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PRINCIPLES AND CHARACTER.

Some citizens hold that a man's character should not be considered, when he is an aspirant for an office. "I care not," they say, "for the person; I vote for the principles for which he stands." It is, in their view, not a question of men but of principles.

This reasoning may appear quite logical, but, in the first place, unless a man is known to be truthful and loyal, what guaranty has the voter that he will stand for the principles he proclaims? How does the citizen know that he does not make a false representation in order to obtain the goal of his ambition, and that he will not, once in office, prove false to his trust? How can anyone be depended upon, who is not tried and proved to be true? In the second place, as long as there are so many good, honest, and worthy citizens capable of performing the various duties pertaining to the administration of the government, why should anyone want to follow the lead of individuals who because of moral or other defects, have no legitimate claim to leadership? If we stop to pause a moment we will find that the question of principles is not safely separated from that of character, in the matter of the filling of offices. If character is not seriously considered, rogues and tricksters, should they triumph, will certainly prove disastrous.

Complaints come from all parts of the country of dishonesty in public places, of graft and criminal negligence of official duties. Sometimes the clamor has very little foundation, being for political purposes entirely. Facts are distorted out of all semblance to the reality and the falsehoods are added with unscrupulous recklessness. Unfortunately, this is not always the case. Too often the complaints are justified. Too often the citizens wake up to find that they must pay for their mistakes at the polls. But, every instance of this kind is the result of the fact that they have neglected to consider character in their candidates. They have taken up with rogues because of the principles those professed to stand for. The question of principles is important, but the question of character is not of less importance for the carrying out in practice of correct principles.

THE EARTH TREMBLING.

A correspondent of the Baltimore American states that the bed of the Pacific ocean has been changed lately by disturbances in the surface of the earth, and that these changes have been so radical as to cause the loss of numerous vessels. Islands have disappeared and reefs have been formed where, until recently, ships could pass in perfect safety. It seems that an immediate exploration of the ocean is demanded in the interest of navigation and that our government is expected to undertake the important work.

Only some of the changes that have occurred are, as yet, actually known. The so-called Robinson Crusoe's Island has disappeared, and the occurrence was generally noted at the time of its announcement. But this was only one of many similar catastrophes, and it now appears that the earthquakes of California and Chile were but incidents of disturbances more or less general in and around the Pacific basin. Within the past few weeks a steaming mass of rock has risen to a height of 600 feet in the Rering Sea, about 150 miles to the northwest of Unalaska.

In this connection it should be noted that an eminent authority on seismic disturbances has predicted that the Hawaiian Islands will shortly be visited by a volcanic outbreak, probably in the Puna district. For some time past, he claims, the indications have pointed to such an outbreak. An earthquake was felt in the early morning of September 2, at Hilo, and the following day a second shock, also in the early morning, was felt. The shocks appear to have been confined to one particular place as not the slightest evidence of a quake was felt at the volcano of Kilauea, which is about twenty-five miles from Hilo.

But, according to the correspondent of the Baltimore American, the most marked evidence of some seismic disturbances was found along the seashore. Quantities of fish were found dead and were constantly cast up by the sea. Over the eyes of the fish was a light-colored film, as if they had come into contact with scalding water and had been killed by such water.

There is a new volcano on the Island of Savali, which burst out for the first time a little over a year ago. This volcano is in the interior of the island, about seven miles from Manganaf, the volcano that was found in September, 1902. The spectacle at times of the eruption of this volcano is said to have been magnificent as well as terrifying, and though Apia, the capital of German Samoa, is about 80 miles away, the inhabitants, from the heights above the town, have at times been able to discern the black outpourings that covered as with a pall the skies above Savali, and more frequently they have seen at night the glow in the sky reflected from the molten lava. Men who have seen the spectacle of the last few months say that the grandest sight of all has been the dropping of several of the lava streams into the sea. Some of them have fallen over steep cliffs 100 feet high into

the ocean with a mighty splashing of the water and a deafening hiss as clouds of steam arise. The water penetrates through many crevasses to the heart of the molten mass, giving rise to the continual detonation of explosions which blow fragments of the lava high into the air.

From the facts known concerning the seismic disturbances in and around the Pacific basin, it is not improbable that investigation will bring to light some startling discoveries. Gigantic convulsions have taken place ever since the beginning of creation, through the operation of mighty forces from within. If theorists are on the right track, the moon at one time was broken off, as it were, from the earth, and hurled into space. An entire continent with millions of inhabitants is supposed to have sunk into the depths of the Atlantic ocean. Mr. Plongson informs us that in the Troano manuscript record is made of a geological event—the rising of the bottom of the ocean near the land of Mu, at some remote time of the past. Thus, as far back as history, or research, goes, the earth has been subject to changes. They all point to the last great transformation which is surely approaching.

