EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE JOURNAL

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AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

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An intrepid courage is at best but a holiday kind of virtue, to be seldom exercised and never but in cases of necessity; affability, mildness, terseness and good nature are of daily use; they are the bread of mankind and the staff of life.—Dryden.

THE FRUITAGE OF FOLLY

A WORTHY CITIZEN of Portland lies dead in his home. He is the victim of an assassin's bullet. By a murder most foul a career that promised usefulness to his state and society is suddenly terminated. A life that was molding and building for good order is destroyed. A family is cast into mourning, a home is shattered and a city shocked.

The social life is permeated with disorders. Among these are members of the legal profession whose acts are not modeled by the plummet. The power of such for evil, and the evil they bring to pass, is very great. They enter the sanctuary of the courts, abort justice, retard processes and bring shame to an honorable profession. They are one of the worst evils that infest the body politic. This was recognized by Mr. Fisher, whose tragic death these lines confirm, and in his capacity as an officer of the State Bar association, he was courageous in proceedings for the disbarment of J. A. Finch for unprofessional conduct. It was a laudable enterprise. It was a move for the protection of society. It was in the interest of the general welfare. It was a provision for defense of the courts, the laws and the social life against unprofessional lawyers. For the act Mr. Fisher paid the penalty with his life.

For his purpose Finch invoked the usual instrument. He employed the coward's usual tool. He armed himself with a revolver and went forth to assassinate. The weapon made him bold for his purpose. Without it the terrible story of this murder might never have been written. Is it not time for society to rid itself of concealed weapons? What other agency in the social order is more deadly or more damning?

A WORTHY MOVEMENT

NEXT WEDNESDAY, December 2, the sale of stamps in aid of the fight against tuberculosis will begin in Portland, continuing throughout the month. This is something new here, but is a movement that deserves and we doubt not will meet with liberal support on the part of citizens generally. This stamp sale is devised not only as a means of raising funds for this worthy object, but is intended to be educational also. It will call the attention of many people to this subject.

This movement; not only those who buy, but those to whom the stamps may be sent—for while the stamp will not serve to carry a letter or other parcel through the mails, any letter or package will carry it, in addition to the regular postage, and so the recipient's as well as the sender's attention will be called to this life-saving work.

Such a movement is beneficially retroactive also; that is, it benefits those who become interested in it and help it along. It induces charity, sympathy, mercy, helpfulness to the distressed, a humane spirit; for evermore it remains true that "it is more blessed to give than to receive," and that "the quality of mercy * * * blesseth him that gives and him that takes." Most people are unsympathetic in the matter of this great scourge, consumption, only because their attention is not aroused to the extent and misery of its ravages, because they do not notice or think about it; and this stamp sale is calculated to attract attention and arouse notice, thought, sympathy and help.

The visiting nurses' association, which has undertaken the sale of these stamps, is a most worthy organization. Its work consists in looking after the needy sick, and a large proportion of those to whom it ministers are persons afflicted with tuberculosis. Such patients the association strives to get into a sanatorium during the early stages of the disease, and it instructs people with consumptive tendencies in means and methods of prevention, and enlists aid for the impecunious. It is a noble work and all purchasers of these stamps will aid in it.

Lately we had a "tag day" here for the benefit of the little children with only a public home, and Portland people showed that once their interest was aroused they were liberal in giving; so, it is hoped, they will be in aid of this or other worthy effort.

SENATOR FULTON'S LATE MISSION

IT IS not surprising that Senator Fulton's extraordinary suit was denied by the president-elect. The Oregon senator's request was of a kind that Mr. Taft could not grant. The sense of proprieties is not dead in all the men who attain to public place. Mr. Taft is a self-respecting citizen with a due regard for personal honor. He is a man with a large view of life and in all men of that sort there is a proper respect for conscience, even in political matters. In the very nature of things Mr. Taft could not accept Senator Fulton's invitation to advise an honest man to perjure himself. Men of the Taft standing and type do not give that sort of advice Instead of advising perjury that kind of man counsels all men to be loyal to honor, conscience and truth.

