

THE RAT THAT RENOUNCED THE WORLD.

'Tis told
In a legend of old,
How a certain rat, grown tired of strife,
And the cares that beset his ratship's life,
Wishing to meditate at his ease,
Took up his abode in a Holland cheese.

He found
This great round
Gave solitude, shelter and plenty to eat,
And by diligent use of his hands and feet
He soon had a hermitage quite to his mind,
Its walls and its floors with good victuals
lined.

This rat
Soon grew fat,
And he said to himself, "God blesses his own!
My body would only be skin and bone
If I hadn't turned hermit. I really must
say
Renouncing the world's the better way!"

To his cheese
On their knees,
Came some representatives from the rats
Saying: "Ratopolis is besieged by the cats;
We are going for aid to a foreign land;
Old neighbor, do lend us a helping hand.

"We set out
Without
A dollar to pay the needful expense.
Do give us a shilling, or at least a few cents;
We'll be very grateful, we'll surely repay
If we live to return on the next New Year's
day."

The rat
Said that
He no longer had interest in worldly affairs
But for the sake of old friendship his two
longest prayers
Were at their disposal. What could hermit
do more?
He gave them his blessing, and—closed the
door.

"Oh the rarity
Of charity"
Among the rat family. If men live at ease
And the world is to them a great Holland
cheese—
And their friends are distressed and in sorry
plight,
Do they only give blessing, then close the
door tight?

The Presidential Office—Is It Consistent with True Republicanism?—The Danger of Caesarism.

Those who suppose that General Grant will need a third term to give his fame fulness and enable him to finish his work do him grave injustice even while they would flatter and applaud. Upon this theory rests the only argument that can commend itself to his mind in favor of a renomination to the Presidency. Caesar was told that his victories in Gaul, his triumphs of administration in Spain, and the wealth and power he added to the Republic, could only find compensation in a diadem. Napoleon was told that he alone had the skill and statesmanship to save France. The one ascended a throne; the other was stabbed on the steps of a throne. The President is surrounded by men like Mark Antony and Talleyrand, who speak to him as they spoke to Caesar and Napoleon. Before them lies a contented, happy, prosperous country, caring only for money and lands and harvests, incredulous about political affairs and neither seeing nor caring for the danger. This was precisely the situation of Rome. Caesarism was not known until it had reigned in the person of many emperors.

Now, we lay it down as a cardinal maxim that, great as any man may be, the country is still greater; that when it is necessary to place any one man above the country something is radically wrong in its institutions. We have a Presidential office, with noble, useful attributes, but in many essentials as royal as the office of the Czar. There is no limit to what a popular President can do, for we saw in the time of Mr. Johnson that impeachment, as a constitutional expedient, was as useless and obsolete as the punishment for treason in the common law of England. We do not say that a President could not, or rather would not, be removed for any extraordinary personal offence, for crimes against society like those of Charles II. or George IV.; but only a revolution like that which overthrew Charles I. and James II. would remove a President who had become politically obnoxious. For good or for evil, there he stands, immutable in his high office, above all power and responsibility.

In some respects our constitution is no better than the constitution of England which tolerated Charles I. And the circumstance is pain-

fully apparent that a large part of the ruling men in the republican party are negatively committing themselves to the principle of Caesarism in the renomination of President Grant; that, in other words, they are silent and acquiescent, and, for fear of wounding the feelings of General Grant, say nothing on the question most interesting to the people and to friends of liberty elsewhere.

It is so very easy to tell a successful soldier—or any man, in fact, who may have attained supreme power—that he comes from God to save the State. With the increase of luxury and wealth there is always a party craving the distinctions, the complaisances and social gratifications of a court. We are told the presence of a court encourages business and elegance in manners, high and gentle courtesy and a spirit of honorable emulation among men. And what are all the treasures of the vain and aspiring if their possessors are only as other men and have never a coronet or a star? There is the powerful class, who have all the country can give them, and dread nothing but change. And if by any means they could dispose of their honors and offices as they do of their gains, how happy would they be! Behind is the timid and conservative class—what the French would call the *bourgeoisie*—who fear every election as mariners do the northerly gales or the desert pilgrims the dreadful sirocco winds—the class who saw in the probable success of Mr. Greeley, the paralysis of all true business interests, the shrink of all values—chaos and panic. To these men Caesarism becomes a principle, for they have no patriotism that is not purely selfish. The interests of the country are identical in all respects with their own. And behind these classes we have the political element, which subsists on political ventures, as the pirates of the Grecian Archipelagoes used to subsist on the captured ships of Venice and Genoa and who would care little whether the President was for life and wore a crown, so they could pursue their gainful calling.

