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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1900.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

Americans have only two distinctive holidays—Thanksgiving day and the Fourth of July. Christmas and New Year's and the rest, have come to us by tradition. The Fourth of July has been our one day in the year for hurrah and "swell-up," but now that it is no longer popular we hold the declaration of the theory of the "consent of the governed," the day will probably become one of obsolescence and desuetude. But Thanksgiving day is left us, when we can mourn because we have dropped the meaning of another national holiday, in our desire to build up an empire and smother out a republic.

Thanksgiving was intended for a day of solemn ceremony, if anything that the race can do can be considered solemn. On this day we are not expected to bluster and brag; but to be as devout and serious as is possible for a big nation which is always in a hurry and that does not even take time to eat. We are expected to be thankful to something and for something and, if we are not, we are evidently unappreciative and ungrateful.

Since 1863 Thanksgiving has been a national holiday. That year the first time a president of the United States issued a proclamation recommending that the last Thursday of November be observed as a day of national Thanksgiving. This custom obtains, and in sunshine and in storm, in peace and in war, in good times and in hard times, as our ship of state has annually rounded a period of Father Time with not a stripe torn, nor a star missing, the chief magistrate of earth's mightiest nation has recommended that the many millions who dwell under the folds of the "flag of the free," shall give thanks on that particular day.

No doubt to many the recurrence of a stated annual festival day seem to be but a trite subject of comment. Yet the mere suggestion of a holiday, shared in by 75,000,000 of Americans brings up more reasons for congratulation than can find room in the limits of a newspaper article.

The underlying idea of the year's Thanksgiving may be summed up in the statement that nowhere else in the world and at no time in the history of the world has the form of human happiness been so great as it is among the people of the United States today. That is enough to call for thanks, not only on one day but on all the days of the year. We are still free and independent and favored with nearly every condition which makes life worth living. Not all of us are so blessed, but the few that are not are and know, should be remembered.

There are some things set going on as they might. Some mistakes in politics have been made, the results of which have not as yet been felt. There is time even to correct these. They were probably made in an honest effort to do better and we can be relied upon to meet any adversity which may follow them and profit by it, for still sweeter are the uses of adversity. We have the proud privilege of believing as we choose and according to the same privilege to our fellows. We still adhere to the virtues of free speech. We recognize the strength of diversity of opinion. This simply shows our intellect is of no mean order. We can even disagree with our fellows and still respect them. This is a national virtue which should be fostered. We have our share of evil and wrong and shame and crime, but this merely means that we have our share of the ills of the flesh. We do not live in Utopia. This is not the millennium.

In spite of our trials and tribulations, in spite of our inclination to worship at the shrine of the "Golden Calf" and the Almighty Dollar we are growing stronger, bigger and better. We slip and stumble, but liberty advances. The defeats of justice help the final triumph of justice. Wrong and crime do not increase. Humanity and brotherhood are influences that gain in potency. For all our follies, we still gain in wisdom, and knowledge is diffused. All the springs of action, all the motives, impulses, energies and convictions of our great country and of its people tend to higher and to better things.

The American year is made up of 365 thanksgiving days, and To Day is but the summit of them all, another milestone of thankfulness in a free people's onward march!

There is a movement on foot in Chicago to make the governments of the city of Chicago and the county of Cook in one, or in more legal phrase, to make the city and county coterminous and co-equal so that the burden of government may be decreased and the benefits increased.

OREGON'S FIRST THANKSGIVING.

Forty-one years ago Oregon's first state governor, John Whiteaker, issued the first Thanksgiving proclamation for Oregon. That was nearly a half century ago, yet that governor may be seen almost daily on the streets of Eugene, from which place, then a hamlet, the proclamation was issued. Joseph L. Reed writes entertainingly of the proclamation, and the events clustered about the same, in the Sunday Oregonian of November 25:

"The observance of Thanksgiving was instituted in Oregon within eleven months after the admission of the state into the union, or almost 41 years ago. The day set apart was Thursday, December 29. The proclamation was issued by John Whiteaker, the first governor of the state, at the request of 70 pioneer women of Oregon City. A copy of the proclamation, the briefest ever issued by an Oregon governor, is now in the possession of Gen. H. Himes, secretary of the Oregon Historical Society. It reads as follows:

"Be it known that, in conformity with the wishes of many citizens of Oregon, I do appoint and set apart Thursday, the 29th day of December, 1859, as a day to be kept for public thanksgiving and to be observed throughout the state in such a manner as the good citizens thereof may deem most appropriate. Given under my hand at Eugene City, this 6th day of December, 1859.

"JOHN WHITEAKER, Governor."

"The proclamation evoked considerable comment and criticism. Some of the newspapers declared that the people had little or nothing to be thankful for. Others called to mind the many Thanksgiving of New England, and recommended a strict observance of the day. The Oregon City Argus, edited by W. L. Adams, wished it understood that the proclamation was issued at the request of the ladies of Oregon City. The Portland Weekly Oregonian, edited by T. J. Bryner, took the statement as evidence of the governor's desire to please, and wondered to whom the debt for the proclamation was due—to the 70 ladies of Oregon City, at whose invitation it was issued, or to the governor.

"A solution to the puzzling question was not proposed, and Thanksgiving day, 1859, was pretty generally observed. In Portland stores were closed and business was entirely suspended. Services were held in all the churches, and, in proportion to population, more largely attended than similar devotions at the present time. Both by its abilities and his character this noble exemplar and exponent of Christ's teachings wielded a potent influence up to the time of his death, and his last Thanksgiving sermon, which is printed in the Outlook from notes by Rev. L. H. Waring, adds to other published proof that his words are still vital though his voice is hushed forever.