The other day Mr. Taft declared that his party must carry out its every pledge. Is it likely that Mr. Taft would advise a party, which has no soul, to be true and then advise a man, who has an immortal soul, to be false? Mr. Taft has a higher view of men and life than that. He has a higher estimate of his fellowmen than to expect them to forswear their plighted word, to befoul their families and sell their souls because they happen to be in politics. The president-elect's standard of manhood is too high to place such an estimate on his fellowmen, and by all means too high to advise such a course, even on the invitation of the Oregon senator.

Senator Fulton has misjudged his man. He is misjudging all men, especially the men of Oregon. He places far too low an estimate on their manhood. He places too cheap a mark on their integrity. He has underestimated the personal integrity and public morality of the president-elect, or he never would have gone to Hot Springs on his late mission. He will get no indorsement from Mr. Taft for any plan that mars men's repute and violates conscience, private or public. Had he remained at Hot Springs until dooms day he would not have induced the president-elect to counsel pledged legislators to a course of perjury. That sort of thing is only advised by persons who are senatorially mad or dulled in their moral concepts.

JUDGE CAREY AND THE INITIATIVE

IN DETERMINING the exact number of words to which an initiative bill should be limited the lay mind is at a disadvantage. A trained legal mind, familiar with statutes, could be more accurate in estimating to what length such a bill could be limited and yet permit the initiative to remain a fixed and unimpaired prerogative of the electorate. In his article, elsewhere in this paper, Judge Charles E. Carey suggests that 300 words with five sections be the maximum length. In any proposed change the principle that should be inevitably maintained is that there be no impairment of the ultimate power of the initiative. As Judge Carey says, the initiative was not designed to supersede the legislature, and that is true. It is also true, however, that the initiative has been proven to be as necessary as an instrumentality of government as is the legislature, and the effectiveness of the popular method should not in any way be hampered.

Four great measures have been adopted by the initiative since that method became operative in Oregon. They are constructive legislation that in each case the legislature refused to enact. These laws are the primary law, the corporation franchise tax law, the local option law and the corrupt practices law. All men will admit that the distinct trend of all these measures is in the direction of civic righteousness and human equity. It is suggested that in the case of the corrupt practices law there are provisions that are unduly stringent and that it is too complex. Why then did not the legislature, when opportunity was offered, debate the measure, frame it into simpler form and pass it? It was the recreancy of the legislature in the premises, its refusal to pass any measure in that interest that caused the people to pass the corrupt practices law, and to the legislature, more than to the people, is due any over stringent provisions or any undue complexity. The same is true of the local option law. The same is true of the corporation franchise law. The same is true of the primary law. In the light of these facts it is pertinent to conclude that the purpose of the people in the premises is safest and that their power for legislation should continue in its last analysis to be completely effective.

This is made more emphatically true by reason of the fact that certain interests in Oregon are now endeavoring to throw the election of senator back into the legislature, which means that should it succeed, there will be more than ever the need for the electorate to have full power for constructive legislation. At every two sessions out of three there would be demoralization and debauchment of legislation, as the history of Oregon eloquently and bitterly testifies.

In a general way it is conceded that Judge Carey is not amiss in his suggestions. There ought to be a limitation to the number of measures. There might be a limitation to the length of measures. There ought to be a limit to the number of constitutional amendments proposed at one election. The questions to be determined are, what are these limitations to be and how can they be so made that the initiative will continue unimpaired. In this interest the discussions by Judge Carey are very timely.

OREGON TOWNS WAKING UP

WESTERN OREGON towns are "waking up" as never before. Never in their history has there been such a spirit of advancement and development among them. Never before have their people been so active in self-help, in doing things for themselves instead of waiting for outsiders to come in and do things for them. And they are discovering that no sooner do they employ their own resources in improvement and development than outsiders take notice and begin to come in and help the movement along.

Paving is one great help to a town. It is costly, but it pays. Good streets are a great attraction, are of vast benefit. They increase the value of abutting property more than their cost and benefit the whole town to a great amount besides. A good water system, furnishing an ample supply of pure water, is another absolute essential for a town of considerable size. Next come a good light system and good schools and first class school buildings. It is usually best for a city to own its water and light plants. If well managed they can be made to pay for themselves with the same money that would go as profits to a private owner.

