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CHURCHES AND TEMPERANCE.

Some of the large churches of the country have declared for prohibition. Baptists, Presbyterians, and Methodists seem to be united in the war upon the liquor traffic. This is evident from the general tone of their large conventions. The Southern Baptist convention at Little Rock, was declared to be a great prohibition jubilee from start to finish. The enthusiastic and unanimous election of Joshua Levering, a prominent prohibition leader, as permanent chairman of the convention, emphasizing the spirit and conviction of the entire body.

The Northern Baptists held their convention at Oklahoma City, the prohibition metropolis of the new state with its constitutional bulwark against the drink evil.

Before the General Assembly of the Northern Presbyterians, ("The Presbyterian Church of North America") at Kansas City, Mo., its permanent committee on temperance presented an aggressive report, while the Southern Presbyterians, at Greensboro, N. C., were declared in press dispatches to be "unanimous for prohibition."

The Methodist general conference at Baltimore, with Governor Frank Hanly of Indiana as the Chairman of its Temperance committee, adopted a report which reads like a call to arms. The report adopted by this conference reads in part:

"We record our deliberate judgment that no candidate for any office which in any way may do to with the liquor traffic, has a right to expect not only to receive the support of Christian men so long as he stands committed to the liquor interests or refuses to put himself in an attitude of open hostility to the saloon."

"We hold that it is the duty of every Christian voter to vote for a reputable, qualified, temperance candidate, upon another ticket, in preference to a disreputable or unqualified one controlled by the saloon, upon his own to the end that righteousness, temperance and morality may become the normal activity of government everywhere."

This is, we believe, the sentiment of a very large portion of citizens who are members of various denominations, in Utah as well as elsewhere. The trouble here is that Christian voters have been led to believe that their first duty is to "down" the Church, instead of the saloon and the den, and in their eagerness to accomplish something in that line they have become the allies and supporters of political leaders who depend on the saloon and kindred institutions for political success. This is an anomaly in Utah. Christian citizens have wasted their energy in futile efforts against a Church that has every right under the Constitution that other churches have, and suffered the lowest element to become a controlling power in public affairs. The consequence is that this City is far behind other great cities in morality and financially almost ruined. It is a consequence of the "internal war" that was instigated by disappointed politicians, and we do not see how conditions can be bettered until the decent citizens regardless of creeds, unite for peace and good, honest government. In the temperance resolutions passed by so many religious bodies in this country there is a call to all good citizens everywhere to unite for the furtherance of public morality, which cause must necessarily suffer when they are divided and quarrel over things of minor importance.

CACTI WITHOUT SPINES.

The success of Mr. Luther Burbank of California in producing varieties of thornless cacti adapted to the climate and the soil of several different countries is justly regarded as one of the most important discoveries in plant life.

The cactus is a vegetable curiosity. It is found only in the deserts of western America. It has no leaves, these having been changed into spines as a result of its struggle to survive on the desert. The condition was simply this, that leaves transpire more water than the arid soil is able to supply, and the problem which the cactus had to solve was how to conserve the small amount of water with which the soil could supply it. This task was accomplished by getting rid of its leaves through changing them into spines. The stems, which somewhat resemble leaves, perform the functions that leaves perform in other species, but more slowly. The plant diminishes the amount both of its breathing processes and of the evaporation of water from its leaves, and is thereby enabled to live on the desert.

It is evident that if such a plant can be turned to useful purposes, the desert may yet be subdued in a fuller sense than has ever happened hitherto, and a teeming population on places formerly barren is among the possibilities of such a discovery.

For fifteen years Mr. Burbank has been examining and studying forage plants for dry regions, to see what improvement could be made upon them. He believed that if the thorns could be taken from the cactus, it would be one of the best, if not the best of all the plants for desert culture. He therefore gathered cacti of all kinds—those which would even grow in Alaska, because he wanted some of the hardy types. He gathered them from the best that he could find by collectors in South Africa and Mexico, and from North Africa, where the cactus has been somewhat cultivated for the use of camels. The North African is a partially thornless

variety. There are two or three others. He found by raising them from seed that once in a while one would be found among thousands that had fewer thorns than even the parent. Taking that one and raising thousands and thousands of seedlings, he has produced some that are absolutely thornless.