"Dinners were eaten and digested," Editor Bryner wrote. "In the evening, a reunion was held in the Metropolitan hotel, and the time was passed to the satisfaction of all, except grumblers who are never satisfied. Thanks to the governor and the 70 ladies of Oregon City! Long may they live!"

PHILLIPS BROOKS ON THANKSGIVING.

Among the many beautiful spirits that have adorned the Christian ministry in recent years there is none who has aroused greater affection and reverence than the late Phillips Brooks. Both by his abilities and his character this noble exemplar and exponent of Christ's teachings wielded a potent influence up to the time of his death, and his last Thanksgiving sermon, which is printed in the Outlook from notes by Rev. L. H. Waring, adds to other published proof that his words are still vital though his voice is hushed forever.

The text of this truly inspired and inspiring call to optimism is found in Genesis 1, 31—"And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good." Thus the Deity Himself justifies the optimist who echoes the thought that the world and life are very good in spite of sin, sorrow and discouragement. This idea is supported, too, by every broad view of human affairs. Nothing could be

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The most effective skin purifying and beautifying soap, as well as purest and sweetest, for bath, wash, and laundry. It strikes at the cause of bad complexion, red, rough hands, falling hair, and baby blemishes, viz. the clogged, irritated, inflamed, over-worked, or sluggish Pores.

more misleading than to ascribe it, as the pessimist does, to temperament alone, because it is based upon fact, not upon personality. Admitting that innumerable wrongs still exist, the preacher emphasized his point by saying:

"What are the things that are growing greater in the world today than at any time before? The sense of responsibility and the consciousness of wrong. I defy a man to put his finger upon any page of history, when it was clearer than it is today that man has something to do with his brethren and that they are his brethren. No nation dare act today in sublime selfishness. No man dare act today as if he didn't care for anybody behind himself."

There is no contesting the general truth of these assertions as regards either nations or individuals. The greatest powers dare not act with cynical contempt of international opinion. If they resort to war they make elaborate pleas to show that they are in the right. Though we hear much of the possible partition of China, there has been a great advance for the better since the partition of Poland. The conquests of Napoleon and the trades of the Holy alliance would both be out of the question in this age.

And the public sentiment of each country affects the citizen as international sentiment does the nation. If we have not reached the ideal of fair treatment of one another there is less of individual and class oppression than ever. Fifty years ago the condition of the sweat-shop worker was the condition of millions who have since been set free from a slavery that was almost as intolerable as that of the negro.

THANKSGIVING HYMN.

From freedom that is not in vain
From every height to tropic seas,
For souls which love and understand
The blessing from Thy open hand,
For help and love, Father, for reward,
Watch daily their fraternal bond,
Lord of our destinies divine,
We give Thee praise so truly Thine!

We who so long forgot to pray,
We who are listening on the way,
Whom Thou art calling to Thy side,
Lead us aright, O Father, to Thy side,
If Thou art calling us to pray,
We give Thee praise so truly Thine!

We pray as Israel's children pray,
That earth and time and hour be stayed—
If all the trumpet be for Thee,
Be best for man, be all for Thee,
Our glorious Father, O Thy side,
Lead us aright, O Father, to Thy side,
Lord of our destinies divine,
We give Thee praise so truly Thine!

Grant, O Father, that we may
That we who are listening on the way,
Whom Thou art calling to Thy side,
Lead us aright, O Father, to Thy side,
If Thou art calling us to pray,
We give Thee praise so truly Thine!



The old proverb: "To be at peace prepare for war" is the secret of the larger part of life's successes, whether of nations or individuals.

The difference between the healthy, happy mother who has healthy children to nurse and nourish, and the weak, nervous mother with a weakling child, is mostly a difference of preparation.

The great preparative for motherhood is Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It tranquilizes the nerves, encourages the appetite and induces refreshing sleep. It gives the mother strength to give her child. It imparts elasticity and strength to the organs of maternity so that the baby's advent is practically painless.

"I take pleasure in writing you to let you know about my 'Favorite Prescription,'" says Mr. E. B. Price of Petersburg, Henard Co., Ill., Nov. 25. "My wife had been sick nearly all her life, and after trying everything I could think of made up my mind to try Favorite Prescription. I sent to Chicago and got six bottles, which my wife took a tablespoonful three times a day with tea. The doctor said she felt better after taking the first bottle and when half was gone she was able to get up and walk. To-day she is six months old and weighs twenty-two pounds. He is as good a child as any one could wish. The doctor says he is as healthy as any baby could be, and also the doctor says your 'Favorite Prescription' was the cause of such a healthy baby. I owed you this much for the good you did my wife and myself. I hope you will mention this to others who may be in need of such help, and you may refer them to me as I would be glad to tell of the good of such a valuable medicine."

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To make good bread use Byers' Best Flour. It took first premium at the Chicago World's Fair, over all competition, and gives excellent satisfaction wherever used. Every sack is guaranteed. We have the best Steam Rolled Barley, Seed Rye and Beardless Barley.

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E. L. Remington, Woodburn, Ore., Nov. 21st, \$21.40.
John E. Lathrop, Pendleton, Ore., Nov. 21st, \$21.40.
Stephen Helbock, Gervais, Ore., Nov. 22nd, \$10.00.
Herbert Baxter, Dayton, Ore., Nov. 23rd, \$30.00.

These claims were paid the same day proof was received at home office.

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Chas. A. Frazier, Eastern Oregon Office, Pendleton, Or.

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