The fact that we stand in presence of a contingency involving the liberties of the country is conclusive that in our constitution there is a radical error. * * * We are striving to draw the attention of the country to a danger that may come at any time—a danger inherent in our constitution and laws. A declaration from General Grant now that he would not be a candidate for re-election would be an act of magnanimity on his part; but the country does not care to have its liberties at the mercy of any man's magnanimity. * * *

Caesar was necessary to Rome. So let Caesar be crowned. Cromwell was the savior of England. So let him reign for life as Lord Protector and his children in his stead. Napoleon was the supreme genius of French valor and military skill. So let him be Emperor of France and King of Italy, and let his brothers and sisters reign also, that his glory may be full. We call this Caesarism, and we do not at all see how it differs from the spirit that would renominate General Grant because the "country needs his services." Are we not to suppose that the services of General Grant are at the command of the country, whether he is in the White House or a private gentleman on his Missouri farm? And if General Grant is an indispensable President, are we capable of self-government? If any man is indispensable the sooner we throw our constitution into the sea and return under the sceptre of Victoria the better for our peace. For the lesson we have not learned has been learned in England. In that country Parliament has control over the government. The control is not as direct and simple as that exercised in France by the Assembly, and there are many forms and offices in the English government that might be avoided; but the spirit is alive and grows with each advance of the English liberal party. No man has had any marked dominance in England since the time of Marlborough. The elder Pitt and Wellington came nearer to Marlborough, but none of these men were as strong as General Grant is to-day, as Lincoln, Jefferson and Jackson were in their day.

The spirit which made Jefferson—but more especially Jackson and Lincoln—so puissant was only a form of the Caesarism which is making itself a power in our polit-

ics. In those days the people were not as susceptible to its influence as now. Strange things have occurred in America; the public tone has become lowered; Congressmen have grown rich from bonds and subsidies which they voted out of the Treasury; a company of thieves have held New York under their hands and robbed it of millions; forgery and perjury have become political accomplishments, and seats in the Senate are bought with money, as the purple of the Caesars was bought when the Praetorian Guards were in power. We have no Praetorian Guards, it is true; but the men of whom Mr. Colfax may be regarded as the most prominent example—the Praetorian Guards of the Republican party—have made Caesarism possible in our time, and have compelled us to open an issue with the people which has not had its parallel in gravity since the foundation of the government.—*New York Herald.*

Baron Reuter—The Rising Man—A Sketch of His Life.

Baron Reuter, who has taken the contract to run the Persian empire, has a nephew in Chicago named Emil Josaphat, a banker. He has been interviewed by the irrepressible *Times* reporter, and this is the gist of the said interview:

Baron Reuter was born of Jewish parents in 1821, at Hesse Cassel, in Germany. His father was Rabbi Josaphat, a poor but learned man. The Baron's name was Julius Josaphat. He changed his name to Reuter, after an influential man who had befriended him, named Landrath Reuter. At the age of nineteen Reuter started out to seek his fortune. He became an apprentice at Danzig, was ill-used, ill-fed, and badly cared for. He then got a situation in a banking house in Gottingen, and while there made himself so intimate with financial matters that he improvised a plan for the improvement of the finances of the Russian Government, which he submitted to the Czar, with all the confidence of a youth less than twenty years of age. The Czar sent him \$3,000 as a suitable acknowledgment of the value of his suggestions, though we are not informed that his plan was adopted by that government. A few years later he became a partner in a Berlin publishing house, and soon after met Miss Clemantine Magnu, the daughter of a banker, and one of the handsomest women in Berlin. They loved, and Reuter, changing his name and renouncing his Jewish religion, became a Christian and the husband of a charming woman. A desire to increase his income finally prompted Reuter to leave Berlin, and in 1848 he originated a plan for obtaining news in the least possible time for publication. In 1849 he went to Paris, and there tried to make his idea work practically. He commenced by using carrier pigeons between points where there was no telegraphic communication. He did not meet with immediate success. He had many difficulties to surmount, not the least of which was lack of the money necessary to establish agencies. He was so poor at this time that his landlord would not let him and his wife go out at the same time, because rent was due and he had no security except their persons. All this time the indefatigable Reuter supported an aged mother, who never knew the struggles of her son, but supposed that he was becoming rich.