TYPHOID GERMS.

A correspondent of the Chronicle is of the opinion that typhoid fever is the result of a very complex process of transmission of germs. By experiments, he claims, it has been proved that the bacteria causing the disease have to pass, outside the human body, through a complex as yet utterly dark sequence of developments before they can cause typhoid fever. The parasite trichina spiralis must undergo a journey through hogs before it can travel from man to man via hog; the tapeworm is four different things in perhaps two or three animals before it is implantable again in man. The development of typhoid, the correspondent quoted says, is on similar lines. The germs of any typhoid epidemic, we are told, "may be the descendants of ancestors which may have been in a man two or three years ago, have in the meanwhile traveled in the soil, in water, hundreds of miles and are now again adhering to vessels, hands or tools with which food comes in contact. In this food they go through a preparatory stage to ripen again in the human intestines. Their ptomaine or specific poisonous product, the typhotoxin, has been isolated, analyzed by Prof. Beyer of Berlin; it is the crystallized element which causes the headache, drowsiness, stupor; it can even be made artificially, as it is a relatively simple amyl-phenylamine derivative."

If this is based on facts, as there appears to be no reason to doubt, the necessity for precaution after each epidemic of the disease is apparent. Unscrupulous cleanliness and the boiling of all food, as well as the drinking water, are recommended. But it seems that with all precautions, typhoid fever will break out at times. This is explained on the supposition that there are well proved cases of chronic typhoid. There are people, it is said, who carry for years infected spots in their intestines without strikingly poor health, and they will always be foci of new epidemics. These chronic cases are difficult to diagnose and have only been found at autopsies. Hence, some typhoid will always be with us, but people are especially warned against eating fresh peaches, apples, grapes, without first washing them, as they may have ripe germs on them. Drinking vessels washed in contaminated water, can be avoided by careful people.

"RACE SUICIDE" QUESTION.

A committee of the so-called Fablar Society of England has recently conducted an investigation of the "race suicide" question. Its official report has not yet been made public, but some information has been given in advance to the London Times. According to this paper the committee finds, in substance:

1. That decline in the birth rate is not merely the result of the alteration in the age of the marrying population or in the proportion of married women. 2. It is not confined to the towns. 3. It is exceptionally marked where the improvidence of children is specially felt. 4. It is most noticeable in places inhabited by the servant-keeping class. 5. It is much greater in that section of the population which gives proof of thrift. 6. It is due evidently to some cause which was not appreciably operative 50 years ago. 7. It is principally, if not entirely, the result of the deliberate action of married people."

It is also stated that in Ireland and in cities where the Catholic population is large, the birth rate has not declined materially, a fact that speaks volumes for the general morality of the Catholic inhabitants of the cities and towns investigated by the committee. We mention this, because to us it always is a pleasant duty to give credit where credit is due, without regard to differences of creed or religious practices.

Another point made by the committee is that the falling off in the birth rate is due to causes that were not in operation half a century ago. The conclusion is inevitable that it is the result of modern conditions, especially we should say, the decline in the religious sentiment, coupled with an uncontrollable desire for ease and comfort and dread of the graver responsibilities of life.

It is a question that will not down. Society will have to deal with it sooner or later. It is necessary to understand the causes of the evil, for without a proper understanding of the causes, no remedy can be applied intelligently.

Better a wheat trust than a wheat rust.

Secretary Taft will speak in Cheyenne. Why not in English?

Prepare for election day by seeing how the voting machine works.

It isn't pretty of Willie to call Mayor McClellan "a wicked little sneak thief."

No matter what he undertakes to do

the Secretary of War always fills the bill.

"The original Fairbanks man" is beginning to loom up. People do not seem to realize it but it was his father.

Chicago newspapers have discovered Upton Sinclair's double in that city. The heavenly twins!

Ex-Senator Burton is bearing up bravely, showing that he has the courage of his conviction.

In all the various kinds of brotherhoods in the country there is very little of the brotherhood of man.

The difference between good trusts and bad trusts is the difference between meum and tuum.

The Texas supreme court has decided that the Lone Star state sun time is legal time. This is a solar plexus blow for standard time.

Three hundred chauffeurs in New York have gone on strike. It would have been less surprising if they had gone on a foot.

When he threw the arms of the Cuban insurgents into the sea, Secretary Taft should have included a few tridents for Neptune's use.

"Lillian Russell's daughter applied for a divorce from B. F. Einstein. He did not defend the action," says an exchange. Like mother like daughter.

And now William Allen White wants to know "What's the matter with America?" It is about time for William Allen to enquire what's the matter with the Kansas editor.

J. P. Morgan secured the celebrated Cluny Bible as against King Edward, who sought it as a memorial to his mother. Had he been a British subject Mr. Morgan would not have dared to outbid the king. No man in all the country is doing more to add to its literary treasures than Magnate Morgan.