Two other very important things now, the great importance of which people are discovering, are good roads throughout the surrounding country and electric railroads through well settled districts and to other towns. The former, with judicious and progressive legislation, are within the reach of almost all towns and rural communities; the latter may require outside capital, but in many cases they can be secured if local capitalists and property owners generally will try hard enough to obtain them. And good wagon roads and electric railroads will soon double and in many cases treble the value of adjacent farm property so that the money expended for them is the best investment that farmers and business men can make.

Along with these forms of development comes the subdivision of large into small farms and more intensive farming, and especially the extension of the fruit and dairy industries, in preference to grain raising. This is a matter of vital importance to the cities of western Oregon, and every business man and property owner in them should do everything in his power to help this movement along. It means a greatly increased population, a far greater volume of products, of more valuable kinds, more taxable property, more home manufactures, more business of all kinds, a greater state, a better civilization. For years The Journal has been speaking on this subject and it is immensely pleased to observe that recently many large farms in the Willamette valley and southern Oregon have thus been subdivided and sold, or put on the market for sale in small tracts. But so far only a start has been made. There should be ten instances of this kind where there has been one.

In all these matters the people of western Oregon towns are now alert, appreciative and active as never before. Eugene is perhaps the most conspicuous example of progress. It has, we believe, some 60 blocks of paved streets. It has voted for an ample supply of good water. Within eight days it raised $50,000, $5 for every man, woman and child in the city, for a Y. M. C. A. building And we expect to see it get busy soon in aid of a railroad over to the Siuslaw. Medford is another shining example of progressiveness. Salem is no longer asleep, but is showing signs of getting into the front rank of this march of progress, where it belongs. Albany is beginning to do and talk of doing things that must be fairly startling to some of the old residents. Corvallis and Dallas and Grants Pass and other cities are being born again—into a new and larger life. Everywhere the moss is being raked off. If one could go to sleep and only wake up ten years hence he would not know these towns or the surrounding country. The transforming spirit of progress is moving in this Oregon of ours.

PARTY OF SECONDARY IMPORTANCE

GOVERNOR HUGHES of New York, according to a report, will try during his next term to secure the passage of laws providing for the Australian ballot, or its close approximation as seen in the Massachusetts law, and for direct primary instead of convention nominations of candidates for public office. Against both these measures, especially the latter, he will of course encounter the utmost possible opposition of all the machine politicians of his party, and probably of the other party also, but he will have the support of the masses of voters, and with these behind him the legislature may be forced to enact these reforms. That New York has never adopted the Australian ballot system is itself proof of how completely that state has been ruled, until Hughes became governor, by the ring and machine politicians. Hughes does not preach and proclaim as much as Roosevelt, but he stands by his reform guns better, and when the test comes does not surrender to the party bosses.

We hear a great deal these days in Oregon about the importance of party, of loyalty to a party, without reference to whether the party acts for the whole people's benefit or not, but Governor Hughes, while by no means a non-partisan in national politics, considers the interests of the party organization as of slight consequence as compared with the people's interests—and they are very often in direct conflict. Replying to a partisan argument of the New York Sun, the Detroit News says that in practice the theory that a party should be held responsible for the actions of its public servants amounts to nothing, for the party as a whole is not rebuked at the polls for their sins, but given an opportunity by these laws to discriminate, as the people will often reject individual candidates unworthy of their votes, and continues:

> There is no mistaking the disposition of the voters to disregard party lines. The fact that they elected a Democratic assembly and put in a Republican governor in New York, and that they elected a Republican legislature in Oregon and pledged it to the support of a Democratic candidate for the United States senate, are merely two facts in proof. All the people ask is that they be well governed and that their government shall respect the demands of the majority. It matters little to the individual citizen which party is in power, provided the policy is obedient. But the politicians are exceeding loath to surrender the power they have exercised during the foolish years when voters clung to their party, right or wrong. A political canvass made before an election of 25 or 30 years ago would show pretty near the vote for each candidate on a party ticket, but today there is an astonishing diversity in the voting. Voters discriminate carefully all the way through the list of candidates, and the ballot may as well cut out the party column now as later because party cuts little figure in the election.