In 1851, seeing his way clear in another scheme for successful news-gathering, he gave up his Paris business and went to London, where he engaged in what he called the Reuter telegrams, and devoted himself to getting commercial quotations from all parts of Europe. He did fairly at this, and spread his agencies far and wide. For eight years he continued to confine himself to commercial matters. Then the idea suggested itself of enlarging his business, and taking in news of every description. This he did, and by the number of his agencies, the cables he laid, and his perfected means of communication of all kinds, he was enabled to get up a monopoly, almost, of news. The *London Times* was the only newspaper of any account in Europe, which did not put its name on its subscription list, and his name at the head of its columns. The great Thunderer held out against him until Reuter routed them, capital, prejudice, ignorance, stupidity, and all through his enterprise in secur-

ing for his papers, six hours before the governments of Europe were notified of it, the celebrated New Year's speech of Napoleon, which was the forerunner of the Italian war and a most important thing. After that he was a telegraph monarch, reigning without assistance, even the *Times* being compelled to fall into line.

His business became so prosperous that he sold out to a company in 1864 for the snug sum of a million and a quarter, and then retained a directorship. In addition to this, when the English government took possession of the telegraph, in 1868, he had privileges for which he was paid about \$3,000,000. He hastened the news before the American war, before there was any cable, by laying wires of his own from Cork to Coke Haven, and had small steamers running outside to meet the American vessels. In this way he was able to furnish the dispatches to the London evening papers so that their readers had them hours before the steamers reached the nearest English port. He thus announced the assassination of Lincoln long before the European governments were notified of it. Reuter afterwards took an interest in the Franco-American cable, but for some reason abandoned it.

He was ambitious. Wealth and fame he had, but he wanted to extend both, and make the latter world-wide. He was created baron in 1870, and began to lay the foundation for his Persian scheme, which has just been consummated, and makes him absolutely the controller of the destinies of the Persian people—a man even greater than the Shah himself. This contractor extraordinary is a small man, perhaps five feet three in height, of slender build. He has rather sharp features, a blonde complexion, and wears Dundreary whiskers of a sandy hue. He looks very much like the conventional Englishman. He has had four children, one of whom is dead. The eldest daughter married a Hanover count in 1871. He is intensely nervous; he is always restless unless engaged in working at his big plans. In business he is energetic and quick. He is of a very sociable disposition, and his soirees are surpassed by none in London, where he has several palaces. He spends a good portion of the year at Brighton. He never lets an idea escape him. If it comes in the middle of the night he jumps up and works it out as far as he can. His success has not made him proud. Generosity is a distinctive feature of his character. He has done most handsomely by his own and his wife's family, and has not forgotten any who befriended him in his boyhood's days. Verily Reuter is great and Persia is his profit.—*Ex.*

Epidemic Cholera.

RULES FOR ITS PREVENTION AND FOR ITS TREATMENT.