The idea was to get a cactus that would produce a great amount of nourishment, and the first object was to get a thornless variety. Then came the problem of producing an individual which would yield a great weight of forage to the acre. That has been very well accomplished by the production of a cactus that will yield 200 tons of food per acre. Now for beets, carrots, turnips and cabbage and for almost everything cultivated in the soil. 20 tons is a good crop, yet some of the older cacti will produce about 100 tons.

Cacti are less nutritious than beets, but contain more water. By analysis some cacti produce two and five-tenths per cent starch, while others produce five-tenths per cent. The object sought is to unite in one variety great productiveness and a high percentage of nutrition.

Mr. Burbank has taken the wild Colorado cacti, planted them thickly in a small bed; and allowing them no water, planted four or five of his improved cacti in the same bed. The improved cacti starved the others almost to death. Under the same treatment, they will grow three or four feet in height and be in perfect vigor, often weighing from two to seven pounds each, while the Colorado wild cactus, which one would think is as hardy as anything possible would be drying up for want of moisture.

The ability of the improved cacti to root deeper results from their greater individual growth, and gives them the opportunity to strike deeper and take the moisture up, while the common wild cactus can not reach the water and so it starves to death, while its improved, thornless neighbor flourishes.

Mr. Burbank is convinced that the thornless cactus will yet prove to be the most important plant for the reclamation of the arid region; and the whole of the civilized world is looking on with approval and admiration at the work of the naturalist who is thus turning to account the laws of plant growth.

THE G. A. R. RESOLUTIONS.

The resolutions passed by the G. A. R. encampment in this City, appealing to the general public in favor of a proper observance of Memorial day, cannot but touch a responsive chord in the hearts of all good citizens. A day dedicated to the memory of the dead is not properly spent in amusement, or in places where sports and games are the attractions. It may not be a day of mourning, but it should certainly be made the occasion of a serious contemplation of the cost, in lives and treasure, of the Union for which the War was waged; the results of the sacrifices made, and the mission in the world of this country. For some reason or other, our nation is in danger of becoming frivolous. Our Sundays are turned into days of amusement, in spite of state laws and city ordinances. Our great national holiday has become a day of slaughter instead of one of joyous contemplation of a nation's birth. For the past five years statisticians have endeavored to obtain a somewhat correct estimate of the cost of our Fourth of July celebrations, and they claim that from 1903 to 1907, 1,153 persons were killed and 22,550 were injured. Our Thanksgiving day is mainly an occasion of eating, drinking, and sports, and other general holidays are similarly engaged, contrary to the original significance of each day. It is high time to effect a change in our manner of observing holidays. They should be observed in the spirit in which they were instituted. They should be made occasions of instruction, contemplation, and meditation. The events they commemorate should be impressed upon the public, and especially upon the younger generation, not with bombastic oratory that means nothing, but with a simple recounting of the wonderful story. In the pupils and on the stage, for the education and instruction of the people. Especially should Memorial day be one of serious contemplation and not given over to frivolity. There is a time for everything, even for fun and play, but there are occasions on which they are entirely out of place.

ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

Leading newspapers of London and Paris are now discussing the desirability of a formal alliance between England and France. It is believed on both sides of the Channel, that the time for some such political move is opportune. The two countries no longer have conflicting interests in Asia, and it is believed that an alliance would be a guarantee of the peace of the world.

This expresses sufficiently the change of public opinion in the two countries. But a further proof of this friendliness is found in the fact that the chief executives of the two nations are visiting each other like intimate friends and the people applaud and give manifestations of joy. Still more, next July the three hundredth anniversary of the founding of the City of Quebec will be celebrated, and France will take part in that celebration. One feature will be the dedication of the Plains of Abraham to a perpetual memorial of Wolfe and Montcalm, who received their death wounds there, each for his respective country. The French no longer think of their defeats and tragedies in the New World; the English are willing to honor French heroes and pioneers and recognize the achievements and services of those who formerly were bitter rivals and enemies.