Admit if you please that on the whole the Republican party is preferable to the Democratic party; the voters of the nation have lately so declared; but it does not at all follow that every Republican candidate for office is preferable to his Democratic opponent. A constantly increasing number of voters are perceiving this, and these laws that Governor Hughes will urge, and that Oregon and other progressive states already have, give voters the opportunity they ought to have to discriminate as between candidates, as well as between parties, and if they choose regardless of party. The importance of party is indeed greatly magnified by partisan newspapers and by politicians. Good, true, capable, conscientious service of the people is the main thing; beside this party is negligible.

A BANE OF YOUTH

MEDICAL MEN have long recognized the demoralizing effects of adenoids in the throat and nose of children. The adenoids are a growth that limits the amount of oxygen the child can get. There results a condition of great discomfort which makes study impossible and leads gradually to the formation of habits of cruelty and vice. It is also claimed that a considerable lowering of the intellectual standard of the child is one of the consequences.

That parents ought to be compelled by law to require the removal of adenoids in their children was recently urged in New York city by Superintendent Maxwell, Chief Surgeon Bermingham and other leading educators and physicians. At the same meeting it was contended that 50 per cent of the school children of New York are affected. "To this affliction," said Superintendent Maxwell, "can be traced in a startling number of cases the criminal tendencies which develop in boys as they grow up. That depraved and ungovernable children in a majority of cases have adenoids or some kindred trouble is known to every teacher in New York. It has been our experience in practically every case that where the adenoid growth is removed the child immediately improves in behavior and intelligence. On the other hand, when parents refuse to permit the children to be treated, disposition and morals become worse and worse."

Superintendent Maxwell said that the board of education should have authority to compel all parents whose children have adenoid growths to have these growths removed. Dr. Bermingham said that he and his assistants treat over a 1,000 cases a year at the New York Throat, Nose and Lung hospital, and that this is only a small proportion of the cases. Dr. Curtis said that the indirect consequences of adenoids in his experience were so dangerous as to warrant the board of education in preventing a child from entering school without an examination for adenoids. "A child I treated recently had become so ungovernable," Dr. Curtis said, "that several men were required to restrain him. He has been docile and self-restrained ever since the operation was performed."

In Hamilton county, including Cincinnati, Ohio, Mr. Taft's home, Henry T. Hunt, a Democrat, was recently elected prosecuting attorney, although Taft carried the county by many thousand majority. Yet we have not heard that any newspapers or people of Cincinnati are urging and arguing that because Taft's vote showed that the county was Republican Mr. Hunt should not be permitted to take the office to which he was elected. Only in Oregon, it seems, are newspapers and men found to argue that because the people chose to give a majority to Taft they are therefore precluded from electing any officer who is not a Republican, and that if they do so their choice is to be held for naught and annulled. To allow such an absurd theory to prevail might indeed entitle Oregon to the designation of "the fool of the family." The same people that are entitled to a Republican president are by the same token of ballots entitled to a senator, or any other officer, who is not a Republican. Let the people rule.

W. J. Clemens, a member of the legislature from this county, expresses the correct idea thus "So far as the senatorship is concerned, I take it for granted that matter was settled in the June election. Members of the lawmaking body are now confronted with the important duty of enacting remedial legislation, and if they attend to this matter properly they will be too busy to give any of their time to a wrangle over the question of organization."

A large number of workingmen in a New Jersey town, having been promised an increase of wages if Taft was elected, struck because refused an increase of from $1.30 to $1.50 a day, and they have had a conflict with the police and several were killed. Their wages amount to $7.80 a week, or $33.80 a month. And yet the unreasonable fellows want more.

That little kid-emperor, Pu Yi, doesn't know it yet, but if he is permitted to grow up and learn, he will find out that in spite of its exclusion law the United States has been a very good friend of his country.

Senator Fulton perhaps realizes now that Senator Bourne saw Taft first. Moreover, Taft and Bourne played golf together.

