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PORTLAND, THURSDAY, NOV. 28, 1907.

THE SCHOOL OF EXPERIENCE. Mr. Bryan is getting rich enough to feel within him the sensation of a growing conservatism.

He is not now for free coinage of silver, for he says gold has become plenty enough. All around us, however, are persons who find it so scanty.

Gold in the United States was indeed more scarce in 1895 than it is now. That was because it had been bought and issued in paper on silver at a fictitious price.

It might be worse for us than it is now. It may not be having a very good time, but it is not as bad as it is supposed to be.

It is not as if the people were shocked or thrilled by the disclosures. But San Francisco has for so long been the scene of crimes of an unusual nature that it is doubtful if these latest horrors excite the people as they would in communities where the life-lines of the people are subject to less vibration.

In this mentioning characteristics of the San Francisco study for criminology, there is no intention to reflect on the character or social worth of the many thousands of law-abiding American citizens who dwell in the Bay City.

The good people of San Francisco are the equals of the good people of any other American city, but for some unknown reason, the criminals of San Francisco seem to go a step farther than other criminals.

They seek out new methods which make their crimes stand forth with a clearness which is in part missing from the regular time-worn methods of murder, arson and robbery.

Neither the official annals of crime as recorded in the world's reformatories nor the weird creations of Zola present a more ghastly or shockingly brutal crime than the murder of two innocent girls in a church tower by California's premier monster, Durrant.

The California murderers, Mrs. Botkin, by means of poisoned candy, killed two highly respectable sisters whose only offense was that one of them was married to the murderer of the other.

of depositors. Fortunate for bank depositors that the next \$25,000 from that source is but a promise. The tendency towards sanity in every direction is one of the hopeful signs of the times.

It is the greatest of the conservative forces of the world. Greater of all nations to get to a bedrock of sound and rational action. This school of experience is the finest school in the world.

From it we get lessons in a true optimism. A THANKSGIVING MEDITATION. And are we wretches yet alive? And do we still rebel?

Thus runs the orthodox old hymn which some of us used to sing in childhood and which we may today recall with profit.

Now that we have this vigorous bit of sacred poetry makes it clear that there is still something to be thankful for. Much, in fact. To be out of hell is rather a substantial blessing when one comes to think of it.

And when we add to this the consolation of the fact that we do not share the blessing, it becomes precious indeed. The best way to cultivate the virtue of thankfulness is to fix resolutely on some definite cause, it matters little what, and follow it out in all its ramifications.

One of the ways to work out this low-grade gratitude to Providence from beginnings which are astonishingly slim. Charles Lamb, for example, grew thankful in a graveyard by contrasting his situation with that of the departed, such as our text does.

Thought of course it is a grave and biting thing to tell that it is merely not to be dead. Think how much worse things might be than they are. If your money is tied up in a solvent bank, remember that it might have been in one that was not solvent, and rejoice.

If your wages are cut, think of the millions who receive no wages at all, and cease your grumblings. If you are unhappy, remember that we mortals have no right to happiness. Our highest privilege is to do our duty, and that ought to satisfy any reasonable person.

To be sure, a profane philosopher has intimated that the gods might be displeased in this particular. He has asked the question why the Lord did not so arrange things that doing our duty should bring happiness instead of misery.

But such questions ought not to be asked. They tend to make us thankful and to give us discontent. We must take the world as we find it and extract what consolation we may without trying to give good advice to the creator.

One very widespread source of happiness, if we would but cultivate it, is the privilege which even the humblest shares with the Almighty, of not following the good advice he receives. Reflect how greatly it would add to our misery were we to be deprived of this liberty. Consider the irritation it causes merely to listen to good advice; think how much worse you would feel if you had to follow it.

Man is too poor or too low to enjoy this never-falling well-spring of consolation and joy. It is surprising that the President never thinks to include in his annual proclamation this universal consolation which might be given to us because he is so fond of giving good advice himself, and he still cherishes the fond illusion that some of it may perhaps be followed some time.

Thus that by searching we may discover the reasons for thankfulness. He asks us to go to the source of our path. All we have to do is to gather them up, taking due precautions that they do not, like dewdrops, vanish in the handling. Finally, there is one test that even the most ardent simpleton can apply to himself without employing a physician, and a deterrent question whether he ought to be thankful or not. Let him ask himself whether he would rather be alive or dead. If he wants to die, then his case is a hard one; but if he is still willing to live, there is a reason for it, and that reason is thankfulness.

Had he thought to add a petition that our neighbors may be more worthy of confidence, the proclamation would have been a model for the ages. One almost ventures to surmise, indeed, that if all our neighbors were worthy of confidence this much-sought state of mind would come about of itself. There would be no need of Governor Chamberlain's praying for it, or of Mr. Cortelyou's exhorting us to cherish it.

As a rule a man, or an institution, who deserves the faith of his fellows will be no longer in need of the assurance of honesty in those who ask for credit. It is absurd for men like Mr. Harriman and Mr. Ryan to stand upon the street corners and weep over their vanished credit. No sane person will ever trust them again, no matter how they may say and do.

It is a pity that Mr. Cortelyou should have been exposed by recent investigations. Men who are known to be honest enjoy as much confidence as do those who are not. Unfortunately, those of their fellow-citizens in this line are one of the brightest aspects of the present state of affairs. Men who are known to be honest have lost the confidence of the country and they can never regain it.