The friendship between England and France certainly is one of the encouraging signs of the times, but that a formal alliance necessarily would be a guarantee of the permanent peace of the world, may be doubted. The alliance between Russia and France was to be such a guarantee, but that proved an illusion. The natural alignment of the nations of the world would be a safer arrangement to secure permanent peace. A union of the Latin nations ought to be the aim of those nations. And France might take the initiative. Pan-Germanism, pan-

Slavism, pan-Anglo-Saxonism ought to be the aim of the respective races. That would make for peace. It would be a long step toward a United States of the World.

Save up something for several rainy days.

Mr. Lilley has bloomed out with a statement.

The "Merry Widow" hat has come in out of the wet.

"These days even our best citizens are under a cloud."

Girls who affect wasp waists should wear yellow jackets.

The difference between a kleptomaniac and a grafter is one of sex.

When there is no more coal there will be no coal trust, but not till then.

Colorado athletes are a Boulder but not a better lot than the Stanford men.

Paris has abolished the revolving doors. They were considered too revolutionary.

It is very evident that the weather bureau man is not a candidate for office.

Every automobilist knows that accidents will happen even in the best regulated families.

The difference between Philadelphia and Herculaneum is this; while both are dead the latter is buried.

If Congress had remained in session longer there is no telling how big the appropriations would have been.

There has been a cut of four dollars a ton in the price of bar steel. This surely is a letting down of the bars.

"I have never seen anybody who wasn't a liar," says Mark Twain. Of course he never saw George Washington.

Boys, with bicycles, wishing to earn two dollars a day can do so by keeping off the sidewalks with their wheels.

Already the nervous are beginning to worry about a noisy Fourth. Far better a day of noise than a month of misery.

Rev. "Billy" Sunday, who so terribly shocked his fellow Presbyterian ministers, is anything but a quiet, peaceful Sunday.

Thaw still insists on having justice. He doesn't know justice when he sees it, else he would know that he now has it.

When some people have greatness thrust upon them they simply cannot stand it. Just look at the police department in the absence of Chief Pitt.

The publishers have lost their copyright infringement cases in the United States supreme court, but they seem to have indisputably established the fact that there is a great big book trust.

FROM LITTLE ACORNS.

A potential American industry remains unprotected. An article in whose production we might lead the world is being imported in amounts and at a price which make domestic competition impracticable. The entire country as a consequence is threatened with a return to those rude conditions which prevailed previous to the wholesale attack upon our own products. The article in question is the state of New York. It is reported, has just purchased from Germany, at prices ranging from 75 cents to \$2.65 a thousand, nearly 1,000,000 seedling trees for replanting of its Adirondack reserve. Some day these seedlings will be trees; and the example of New York may be contagious. Now is the time to put up the bars. American trees are being sold for 70 cents, or else none at all. It is possible that some who hear this news may wonder how it happens that the Germans, whose history is contemporaneous with the Christian era, have trees to spare, while we who began to hew our forests only within the last 400 years already cannot, as it would appear, supply even the home market. They may also recall the Germanys' sale of 70,000,000 acorns in a little over 200,000 square miles of land, while the United States spreads its 90-odd millions over an area nearly 20 times as large—a territory whose forests at one time were the wonder of the world.

EDWARD THE PEACEMAKER.

Washington Star.
Now, if in the near future King Edward can arrange to seat at his mahogany any at one time the president of France, the German emperor, the czar of Russia, the Austrian emperor, the king of Italy and the king of Spain, he will serve the cause of peace as never sovereign did before and write his name at the head of all the diplomats of all the ages. And why should he not be able to do it? What he has already done would have been pronounced impossible if suggested only a few years ago. He is universally liked, and is on terms of personal intimacy with all the rulers mentioned. A traveler who enjoys his visits, and a visitor who travels for a purpose, he is welcome at every court in Europe, and appears at all. Diplomacy is the war, and King Edward looks well in his logs.

VALUE OF TEARS.

London Daily Mail.
Dr. Rumme, the well known French medical authority, speaks eloquently of the usefulness of tears in the cure of grief. In La Revue, Tears, he writes, are most useful in cases of great depression or deep sorrow. Crying creates a kind of cerebral torpor, a mental indifference which acts as an anesthetic. One drowns sorrow in tears better even than in alcohol. "We should never restrain our tears. They form, especially with children, a safety valve, which does nothing less than preserve the balance of the brain."