It is none too early for the council to consider earnestly the matter of far more and better street improvements next year. It doesn't pay to economize along this line. The city can better do without a larger police force than without more improved and better improved streets.

There is now a duty of 50 per cent on razors, but a razor manufacturer who appeared before the ways and means committee wants more, so that he can shave the American people even closer than he does now. He wants more of their skin.

"Is it worth while to argue these economic facts?" asks Chairman Payne. No; give the protected, predatory interests what they want, and be done with the farce. They will get it in the end anyway.

One month of 1908 remains, and it is a good time now to make a resolution to buy only Oregon made productions, as far as possible.

Sentence Sermons.

By Henry F. Cope.

Love's plan of doubling is to divide.

* *

Strong words often denote a weak argument.

* *

Living for bread is one way of losing the bread of life.

* *

Rocks in our way are just heaven saying, "Climb up higher."

* *

Our habits are either our greatest helps or our saddest hindrances.

* *

You may sow your sins in the dark, but they come to harvest in daylight.

* *

It's always easy to see through the disguise that other's blessings wear.

* *

Nothing clears up remote difficulties better than doing immediate duties.

* *

The hardened conscience is the one trampled down by many compromises.

* *

The man who puts all his faith in himself usually despairs of the universe.

* *

You cannot do much good for men if you seek to to do good only to the good.

* *

The cleaning up of society usually has to start where charity is said to begin.

* *

Men are to be judged by where they are going rather than by whence they came.

* *

He falls into pride's pit, who passes by on the other side whenever he sees one who has fallen.

* *

It's not the wrongs we do him that worry the great father of us all; it's the ill we do ourselves.

* *

When you take the rats of business worry to the church it's not strange they leave you nothing but chaff.

* *

No matter how eloquent you may be talking to your father in heaven, it will not balance a sour disposition to your family here.

He "Flagged the Demon Rum."

From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

He tilted back the silk hat and tarried for just one more round. When he started home he was in just about the same frame of mind that a man is when he insists on stopping to tell you what a thorough gentleman he is.

Before he had proceeded far he saw a red lantern resting on a pile of earth at a street corner. He seized the lantern as if it had annoyed him and continued on his way.

It happened that before he had gone another block he came face to face with a member of the police force in plain clothes—Chief Kohler himself.

"What are you doing with that red lantern?" inquired Kohler curiously.

"Taking it home for a shouvier," replied the other good naturedly. "I jush been to a church sociable and had to be in tableau. Yessir. I represented temp'rance, shir, and stood up on the track with thish lantern tryin' to flag the demon rum as she came down the track. Demon rum was fixed up to look like a railway train—big headlight and all that sort of thinksh. But I flagged her."

FAMOUS GEMS OF PROSE

"The Volunteer Soldier of the Army"—By Robert G. Ingersoll

(In response to the toast to the volunteer soldier at the Grant banquet, Palmer house, Chicago, November 13, 1879.)

When the savagery of the lash, the barbarism of the chain and the insanity of secession confronted the civilization of our country, the question, "Will the great republic defend itself?" trembled on the lips of every lover of mankind. The north, filled with intelligence and wealth—children of liberty—marshaled her hosts and asked only for a leader. From civil life a man, silent, thoughtful, poised and calm, stepped forth, and with the lips of victory voiced the nation's first and last demand: "Unconditional and immediate surrender." From that moment the end was known. That utterance was the first real declaration of real war, and, in accordance with the dramatic unities of mighty events, the great soldier who made it received the final sword of the rebellion.

The soldiers of the republic were not seekers after vulgar victory. They were not animated by the hope of plunder or the love of conquest. They fought to preserve the homestead of liberty and that their children might have peace. They were the defenders of humanity, the destroyers of prejudice, the breakers of chains, and in the name of the future they slew the monster of their time. They finished what the soldiers of the revolution commenced. They relighted the torch that fell from their august hands and filled the world again with light. They blotted from the statute books laws that had been passed by hypocrites at the instigation of robbers and tore with indignant hands from the constitution that infamous clause that made men the catchers of their fellowmen. They made it possible for judges to be just, for statesmen to be humane, and for politicians to be honest. They broke the shackles from the limbs of slaves, from the souls of masters, and from the northern brain. They kept our country on the map of the world and our flag in heaven. They rolled the stone from the sepulcher of progress, and found therein two angels clad in shining garments—nationality and liberty.