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agitating San Francisco, differs somewhat from the cases cited. In each of these famous murder cases the victims were innocent women whose lives had been models of propriety, whereas the woman whose murder lies at Wilkins' door appears from the evidence at hand to have been rather lax in her morals. If one-half the stories and rumors in circulation about Klein-schmidt, the California university student, are true, that individual has by his acts made a fair deal against the late Theodore Durrant for the notoriety which is due the greatest criminal who produced the Pacific Coast.

It has been said that "society prepares the crime, the criminal commits it." In this may be found some explanation for the awful nature of California crimes. In no other city in the United States, not excepting New York, has there been so much such iniquity and civic rottenness as Henry has shown up in San Francisco. These disclosures, which have pulled men down from high places and have shaken to the very foundation the social structure of San Francisco, have not only done this, but they have also done this: they have shown us the way to a better life.

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a record-breaking crowd of rich tourists filled the cabins of their steamers to their capacity. The return trips of the steamers brought thousands of immigrants in the steerage. In August the American tourists came thronging back again, filling the steamers to their capacity, and now as the season wanes the steerage is again filled to the limit with Europeans going back to their old homes. All of the big liners will make fortunes out of the traffic, but the United States is unable to share in the business because Americans are not permitted to buy ships in the markets which supply all other nations with cheap ships. But this unfair policy cannot last forever, and the time is coming when the Americans, who supply such a large proportion of the best-paying Atlantic traffic, can travel under the American flag on vessels costing no more than those with which we must compete.

Ex-Senator Spooner is obtaining praise from the plutocratic press for his attacks on President Roosevelt and his censures of the measures that have been taken against the "malefactors of great wealth" throughout the country. It is to be expected, so long as Mr. Spooner was in the Senate he was able to act independently, and he did. But he resigned from the Senate for the purpose of making money, and now is the hired lawyer of those whose colossal malefactions the President, in the name of the people, is trying to abate and punish. It is a pity Mr. Spooner, who is a very able man, has allowed his nose to lead him to the fleshpots.

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MORE WORK FOR LAWYERS

Adopted Indian Raises Question of Right to Heirship Lands. PENNELLTON, Or., Nov. 27.—(Special.)—Still another question which may add to the already large field of litigation in connection with the Indian heirship lands has been raised by Attorney Douglas W. Bailey, of this city, who has just filed a suit in the Federal Court to have it settled. It is whether an adopter can inherit under the allotment laws of Congress.

The suit filed by Bailey is that of Tallawag, an Indian woman, vs. Thompson, another Indian woman. The latter claims to be the niece of the deceased allottee, He-ha-ha-ma-kash, and his nearest blood relation, and therefore entitled to the land. The plaintiff claims to be a sister by adoption to the dead Indian, and therefore entitled to inherit his \$9000 farm near this city.

The Indian heirship lands have already furnished a great deal of business for the lawyers of Pennington, and the outcome of this new litigation will be watched with interest inasmuch as adopted relatives are not uncommon among the reservation Indians.

EVADERS MOB FOR SURE DEATH. BELLINGHAM, Wash., Nov. 27.—A special to the Herald from Anacortes says: John Pollard, charged with criminal assault on the 15-year-old niece of his wife, narrowly escaped lynching by a mob last night, and only the promise of prompt punishment prevented the battery down of the mob and the summary hanging of the prisoner. At a preliminary trial held late last night he was held to the Superior Court for trial. While being taken to the county jail at Mount Vernon this morning, Pollard broke away from the sheriff at Burlington Junction and threw himself in front of a passing train. The locomotive and three cars passed over him. He died two hours later.

Pollard was an ex-convict, having served a year for highway robbery and attempted murder.

CHILD SCALDED TO DEATH. Little One Falls Backward Into Pan of Boiling Water. JUNCTION CITY, Or., Nov. 27.—The 2-year-old baby girl of Mr. and Mrs. Ira Lemon, who live eight miles northwest of this place, was scalded to death Monday evening by falling backward into a dishpan full of boiling water. The mother, who was in the pan of hot water on the floor, and stepped into the next room for the mop, returning just in time to see her baby fall into the scalding water. The child was taken from the pan, but it was so badly burned that in removing its clothes the flesh came off with them. The little child died in a few hours, when death came to its relief. The young mother is prostrated with grief, it being their only child.

LIVE WIRE "TICKLES" BOY. Albany 5-Year-Old Boy's Close Call From Awful Death. ALBANY, Or., Nov. 27.—(Special.)—Playing around a live electric wire carrying 200 volts, Glenn Jackson, 5-year-old son of County School Superintendent W. M. Jackson, had a narrow escape from death this week. After the storm last Monday a wire in some manner became loose and struck the boy's head, when death came to his relief. The young mother is prostrated with grief, it being their only child.

Death Ends Fogle-Slaugh Feud. YREKA, Cal., Nov. 27.—(Special.)—William Fogle died here yesterday of cancer of the stomach, aged 94 years. It will be remembered that Fogle is the man who, on October 10 last, shot and seriously wounded J. G. Slaugh, on the Klamath river near Yreka. Fogle's death ends the feud between the two men, which has been going on for many years. Fogle was a prominent citizen and a member of the Yreka Chamberlain, who seems to cherish a fervent faith in prayer as a sovereign remedy for the trouble. In his Thanksgiving proclamation the mayor advised the people to have confidence in our neighbors. Had he thought to add a petition that our neighbors may be more worthy of confidence, the proclamation would have been a model for the ages. One almost ventures to surmise, indeed, that if all our neighbors were worthy of confidence this much-sought state of mind would come about of itself. There would be no need of Governor Chamberlain's praying for it, or of Mr. Cortelyou's exhorting us to cherish it.

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