Two Danish Princes, it is said, have started on a visit to the Far East, and will probably return by way of America. If they cross this continent they will have opportunity to see many of their countrymen, now thriving American citizens, of whom this country is proud. The Danes are a hard-working, thrifty and law-abiding people. They have added materially in the building up of Utah.

The Utah Light and Power Co. has completed the repairs necessitated by the windstorm that visited this region in the beginning of the week, and on Thursday night the lights were burning all over the city. The company is to be congratulated on the speedy repairs of its extensive plant. The damage must have amounted to many thousands of dollars, and it is evident that, but for the energetic and practical management of its affairs, the patrons might have been left in the dark for several days.

The Japanese ambassador has called upon Secretary Root regarding the treatment of the Mikado's subjects in California. The Japanese in this country have never been subjected to the brutal and inhuman treatment that the Chinese have been, and doubtless never will be. Their war with Russia has proven them to be a race of fighting men, and such men are always respected. Japan would never submit to see her people treated the way those of China in this country have been. She would fight first. But the day has forever gone by, we hope, when such an outrage as the Rock Springs massacre could be repeated.

IRELAND'S PATHETIC APPEAL.

Mr. Sydney Brooks is one of the many who continue to find a unique appeal in the physical characteristics of Ireland. Writing in the current Harper's Weekly of County Kerry, which calls "A Region of Contrast," he observes of the journey by rail from Cork to Bantry that, "though it has no special interest, there is no part of Ireland, or none that I have so far seen, however bleak its aspect, however gray its monotony, that does not make its own wild and peculiar appeal. You may read wherever you go something of the sadness of the country's history in the scarred stretches of hill, bare of everything but jutting stone; in the melancholy past-houses, where old men are loading the donkey's pail with the winter supply of fuel; in the villages with their incredible hovels, and air not as England's of deep and rich placidity; in the ruined farmhouses where perhaps some victim of the famine lay down to die."

THANKSGIVING IN PARIS.

Harper's Bazar.

Have you any idea of what is the Thanksgiving of the American resident of Paris? Let me tell you. We have turkey with cranberry sauce. The turkey is stuffed with things which only the French tongue can define, and the cranberry sauce is usually bought in a can, ready-made, from an English factory. Still, it is a real turkey, and the sauce is red with real cranberry skins in it, so that we complain not. We are even glad and grateful, this, too, in spite of the fact that we are commonly all widows and orphans—temporarily who assemble to eat the Thanksgiving dinner at home. Our husbands and the fathers of our children are wont to grace the dinner given by the American club, where every man resident of Paris who is a true patriot goes bursting with a sense of gratitude because he is a citizen of the greatest country on earth. To this dinner are bidden each year a certain number of innocent and unsuspecting Frenchmen, who are made to consume even larger quantities of American eagle than of turkey, and who must go home sad enough, if they believe all that the speakers of the evening tell them of how Americans are doing everything in the world to eat the turkey; that any small affair which the French may still be carrying on, we, the people of the United States, shall appropriate whenever we take the notion.

JUST FOR FUN.

Acting Version.

In a certain town, not long ago, the gas bill of a portable stove showing there had not been paid at the week's end for the preceding month's consumption, when it became due. A man appeared accordingly on the Monday night following to cut off the gas supply if the bill were not paid on the spot.

The doorknocker remonstrated with

the gas man, pointing out that, as the manager was on the boards at the time and could not possibly leave the stage for an hour, the gas man might call again.

"No," said the latter stubbornly, "I'm going to cut it off now."

"Hold hard," said the doorknocker, "I'll go and tell the boss."

Disguising himself in a huge red cloak and a big felt hat, and with a sword at his side, he walked on the stage with the words:

"Behold, my lord, the man stands at the castle gate awaiting the remuneration for the glimmers, and, if not instantly paid, darkness threatens us."

The manager, taking in the situation, exclaimed dramatically:

"Go, I follow thee."

The money was paid.—Tit Bits.

Good Cause.

Stern Parent—From my observation of him last night I came to the conclusion that that young man of yours was rather wild.

Daughter—Of course. It was you that made him wild. He wanted you to go upstairs and leave us alone.—Illustrated Bits.

Most Unkindest Cut.

Mr. Melville Stone, of the Associated Press, tells of the account of a wedding published in a Kansas paper. The story concluded with this surprising announcement:

"The bridegroom's present to the bride was a handsome diamond brooch, together with many other beautiful things in cut glass."—Harper's Weekly.

Friend: Do you know that the grocery man opposite uses your poems as wrapping paper?

Post: Yes, but under our agreement he only puts up his very best groceries in them.—Fib.

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vanced 15 a m.

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p. m.

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