The soldiers were the saviors of the nation; they were the liberators of men. In writing the proclamation of emancipation, Lincoln, greatest of our mighty dead, whose memory is as gentle as the summer air when reapers sing amid the gathered sheaves, copied with the pen what Grant and his brave comrades wrote with swords.

Grander than the Greek, nobler than the Roman, the soldiers of the republic, with patriotism as shoreless as the air, battled for the rights of others, for the nobility of labor; fought that mothers might own their babes, that arrogant idleness should not scar the back of patient toil, and that our country should not be a many-headed monster made of warring states, but a nation, sovereign, great and free.

Blood was water, money was leaves, and life was only common air until one flag floated over a republic without a master and without a slave.

And then was asked the question: "Will a free people tax themselves to pay a nation's debt?"

The soldiers went home to the waiting wives, to their glad children and to the girls they loved—they went back to the fields, the shops and mines. They had not been demoralized. They had been ennobled. They were as honest in peace as they had been brave in war. Mocking at poverty, laughing at reverses, they made a friend of toil. They said: "We saved the nation's life, and what is life without honor?" They worked and wrought with all of labor's royal sons that every pledge the nation gave might be redeemed. And their great leader, having put a shining band of friendship—a girdle of clasped and happy hands—around the globe, comes home and finds that every promise made in war has now the ring and gleam of gold.

There is another question still: "Will all the wounds of war be healed"? I answer, yes. The southern people must submit—not to the dictation of the north, but to the nation's will, and to the verdict of mankind. They were wrong, and the time will come when they will say that they are victors who have been vanquished by the right. Freedom conquered them, and freedom will cultivate their fields, educate their children, weave for them the robes of wealth, execute their laws, and fill their land with happy homes.

The soldiers of the union saved the south as well as the north. They made us a nation. Their victory made us free and rendered tyranny in every other land as insecure as snow upon volcanoes' lips.

And now let us drink to the volunteers—to those who sleep in unknown, sunken graves, whose names are only in the hearts of those they loved and left—of those who only hear in happy dreams the footsteps of return. Let us drink to those who died where lipless famine mocked at want; to all the maimed whose scars give modesty a tongue; to all who dared and gave, to chance the care and keeping of their lives; to all the living and to all the dead—to Sherman, to Sheridan, and to Grant, the laureled soldier of the world, and last, to Lincoln, whose loving life, like a bow of peace, spans and arches all the clouds of war.

A Sermon for Today

Learning How to Live.

By Henry F. Cope.

"Whoso findeth me (Wisdom) findeth life."—Prov. viii, 35.

IF YOU desire to have your boy become a skilled engineer you send him to a school where he may be trained as an engineer; but if you desire to have him keen to the difference between right and wrong, if you desire to have him become a man of high character, you are quite likely to take chances on his picking up such difficult attainments.

There is no difficulty in discovering agencies and means, by which one may learn how to make a good living, but if one would learn the great art of a good and worthy life, that is a different matter, apparently one of less importance. It seems to be generally assumed that you have to make the acquaintance of the natural sciences by educational processes, but the greatest of all the arts and sciences you get by accident.

Character, the fruitage of the whole life, the crown of all is the last thing considered in education. A child learns to play the piano by persistent practicing, painful to himself and not less so to others, but the practice of virtue, no one knows how that is gained; it is supposed you must wait until the lightning of goodness happens to strike you.

Can character be developed by educational methods? We can train dogs and cats and pigs to whatever habits we wish; can we train men and women? We know how to produce expert machinists, bookkeepers, and handlers of iron and wood; do we know how to produce good citizens, worthy parents, just employers, diligent workmen, kindly neighbors?

Are goodness and uprightness the result of intent, or the fruitage of accident? It is worth while to make up our minds as to this. If some are good and some are bad and no one knows just why, then we are in a most lamentable situation. If the good can be developed and perfected and the evil eliminated, if rightness of life is subject to processes in our control, the development and training of such rightness is the largest business we have in hand at any time.

