others seem to be unable to do except by destructive wars.

### THE PEOPLE WANT HARMONY.

On the day following the election the "News" called attention to the fact that there had been an abandonment of party lines by the voters, to a great extent, and drew from it the suggestion that partisan bias ought not to be displayed by the new city administration, in the making of appointments and other official acts. This suggestion had such good foundation in the election figures, was so obviously in line with the plainly evinced public opinion of the city and with its best interests and was so incontestably fair and reasonable, that we were little prepared for the antagonism it aroused on the part of the Democratic organ.

That paper quotes the suggestion made by the "News" and comments as follows:

"Indeed! Isn't this a proposition that the tall shall wag the dog? Those members of the next administration who are non-partisans were elected as partisans, and the non-partisans did all in their power to defeat them. Why should they become non-partisans after their election?"

This paragraph is unintelligible except that it evidently aims to be sarcastic, and to insist that Democrats in the City Council act as partisans rather than as sensible business men, in the discharge of their duties. Further on these sentences appear:

"If any attempt should be made to use the appointments to reward non-partisan adherents who devoted their time and labor to the non-partisan cause, the Democratic Council should turn them down; its powers in this direction are co-extensive with the Mayor's, and there is no reason in the world why the Mayor should be permitted to use the appointing power to reward non-partisans any more than the Council should to reward Democrats. We do not know that the Mayor will make any such attempt, but there are those who did what they could to secure his election that will urge him to such a course; of course they will urge in the name of patriotism and not of party. Every appointment to office that the Mayor makes happiness of the individual, if he is foolish should be carefully scrutinized, and whenever a colored gentleman's head appears in the woodpile it should be hit."

This language can be given but one

construction: If Mayor Clark shall appoint to office or position under the city a non-partisan, then the Democratic majority in the City Council is to refuse to confirm, and a deadlock is to be created. Appointees, in order to be confirmed must be partisans, presumably on the Democratic side, for it is hardly to be supposed that a Democratic majority in the Council would insist on the choice by the Mayor of a Republican. If the Mayor selects a man for a given position because he is a good business man and otherwise well qualified, without regard to his party affiliations, the nomination is liable to be antagonized.

For years the City Council and some of the city departments have been distracted by internal strife, senseless deadlocks, and displays of offensive and bigoted partisanship. To such dimensions had this evil grown that it created universal disgust among the voters and taxpayers of the city, and one of the chief reasons why the people elected John Clark Mayor was their hope that his election would end conditions so disgraceful. And now comes the Democratic organ with the insolent suggestion that because they have a majority, the Democratic members of the City Council should so control the Mayor as to secure the appointment of partisans—their partisans of course—to office, or else perpetuate shameful strife and discord.

The people of this city have spoken. They have expressed their sentiments in terms that no one is justified in misunderstanding or misconstruing. They want a business-like administration. Every candidate who was elected on any ticket promised to give them this, and such an administration means the selection of appointees solely with a view to their honesty and ability, and without regard to political or religious creed, and without wrangling. If the Democrats in the City Council pursue the policy marked out for them by their organ, they will make themselves an insufferable infliction upon the community; but such a misfortune will be accompanied by one consoling reflection: It will insure the complete triumph of non-partisanship the next time this city chooses its officers.

### BACON'S PHILOSOPHY.

An exchange reproduces the following specimens of the philosophy of Francis Bacon, whom Ignatius Donnelly would have us believe to have been the author of Shakespeare:

"God never wrought miracles to convince atheism, because his ordinary works convince it.

"A little philosophy inclineth man's mind to atheism, but depth in philosophy bringeth men's minds about to religion.

"They that deny a God destroy man's nobility.

"Man, when he resteth and assureth himself upon divine protection and favor, gathereth a force and faith which human nature in itself could not obtain.

"It were better to have no opinion of God at all than such an opinion as is unworthy of Him: for the one is unbelief, the other is contumely.

"Superstition, without a veil, is a deformed thing; for as it addeth deformity to an ape to be so like a man, so the similitude of superstition to religion makes it the more deformed.

"He that travelth into a country, before he hath some entrance into the language, goeth to school and not to travel.

"Let a man beware how he keepeth