

present age. Notwithstanding the claim that the world is progressing by the natural law of evolution, it appears that the tendency even in the most advanced ranks of humanity is towards the law that prompts the animal to care for the young and to neglect the old. Many aged people in the world are found in institutes of charity, or in the slums, who should be taken care of and given comfortable support by their children.

Is there any remedy? Not unless people can be made to realize the divine arrangement by which the relationship between parent and child has been made to exist. As long as the knowledge of man's origin and his eternal destiny remains lost among the vain speculations of human beings, there is no way of arriving at a correct understanding of filial duties or the result in eternity of their neglect here. It was one of the great objects of the Gospel to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to the fathers. Outside of the unconditional surrender to the requirements of the Gospel, there is no escape from the conditions which threaten to become a curse upon the earth.

#### NATIONAL VOLUNTEER RESERVES.

A patriotic gentleman of New York named W. D' H. Washington is a leading figure in the work of organizing the National Volunteer Reserves. The object of the order is to make necessary preparations for quickly supplying Uncle Sam with all the troops he may need in case of war, without resorting to conscription. It is proposed to establish the order in all the states of the Union and to enroll in it from 2,000,000 to 5,000,000 men qualified for army service, who would volunteer for that purpose in case of necessity. It seems to be a part of Mr. Washington's plan to have the governors of states take a leading role in co-operating with him, and Governor Wells has received from him a circular letter embracing the following language:

"The permanent organization would include the President of the United States to be ex-officio commander-in-chief; the secretary of war to be ex-officio vice commander of the military forces, and the general of the army, commander; the secretary of the navy to be ex-officio vice commander of the naval forces, and the admiral of the navy ex-officio commander; the governor of each state to be ex-officio commander of all the reserves of his own commonwealth and the adjutant general of each state to be ex-officio vice commander of that state, the military committee for the purpose of governing and fostering the organization, and a commander or president who will have charge of the active duties pertaining to the organization and its maintenance."

In reply Governor Wells has written to Mr. Washington as follows:

"I am in receipt of yours of 12th inst. inclosing a plan for the organization of a National Volunteer Reserve. In a country committed as ours is to the policy of a small standing army some plan of providing for the national safety in time of war is necessary. The present militia organization, while sufficient for the needs of states, is insufficient for the possible needs of the United States, and the organization of a National Reserve would be a step in the right direction. It should, however, be essentially as its name implies, a National Reserve, and placed independent of state officials, at the disposal of the President, who is responsible for giving effect to a declaration of war by Congress.

"This reserve, in my opinion, should be something more than a list of names of enthusiastic citizens. Our past experience proves that we can ultimately triumph in most any kind of a contest, but it also proves that while we are organizing for victory, incalculable damage is falling upon us. The scheme outlined in your folder would have many of the advantages you claim for it. It would also stir up the patriotism of the country; would sell a lot of newspapers and would deceive a host of people into believing that we were prepared for any emergency, when in reality we would be, as far as defense goes, just where we are now. It does not go far enough. It would be a menace to a more substantial organization. You can't get something for nothing. We have oceans of patriotism—it doesn't need stirring up; it needs an appropriation sufficient to educate and organize it on a skeleton basis."

As indicated by his reply, Governor Wells is not antagonistic to an organization somewhat on the lines of the one advocated by Mr. Washington, but he would like to see the plan of its creation made more perfect and effective. The plan under consideration does not provide for keeping track of the men after they are enrolled in respect to death, removal or disability; nor does it sufficiently appear that the United States government has endorsed or will recognize the National Volunteer Reserves as created by Mr. Washington and his associates. When the defects in the plan for creating the Reserves are remedied, and when the plan itself receives proper recognition from Congress or the war department, Governor Wells will no doubt be ready enough to fall in with it.

#### IN THE INTEREST OF TEMPERANCE.

There are a number of cities in this State in which the sentiment of a large majority of the people favors curtailing the evils of the saloon and of the liquor traffic by means of stringent ordinances, and in some of them there is a pronounced sentiment in favor of prohibition. In several cities in the State the city councils are now struggling with the great liquor problem.

The sentiments of the "News" in regard to the liquor traffic are too well known to need repetition at this time. For nearly half a century this paper has, whenever the occasion has been appropriate, expressed the view that strict regulation of the traffic should be enforced everywhere, and that prohibition is a good thing where popular sentiment sufficiently supports the legislative and executive departments of the municipal governments in the effort to enforce it. But conditions have arisen in this State "since division came" that call for a modification of the policy in dealing with the liquor question which was favored by a strong majority of the inhabitants of many of its towns and cities in former years.

Before the voters of Utah were divided on national party lines the liquor problem at times figured prominently in connection with the government of some of the larger towns in the then Territory, but memory does not recall an instance in which it was ever made a party question, or a vehicle on which a political party sought to ride into power, by catering to either the saloon or the temperance vote. Men favored or opposed anti-liquor legislation on other grounds than partisan advantage, or from other motives than the spoils of office.

But unhappily for many municipalities in the State, a very different status

exists in them now. Party feeling runs so high, and the desire for office is so intense, that men who are themselves among the best patrons of the rumrunner are more than willing to come before the suffragists of the town in the garb of pronounced advocates of temperance, if by so doing they can secure office; and on the other hand there are good church people who, however, are none too good to form alliance with the saloon element if by such a course they can insure the election of their party ticket. Petty ward politicians are ready and willing to degrade the great moral issues involved in the saloon question to the level of partisan strife for pelf and power; and the extraordinary partisan zeal, to use no harsher term, which the people display, and their seeming willingness to sacrifice every consideration on the altar of party, make it easy for the politicians to divide the ranks of those who, were not their partisanship aroused, would be the true and active friends of temperance.

The existence of the condition here described is certainly to be deeply regretted. It is deplorable to see people who, all their lives, have been opposed to the saloon and the gigantic evils that spring from it, stand ready to join hands with its supporters for the sake of electing their party ticket, and capturing for themselves or their friends the questionable honors of the minor offices that go to make up the government of the town. But the moment that sees the saloon question become a political issue in either of a number of Utah cities, will also see what has just been described.

It follows therefore that the true friends of temperance and the genuine opponents of the saloon should exert themselves to prevent the liquor question from becoming an issue in municipal politics. When it is made such an issue it is inevitable that at least a portion of the friends of temperance will be found working in behalf of the saloon, after as well as before election. If the temperance party wins at the polls, former friends of temperance, under the influence of ward politicians, will be found trying to harass it and to discredit and prevent the success of its policy; while if the friends of the saloon are successful, victory will cement the friendship and strengthen the mutual obligations existing between the saloon element and the erstwhile advocates of an opposite policy who have been made bedfellows by the exigencies of ward politics.

The saloon vastly increases its power for evil when it succeeds in making itself a political issue in a small town. Men and women who have befriended it by supporting at the polls the candidates who were its friends, have placed themselves in a position in which they cannot exert an influence against it without the inward consciousness if not the open charge of inconsistency. In the cases of many young men the gulf between this position and the door of the saloon may easily be spanned with a single step, while many an older man finds himself prepared to "to the triumph of his and the saloonkeeper's party."

Until party feeling wanes a little in Utah, temperance workers who wish to see the liquor traffic either curtailed or prohibited, would do well to labor among all the people of the town and by persistent missionary work educate them up to the moral standard that will cause them to bring such a pressure to bear upon the local authorities and politicians as will secure the desired reforms, without making the saloon a political issue, and without being drawn into hostile camps the friends of temperance. What a great majority of both parties ask for, the politicians and office holders, for obvious