

not likely to prevail. That is our position on this matter, and we are certainly not "opposed to the extensive agitation of the silver question" by either the advocates or the antagonists of the precious white metal. We repeat our admonition: Don't run wild!

THE "GRAND OLD MAN."

In the May number of the *Review of Reviews*, Editor Stead presents a splendidly written sketch of Hon. William E. Gladstone, of whom he is an ardent admirer. The word-picture of the eminent scholar and statesman may be tinted with over-coloring, owing to the exalted opinion entertained of the subject by the artist. The delineation is, however, exceedingly fascinating. It gives, in a condensed form, not only an insight into the character, achievements and aspirations of Mr. Gladstone—one of the most wonderful men of any age—but some valuable suggestions regarding the processes, aside from his great intellectual capacity, which have contributed to his success. A practical application of these hints would assist any individual who aspires to render his life other than a comparative blank.

Mr. Gladstone, who is an octogenarian, preserves, in his old age, the buoyancy and cheerfulness of youth. He has been careful of his health, a sound physical condition being indispensable to the exercise of a capable mind. His memory is phenomenal. Although naturally gifted in this respect, his mental retentivity is largely the result of cultivation by riveting the attention upon any subject on which his mind is engaged and making notes of whatever he specially desires to remember.

His method of reading is a striking illustration of the process of mind-storing which makes him one of the most versatile and best informed men of modern times. He generally has two books, on diverse subjects, in hand at the same time. When the mind flags on one theme, for the purpose of change—which amounts to rest—he takes up the other. He also makes notes as he goes along, taking great pains to fasten his attention keenly upon passages he is anxious to remember, and he frequently makes a sort of index of his own at the end of a volume after perusal.

This eminent statesman uses many sets of pigeon holes, each set being the receptacle of different varieties of documents, one being devoted to the preservation of "rubbishy" correspondence.

Faith in God is one of Mr. Gladstone's strongest characteristics, and he has had so many evidences of Divine interposition in his behalf that this trust in Providence has adhered to him throughout. His long, active and brilliant career. It is said of him, by Mr. Stead, that he has not always seen what was just the right thing to do, but he has always thought that what he did was right, otherwise he would have refused to engage in it.

It is characteristic of British statesmen that, as a rule, they do not carry their political differences into social life. In this respect no one is more conspicuous than Mr. Gladstone, who,

on many occasions, has, in private, defended his most pronounced opponents against aspersions cast upon them by smaller men.

The career of Mr. Gladstone shows that mental activity does not kill, nor even impair the energies of men, so long as they are able to sleep. This he can do almost at will. It is said that he can so completely divest his mind of all concern connected with any subject crossing his attention that he can at any time, seated in a chair, cover his face with a handkerchief and become oblivious in thirty seconds. There has only been, in his life, one exception to this rule—when the fate of the heroic Gordon was pending in the Sudan. His activity is, and always has been, phenomenal. In his waking moments he is nearly always doing something, his mind never being free from the contemplation of a subject. The reason for his engaging in the felling of trees, on his estate in Wales, is simply to divert his mind from any theme requiring intensity of thought. While thus employed the attention must be directed to the holding of the axe at the necessary angle in order to hit the tree in the right place. This is a simple exercise and provides the necessary mental repose.

The examples of such men as Mr. Gladstone are of inestimable value. They demonstrate what can be done by ceaseless activity, centralized attention, faith in God, systematic work, indomitable courage and devotion to the right as viewed by the individual. The lives of such men ought to be studied by the young, that they may be inspired to take a course in the world that will make their presence felt for good. Such men live, in the multiplication of benefits to the race, ages after they leave mortality.

SOURCES OF REAL DANGER.

In the *Carrier Dove*, a San Francisco publication, Mr. N. F. Ravlin, thus forcibly expresses his views upon a leading question of the hour:

"We have said there are other religious elements in this country more to be feared and which really menace the existence of the Republic more than does the Mormon Church of Utah.

"Protestantism is seeking to subvert the Republic by putting God into the constitution and declaring Jesus Christ the head of this nation, thus uniting Church and State. That of course means death to a republican form of government. It means religious despotism. When Jesus was on earth and they sought to make Him an earthly king, he declined the honor and said His kingdom was not of this world. We do not imagine He would feel complimented now by being made the figure-head monarch of the United States. It is said history repeats itself, and if the record of twelve hundred and sixty years of church and State united has not taught a lesson of sufficient force to lead the people of this nation to steer clear of that fatal whirlpool of destruction, it may be necessary to have the lesson repeated in order that the epithet of another ruined republic may warn the generations that are to come after us. Protestant religion blind to the historic record, rushes madly on in its insane purpose to secure what would not only be fatal to the republic but dis-

astrous to the church as well. And yet our government does not presume to interfere. No legislative or judicial measures are taken to confiscate the church property of these sects. They are allowed to go on and mature their schemes and virtually plot treason against the government of the United States. Their success means the ruin of the nation. It means the disfranchisement of so-called infidels and the abolition of personal liberty. It means that the dogmas of ecclesiastical domination shall bind as with fetters of steel the consciences of the people, and priestcraft once more dominate the temporal as well as the spiritual affairs of men.

"It would be well also to recognize the fact that the Church of Rome is coming to be a tremendous power in this country, and that her principles and her doctrines are diametrically opposed to the popular institutions of our country. We venture the assertion that there is not a true Catholic in the United States who is or can be a loyal citizen of this nation. When it comes to an exhibition of fealty to the Church or the State, it does not take long to comprehend the situation. It is the avowed purpose of Rome to take this country. It is not only the secret design but the openly avowed intent. Rome has her hand on the throat of this nation. She has her hand in the treasury of our public school fund. The Pope of Rome controls every Catholic vote. He wields the power of an unscrupulous despot over the millions of his devoted subjects. He dictates and obedience follows. His minions are taking the offices and fast gaining municipal control in our large cities. The cohorts of Rome are everywhere. Her foothold on American soil bodes no good. Her influence in political affairs should open our eyes to the eminent peril that confronts us. And yet our government seems blind to the threatening dangers of the hour. No measures are proposed to check Rome's encroachments. None think of proposing to confiscate the property of the Roman Catholic Church. And yet, where the Mormon Church owns thousands, the Church of Rome possesses millions of church property on which in many States she does not pay a tax of one dollar to support the government. While the Mormon Church is local, the Catholic Church is a felt political power in every State in the Union. While no danger can possibly be apprehended from the spread of Mormonism, there is reason for dire apprehensions from the encroachments of Romanism. Mormonism does not seek the overthrow of the United States, while it is the fixed purpose of Romanism to do that very thing.

"The saloon interest controls our government in all its departments. It dominates the political parties and shapes legislation to suit itself. But so far from the government interfering to confiscate the property of the liquor interest, it enters into partnership with the liquor men and divides the profits. It kills more per year than did the war of the rebellion, and yet it is allowed to go on unmolested. It fires the incendiary's torch and burles the deadly dynamite bomb. It brandishes the gleaming dagger and wields the fatal revolver, and writes up its daily record of crimes, and yet our government is serenely indifferent to it all, only so as the revenue derived from the damnable business comes daily into the treasury vaults. Truly we strain at a knot and swallow a camel in our treatment of these questions. And still it is a fact that up to the time of the gentile influx, Salt Lake City, under Mormon regime was the most moral city in the United States. We are glad Prof. Eliot had the courage of his convictions and spoke in defense of justice, equity and right, regardless of consequences."