THE SIMPLEST LIFE.

London Daily Mail.
In a wood about 20 miles from London lives an old man who for 20 years has known no other roof than an umbrella. "Twenty years ago I took to the woods," he said. During the great snowstorm a few weeks ago I slept soundly, and when I woke up in the morning I was covered with snow many inches deep. But I am never ill. I have not had a single illness in my life. I have lived a simple, single life and I have no more worry than that tree has. I have no rates and taxes to pay, I have

no wife to bother me and I have plenty of friends. No one ever interferes with me. I never light a fire, and I sleep for money. The darkness comes on I put up my big umbrella, take my boots off, put my legs into a sack and cover myself up with clothing, on top of which I place this magicintosh."

JUST FOR FUN.

The Uplift of Pride.
When flowers are full of heaven-decent dew, they always hang their heads; but men hold theirs higher the more they receive, getting proud as they get full.—Beecher.

Judging Others.
You may call every creature under heaven fool and rogue and your auditor will join with you heartily; hint to him the slightest of his own defects or foibles and he draws his rapier.—Walter Savage Landor.

Whist for High Stakes.
"Well, where's that cook?" demanded his wife. "Don't tell me that she wasn't on the train."

"She was on the train," mildly explained the commuter, "but I got to playing cards and a Lady of the night won her at whist."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Necessity the Mother.
"Who got up those hanging gardens of Babylon?"
"Some king."

"For what purpose?"
"I judge he wanted to outwit the neighbors' chickens."—From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

A Boomerang.
A politician relates that he was making a speech last week when he was annoyed by the frequent interruptions of an opposition voter who seemed bent on making trouble.
"My friends," said the speaker, determining to suppress the disturber, "haven't you heard the story of how a braying ass put to flight the entire Syrian army?"

"Don't you be afraid of this audience," shouted back the disturber of the meeting; "There ain't no danger of it stampeding! You've tested it!"—Chicago Journal.

Audiences Have Changed.
"They don't write comic operas like they used to," said Mr. Stormington Barnes. "They used to have jokes then that made people laugh."

"Yes," answered the manager, "but you must remember that in those days they had audiences who could be made to laugh."—Memphis Commercial Appeal.

Dairy Note.
A New York theater manager wants a comely young woman to milk a cow on the stage. He is wrong. The right time to milk a cow is not theater hour.—Buffalo Express.

The Difference.
"Young men are not as earnest and studious as they were in our days," said the reminiscence citizen.

"No," answered Sirus Barker. "Instead of burning the midnight oil they put in all their time exploding gasoline."—Washington Evening Star.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Current Literature is a splendid magazine for the wife and mother who has not read the daily papers, but who wants to get an intelligent understanding of the vital topics of the day, in the world of politics, literature, art, music, drama, religion and science. Something of the largeness of the scope of this monthly is conveyed by a summary of the contents of the June issue. The magazine opens with discussions of the presidential candidacies, and of the conference of governors at the White House. The cruise of the American fleet to the Pacific coast is pictured and described. The threatening German tariff-war; the revelations that precipitated the downfall of Prince Bismarck; and the latest developments in English politics are all treated. Under the heading "Persons in the Foreground" are articles on John Hay Hammond, "The Highest Salaried Man in the World," and on "Theodore Roosevelt in Action." The controversy aroused by Dr. Gould's new book on Lafcadio Hearn lends timeliness to an article entitled "How Lafcadio Hearn Got a Soul." The growing vogue of Nietzsche is followed in discussion of "Forecasts" "Was Nietzsche a Madman or a Genius?" An interesting account is also given of "St. Oliver Lodge's Reasons for Believing in Immortality." The department of "Theatricals" opens with an article on "The Dubious Past of the Merry Widow," which will appeal to all who have flocked to see this operetta. More serious articles on Thomas Hardy's "Dynasts" and "The Children of the New National Theater." The department of "Science and Discovery" leads on to a discussion of "Forecasting the Weather by Balloon Ascents," and articles entitled "A Biological View of the Habitability of Other Worlds" and "A New Way to Suppress the Mosquito Pest." The three novels reviewed in this issue are "The Boy on His Muscle," by David Graham Phillips, Rex Beach and Frank Dauby. The short story of the month is "Baumboom," by Jules Clarctie, and the play of the month is "The Director of the Theater," by Paul Ivoi, Paris. 41-43 West, 26th St., New York.