Dr. Moreau Morris, late Sanitary Superintendent of the Health Department of New York, contributes to the *Express* of that city the following article on epidemic cholera, its prevention and treatment. It should receive a careful reading:

As the subject of epidemic cholera is now becoming one of public interest, I forward for publication a few specific rules that will afford such information to the general public regarding the means for the prevention of the spread of such pestilence as can be easily understood and applied by every person. Eradicating the poisonous germs of the first case thoroughly and effectually is of the utmost importance. The predisposing conditions for the propagation of cholera poison are neglected soiled clothing, bedding, or other textile fabrics, neglected privies, water closets whether in private houses or tenement houses; but the special means for promoting its spread are the privies, water closets, urinals and such like, accommodations upon the lines of railroads, steamboats, steamships, sailing vessels and at hotels and boarding houses, and wherever strangers are likely to resort in emergencies. A simple painless diarrhoea should at this time be regarded with suspicion, especially if occurring with a traveler or stranger.

House drains, sewer connections, unventilated, damp cellars, defective drainage about dwellings—in a word, decomposition, from whatever source, animal or vegetable—should be most carefully and thor-

oughly looked after, for in decomposition lurks the source from whence many poisons to the human system take their origin, and this one of cholera most especially.

Hence every person should watch and guard his surroundings with increased vigilance, particularly at a time when a contagious or infectious disease threatens. But as preaching often seems to avail but little, I suggest a few practical rules in detail for use. These are the results of extended experience in the sanitary care of this city during a period of forty years.

Of the first importance is care of—First, personal health; temperance in eating and drinking; regular hours for sleep; frequent bathing in pure water—not in the filthy water of our sewer-polluted rivers (East and North), good, plain, substantial food; avoiding too much ice-water, or none iced when heated. If a person has a tendency to bowel complaint, a flannel band should be constantly worn around the bowels, reaching from the ribs to the hips.

If any symptoms of diarrhoea should appear, painful or painless, rest is the immediate thing to be done—absolute rest; let no excuse whatever prevent. Whatever medicine is required should be under the advice of a physician, who should be summoned promptly, for it is during the first stages of this affection that remedies should be applied. A few hours' delay may prove fatal in the end.

Second. Sanitary care of premises and places—sunlight, fresh air, pure water and cleanliness, are the greatest and best of all prophylaxes. In every city and town there should be general cleansing, and removal or thorough disinfection of all sources of decomposition, vegetable and animal.

As scientists have now fully settled upon the opinion that "all matters which a patient discharges from his stomach or bowels are infective," when cholera is the prevailing epidemic these should be especially guarded, and whatever poison they may contain or eliminate be immediately and utterly destroyed or rendered innocuous. This may be accomplished by the following means:

Prepare the following solution, keeping it on hand constantly during the warm months: Ten pounds of copperas dissolved in five gallons of water, to which add half a pint of crude carbolic acid, or half the quantity of pure acid; stir this well together, when it is ready for use. One pint of this solution should be poured into every water-closet pan or privy seat, and double the quantity in the ordinary yard privy, twice daily. For decomposing masses of filth which may not be immovable, saturate well with this solution. For outside drains connected with the house, pour in a quart daily, or oftener, if offensive.

For the sick chamber the chamber vessels should always have a quantity therein before use and immediately after use. All soiled clothing or bedding should at once be removed from the patient, and placed in a tub having sufficient of this disinfectant solution to saturate them; they should be allowed to remain therein for an hour at least, after which they should undergo a thorough boiling for half an hour or more.

Handling such articles is far more dangerous than handling or attending the patient, and especially so after a certain period has elapsed. Hence the necessity for their immediate care before the vitalizing principle developed by decomposition has time to develop. Should the patient recover or die, the apartment or room should be immediately closed and thoroughly fumigated as follows:

Placing an iron dish in the centre of the room, upon some bricks or something by which fire may not be communicated, put therein two or three pounds of common sulphur, pour over it a small quantity of alcohol, and after seeing that the room is tightly closed, set the alcohol on fire and let it burn slowly out. This liberates dense volumes of sulphurous acid, which permeates every crevice and fibre of bedding and clothing. Allow the room to remain closed for three or four hours, it may then be thrown wide open and thoroughly ventilated. All soiled clothing and bedding must then be placed in the disinfecting solution and treated as before mentioned. Never put away the smallest piece of cloth, clothing, sheets, bedding, pocket handkerchiefs or any textile fabric until it has been thoroughly disinfected.