

zation as at present outlined is to deal only with the grosser class of offenders.

There are many things to be said in favor of the scheme. First among these is the incongruity which now exists in the regulations of various states concerning the capture of criminals. This is such that when a crime is committed in one state and the perpetrator manages to cross the line into a neighboring state, his chances for escape are materially increased from the fact that there is no special harmony between the police methods and operations in the two states. If, indeed, there is not such a complete dissimilarity as to make them almost antagonistic. Then there is the further question of expense, which one state is not always either able or willing to incur in securing a criminal from another state, if there is a prospect that that criminal will move on to other fields. Still another feature is the ease with which criminals may rest within a comparatively short distance of populous centers, and where they cannot be hunted down because of financial or other inability of officers in the sparsely settled region where they may have taken refuge, but in which a government force of police would follow them. On this phase of the question the San Francisco Chronicle asserts that within a hundred miles of the Pacific coast metropolis there are valleys with to the division of the country which control congressional action, it would be worse than valueless, because of its deceptiveness; and that such a thing is possible by political parties is shown by just that kind of procedure as a matter of history. Hence it is better that expression of the actual intention be made. On the other hand, if the declaration of a gold standard with silver as subsidiary coin would mean a sufficient purchase of silver to give the amount of circulating which the means of communication are so imperfect and the travel so slight that fugitives may find shelter without suspicion; and it adds:

What is true of our own state is true, on a much wider scale, of neighboring commonwealths. Utah, Montana, Oregon, Arizona and New Mexico, Colorado, Idaho and Wyoming offer a wide refuge for the fugitive. All that is needed for absolute protection from suspicion is a slight change of dress, a plausible story and a change of name to secure the criminal for the remainder of his natural life, or to prepare for him rich fields for treachery and slaughter.

The almost unerring certainty with which criminals are hunted down by European officers affords the basis of the national police suggestion for this country. In Europe each nation has its constabulary so that when a criminal is being sought no locality is without an officer under direct orders, and on the appearance of the fugitive in a country district he is even more liable to capture than in the large cities; his only hope of immunity from arrest is in getting out of the country. Of course there are arguments against the national police system in this country, because of the power that might be wielded from the place of control; but thus far none that have been advanced seem to be of such conclusive character as those which favor it. As an illustration of the workings of such

a system it might be said that in the Hermans case in this city, if there had been a national police, the fugitive would have been as eagerly sought for in Chicago as he would have been if he had remained in this State, and might have been captured; and there would have been no excuse or need for sending a policeman off to a neighboring state, as was done in that case from this city, and as the fire and police board has decided shall not be done in future.

RESTRAINT IS PROPER.

All success in life means restraint from that which wastes the powers of the individual; and this restraint is lawful because its effect is to benefit and bless, while an opposite course leads to destruction. If human beings were to exercise no restraint over appetites and desires that frequently are very strong, they would soon descend below the brute creation, for the reason that they would cast aside that gem of intelligent control of self which is the glory and power of man.

Notwithstanding all the assaults that are made by agnostics or atheists, the fact is undeniable in the history of our race that the restraint which gives the greatest force to man is applied in religious principles. Religion, having its foundation in a sphere higher than mortality, is the means to direct man's intellectual powers from channels of waste and destruction to those of growth and preservation from decay. And when principles have been demonstrated as truly religious in the sense that they accomplish this end, people who are wise in their own behalf abide by them despite shafts of abuse or ridicule that may be hurled against them.

The work of the tempter is to beguile people to depart from such principles. Hence, when we see a man cast aside the religious restraint referred to, and come out and assert his independence thereof, it is a common experience to observe the emissaries of the tempter cheering and applauding him. Individuals who before then had no word of censure too severe or high, who had no sympathy with his efforts and aims, now crowd around and urge him on as doing something "smart" and "brave." And in the blindness of conceit that often fills him under such conditions, the one so applauded seldom discovers until too late that the applause he receives is not for his independence or courage for the right, but because he has become rebellious to the spirit of proper restraint that would keep him from wrong. But even if he does not make the discovery, others who are not impelled by ulterior motives, and who hold the performance, ought to pause before helping him "down the grade" by falling into the way of expressions of over-sympathy that would encourage him in his recalcitration toward his former position and friends. The sincerity of their sympathy for him should lead them to warn him against the encomiums and applause of those who seek to turn him from the right. Men who become heady and rebellious against proper restraint usually forget that "pride goeth before a fall, and a haughty

spirit before destruction." An alleged "independence" that is nothing more than a rebellious disregard of proper restraint never yet brought good to the people who indulged in it.

SPAIN'S NAVAL WEAKNESS.

That the United States and Spain should allow their difference of opinion on the Cuban question to assume a form of actual hostilities is extremely improbable. Whatever sentiment the Spanish people may entertain toward this country, the Madrid government cannot be so ill advised as to consent to the controversy being carried beyond diplomatic control. A comparison of the naval forces of the two countries is nevertheless of much interest at this time.

An English naval expert points out that Spain recently has suffered the loss of no less than three ships, including the Reina Regente. In the torpedo service he says Spain is quite strong, but the corruption so common in the European countries may have effected the efficiency of the navy to a degree impossible to even conjecture at present.

Speaking of the United States navy the author says the new cruisers are admirable. The two commerce destroyers, Columbia and Minneapolis, would be useless though, for the reason that Spain has no commerce to destroy. Spain would be vulnerable in the Philippines as well as in the West Indies, while some of the great cities in the United States on the coast would be practically at the mercy of a man-of-war. The bombardment of Valparaiso in 1866 is an instance of Spain's warfare against defenseless sea-board cities; even against the protest of the officers of a friendly power. It is added, however, that it is not probable that any of Spain's ships carries ammunition enough to make any impression upon a large city.

THE MUSICAL COURIER claims to have received full confirmation of the news that Paderewski has reached the end of his public career as a pianist, having suddenly been compelled to cancel all his foreign engagements on account of failing health. The paper observes that Paderewski has been suffering from a money-getting fever and taxed his physical strength beyond reasonable limits. He thought he was paying for the large sums offered to him solely by his piano-playing, while in fact he was exchanging his own life-blood for the gold that flowed into his hands. Nature's pay-day is now at hand, the borrowed capital being ruthlessly spent. His collapse is therefore looked upon as complete and the cancellation of his engagements is thought to be a declaration of permanent retirement.

A man named Hanson was run down by a train from San Francisco on the crossing in Redwood City, Cal., about three blocks from the depot, Monday. He was driving a wagon loaded with grain. His horse was torn to pieces. The doctors say Hanson cannot live. He has a wife and five children.