A Sermon on Dancing.

By Right Rev. GEORGE F. SEYMOUR, S. T. LL. D., Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Springfield, Ill.

Large numbers of excellent, religious people condemn dancing in the severest terms of reprobation and hated their convicts to dance with the same breath with which they forbid them to kill or commit adultery or steal.

The effect of such teaching is most pernicious. It is in itself. It pronounces evil what God has not cursed—say, what he has recognized as an offering acceptable to himself and which he has even commanded men to make his glory and praise.

Dancing is the poetry of motion. It is the expression to the eye of what music conveys to the ear. It is oftentimes spontaneous and involuntary. The hand, the head, the body, will without our thought or consent keep time with the tune which floats to upon us from the notes of the sweet singer or the notes of the instrument. To teach, therefore, that dancing is in itself evil and is to be avoided as sin is as grave an error as can be committed.

It is an impeachment of the truth of God, it is an indictment against the handwork of our Maker in the highest and best instincts of our nature; it is calculated to bewilder the moral sense especially of the young, as to good and evil.

Dancing is not inherently evil any more than money is or the drama is or music is.

It may be and often is abused. There are lascivious dances and there are bad people who dance, and there are occasions when one ought not to dance. So precisely are the lewd songs and improper plays and vile purposes to which money is put, but these are no arguments against the legitimate use of music or the drama or money. One can no more consistently condemn dancing than he can condemn money or music or the drama.—[Statesman.

Trout for Chemawa.

Salem, Oregon,
May 20, 1902.

Hon. Thomas W. Potter,
Supt. Chemawa Indian School,
Chemawa, Oregon.

Dear Sir:—

By order of the Bird & Gun Club of Salem, Oregon, I am directed to inform you that said club has procured from the Government and caused to be planted in La Bish and Ford creeks ten thousand young trout and that under the law no one will be permitted in either of said streams to fish until after the expiration of two years from the date of placing said trout herein, which was done on Sunday, May 18, 1902, under the provisions of United States laws which inflict a penalty in case of a violation and I give you this notice in order that you may inform the employees and the pupils at your school of the facts and the law.

Before we could procure these trout the club had to assure the Government that the owners of the land along La Bish creek or ditch and Ford creek, would interest themselves to protect the trout for said period of two years.

These owners have promised and agreed to do so and they will report to the Government immediately any violation of the law by any person whomsoever.

Trusting you will give this matter your immediate attention.

Very respectfully yours,
J. Baumgartner, Sec'y
Marion County Bird & Gun Club.

"Do you play football?" asked President Roosevelt in a recent letter to a boy who had written to him for some advice. "If so, here is a motto for you: 'Don't hold, don't flinch. Hit the line hard.'" There will be no suits for the establishment of proprietary rights if others besides football players adopt the motto.—Ex.

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