We need definitely to test all our educational, our cultural agencies, schools, colleges, churches, press, art galleries, clubs by this: Are they training these whom they reach to fullness of living, to right social adjustments, to such a life as makes one the possessor of all his high heritages and the servant of all his great opportunities, a whole man doing all a man's service for men?

What of the educational influence of the church? Is it doing any more than making children in the Sunday schools walking warehouses of biblical information? Is it training its men and women to take their places, and do their common work in the world? Has it any high, clear, prophetic message for our day? Is it stirring the souls of men, inspiring them with visions so high that they never find content until they have poured out their lives seeking to realize them? Surely this is its educational work.

If any great things are to be done they must be done by training men and women to do them, by inspiring them with the high visions, by teaching them to think soberly, clearly, by leading them into efficiency in the realization of their high visions. Not the schools alone, but the churches, the press, and every interest and power that touches and determines lives must cooperate to these ends.

We need to set before ourselves the task of learning to live, and we owe it to our children and to the future to see that, with all their getting they get wisdom, that they be not crammed with learning and yet ignorant of life, that they shall learn to live not as money machines, but as men and women born to high spiritual possibilities.

There is a danger that in the rush of our modern life we lose sight of the things that ought to come first. We ought to know that this life of ours is not for the building of cities, nor for the heaping up of fortunes, but all these are only that we may produce the glories of character, we may raise men and women of high living.

What shall all our learning, all our boasted educational advantages be worth to us if we miss the great prize of life, if we fail to come into that fullness of living which belongs to us as children of the infinite? Let neither learning nor making a living stand in the way of the chief thing, which is simply living aright and finding the larger life.

A Poem for Today

A Grammarian's Funeral.

[Robert Browning, born in London, 1812, was doubtless the greatest religious poet of England in the last century. "A Grammarian's Funeral," from which a selection is here given, is an example of the obscurity of which he is often accused. Yet, read carefully, one easily catches the thought of the life with aims so lofty it is not appreciated by the lesser lives.

That low man seeks a little thing to do,
Sees it and does it:
This high man, with a great thing to pursue,
Dies ere he knows it.
That low man goes on adding one to one,
His hundred's soon hit;
This high man, aiming at a million,
Misses an unit.
That, has the world here—should he need the next,
Let the world mind him!
This, throws himself on God, and unperplexed
Seeking shall find him.

* * * *

Well, here's the platform, here's the proper place:
Hail to your pullieus,
All ye highfliers of the feathered race,
Swallows and curlews!
Here's the top peak; the multitude below
Live, for they can, there.
This man decided not to live but know—
Bury this man there?
Here—here's his place, where meteors shoot, clouds form,
Lightnings are loosened,
Stars come and go! Let joy break with the storm,
Peace let the dew send!
Lofty designs must close in like effects:
Lofty lying,
Leave him—still loftier than the world suspects,
Living and dying.

—By Robert Browning.

Iron Passes Million Ton Mark.

From the Iron Trade Review.

For the first time since curtailment of pig iron production began November last year with suddenness, our blast furnace figures for October show that the non-merchant or steelmaking irons have reached and passed once more the 1,000,000-ton mark. The total production for all stacks in the country for October was 1,573,824 tons. To this grand total the non-merchant production contributed 1,004,632 tons; the merchant, 556,966 tons; spiegel, 8,071 tons, and ferro, 3,525 tons. The total production for October shows a gain of 157,572 tons, or 10 per cent over that of September. The merchant iron gained 88,607 tons or 18 per cent in October over September, while the non-merchant or steel-making iron gained only 67,835 tons or 7.2 per cent in October over September. Compared with October's 10 per cent gain in total production over the immediately preceding month's, the gain made by September over August seems small, 3.6 per cent, but it shows graphically the strides forward that the pig iron industry of the country is making. As compared with the low point of production reached in January of this year following last fall's panic, last month's production has increased 50.8 per cent. On the other hand January's production was only 47.5 per cent of that of the same month one year previous.