The baseball batter and catcher on the front cover of the June American Boy will excite interest and amusement with every one who loves the national game. In variety and interest the contents of this number will please the readers. The opening chapters of "The Boy in the Bone," by Born an Electrician, by Edwin J. Houston, is given, and promises to be both entertaining and instructive. The "Mish-mish" Hint for Boys on the Mississippi, and "The Boy on the Mississippi," by Jimmy Jones—Pirate has reached its conclusion. Among the short stories are "Boots, the Wolf-dog," and "The Gargoyle," showing how jealousy and crookedness falls of success. There are many articles of interest, and a timely story of the birth of the Stars and Stripes and how the flag is made. Boat Sailing for Amateurs contains many good pointers for those who intend spending their vacation near the water. There are The Boy on His Muscle, American Boy Legion of Honor, For the Boy on Magic for Amateurs, Popular Science Department, Stamps Coins, and Curios, The Boy's Photographer, The Boy Mechanic and Electrician, Q. A. B., Training Hint for Boys, How to be a Winner at Baseball, The Cigarette as a Destroyer of Boys, Tangles, and other matter suited to the boys.—The Sprague Publishing Co., Detroit Mich.

A feature of the June Century is the series of Harvard, Yale and Princeton "Old College Songs," "Fair Harvard," "Yale," and "Old Nassau"—with drawings, eight pages in all, by John Wolcott Adams. Of altogether different quality, but also marked by timeliness, is Mrs. Isaac L. Rice's condemnation of "Our Barbarous Fourth"—Whose grim statistics probably furnish a sadder commentary on human folly than that afforded by any other celebration in the world's history. Constructive, as well as destructive, discussion of a very live question. There will be some new ideas for most readers in Gerald H. Thayer's discussion in this issue of "The Concealing Coloration of Animals," in which he treats at length, with much detail of interest, of Mr. Abbott H. Thayer's discoveries—first the great principle of coloration, light and shade, "by which almost alone the long recognized protective colorations which have always

been called 'conspicuous' are purely and potentially concealing." The serial features of the magazine would alone make the issue notable—"The Reminiscences of Lady Randolph Churchill," Prof. Percival Lowell's very interesting "Proofs of Life on Mars," Dr. George P. Shridley's "General Grant's Last Days," and the magic of "The Spell of Egypt," with Robert Hichens' glowing word pictures, and reproductions in full color of Jules Guerin's paintings of the Court of Amenhotep III, and the Great Colonnade, Luxor, the Colossal of Memnon, and the Temple of Medinet-Abu—New York.

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Next Week: "The House of Mystery."

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Introducing in Song and Motion the Best Vaudeville Artists
This afternoon at 2:30 and 3:30. This evening at 7:30, 9:30, 9:30 and every day at the same hour in Salt Lake City. Admission—Matinee, 10c; Evening, 10c and 20c.

READ THE Theatre Magazine

For Theatrical News And Stage Pictures.

THE MUSICAL -AND- SOCIAL EVENT

Seats are now on sale at the Salt Lake Theater for the Festival of Music to be given by Walter Damrosch and the New York Symphony Orchestra, June 10. This will be the greatest musical event of the year in Salt Lake City. Prices range from 50c to \$2.50. Phone now for your seats.

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Regular price 17½c a yard, sale price 15c.

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Special Engagement One Week, commencing Monday Evening, June 8, Mr. M. J. Shadow presents Katherine Grey and associate players in Clyde Fitch's greatest play

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This is an all star company coming directly from New York and San Francisco (triumph). It is a Broadway production, and has always played to \$2.00 prices, but here it will be seen at summer prices.
Box sale opens Thursday morning at 10 a. m. (Prices, evenings, \$1. 75c, 50c, 25c. Box seats, \$1.50. Matinee Wednesday and Saturday, Prices, 75c, 50c, 25c. Box seats \$1.

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