

Some Thoughts on the Extent of Dissatisfaction in Which Some Portions of the Religious Element in Our Country at Present Exist.

The influence exerted by that eminent, English, Roman Catholic prelate, Monsignor Capel, in his warlike speech on the school question had an effect in producing various petitions throughout the country, demanding state aid in support of parochial schools patterned after those of the Middle Ages.

Whilst the religious element of all complexions has the free use of the newspaper columns, to circulate its peculiar doctrine, fair play demands that those calling themselves religious, as distinguished from heathen, but who are opposed to that morbid monomania that would burden this life by a continuous system of terror—an eternal envelopment in sack-cloth and ashes—should have an opportunity to express their opinions. With this view, and knowing the selfishness of religious bodies on this matter, we have ventured this opinion. If one side is made to suffer by suppression, would it not be in order to suppress such characters as that English clergyman Furniss (a very appropriate name), who gave a vivid description of hell, thereby inflicting terror on the ignorant, whilst substantiating his claim to the title of an impostor.

"For to him that is joined to all the living there is hope; for a living dog is better than a dead lion."

"For the living know that they shall die; but the dead know not anything, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten."

"Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy is now perished; neither have they any more a portion forever in anything that is done under the sun. Go thy way, eat thy bread with joy, and drink thy wine with a merry heart, for God now accepteth thy works."—Ecclesiastes, IX Chap., iv, v, vi and vii verses.

Accepting the words of Solomon, in the letter and spirit of the text, then, it may be asked, why is the attempt made to keep humanity in a state of terror?

The irrepressible conflict at present, with us, is the public school system. Some sects advocate the use of the Bible in schools; others again, object to its use, and thus the war is continually kept up by those who, lacking the discretion necessary to cover their weak points, are eternally crying out for our sympathy on one side or the other. One sect claims that through the vile influence of the schools its disciples now number less than 7,000,000, whereas they ought to have in the United States not less than 25,000,000 or 30,000,000. All these souls, they assure us, are a dead loss. Others again are deeply afflicted over what seems to be an increase in infidelity.

When the Russian barbarian first approached Christianity, he sent an embassy to Constantinople to see how they worshipped in the headquarters of the Greek church. "All is not gold that glitters," but the glitter of gold, not the gold of true Christianity, but that in which it was adorned, captivated his savage heart. He is a Christian to this day; yet, he is but little removed from the savage of a few centuries back.

What we need is laws in every state in the Union, making education compulsory—compelling the attendance of children up to a definite age. Capital is charged with a considerable amount of despotism; yet the despotism of ignorance is more to be dreaded.

We need laws to check the despotic head of a family, whose avicious propensities lead him or her to devote the child of tender years to a life of ignorance and toil.

Give us the education that en-

ables all to read, write and traverse the primary rules of arithmetic, intelligently, and then there will be less danger of that much to be dreaded majority which can be bought and sold like cattle. The more intelligent the community, the less susceptible will it be to immoral suasion.

The Declaration of independence claims for the people the rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The constitution guarantees to each the privilege of following the dictates of his own conscience.

Shall we surrender these rights, and by a retrograde movement return to the age of superstition and ecclesiastical despotism? No! Let well enough alone. Fair play will be best carried out by resisting all efforts that are aimed at teaching sectarianism in the public schools. If the soul of a human being cannot be saved without subjecting the mind to a system synonymous with slavery, then it deserves to be damned.

Millions of human beings exist and have existed without the aid of that which, with profound egotism, declares itself to be the only true guide, and it would be the height of folly, the sum total of debasing ignorance, to suppose that they have been damned in consequence.

The upright, conscientious person need have no apprehension. The world was not made to be a terror to the inhabitants, but a place where all can observe the works of the Creator, and in which the wise will study the lesson of the hour.

"Be just and fear not." The nets of the fishermen are spread, but the supply of docile, unthinking, unintelligent humanity is, sensibly, decreasing.

I gaze upon the stately tree
That withereth when tempest tossed;
Whose scattered germs reveal to me
That, naught on earth is lost:
It falls and dies; but death has freed
The first principle of birth;
And spreads fertility and seed
To fructify the earth.

I came, I know not whence, nor where
I finally may go.
Why should I cultivate despair,
Or fill the mind with woe?
The unknown power that placed me here,
Deigns nothing more to tell.
Why should I fret? What should I fear?
"He doeth all things well."—Le Garçon.

TIDE LAND QUESTION.

In view of the litigation impending and the frequent, petty and vexatious lawsuits as to title under the swamp-land act, whereby the State became invested with the authority to assume the ownership and consequent power to sell such lands, would it not be advisable for the settlers whose claims embrace lands which are not truly swamp and overflowed, to combine and make a test case. They should subscribe enough money to enable one claimant to test the matter thoroughly, and thus bring this long-winded and ever recurring question to a final verdict. The land-grabbers possessed of sufficient means, never tire, but are always indefatigable in their efforts to not only gain a title to their own land, but a slice of that which rightfully belongs to their poorer neighbor. Viewed in this light, which is the true one, it becomes a paramount duty for the poor settlers to club together and raise a fund, sufficient to carry it up to, and through the highest court in the land. There is plenty of land which needs draining, but upon which the tide never rises. Another thing that ought to be considered is the fact that, land overflowed by the winter rains are not, legitimately, tide land. The tide comes from the sea, and not from the mountains. Land has been claimed on Coos Bay, which was never overflowed by the tide; all that it needed was a strait outlet to allow the accumulation of fresh water to escape.

Again, there are sand islands in Coos Bay, around which you can sail a schooner; and they are covered with clams. There can be but little doubt that such spots are not included in the act—that they are public property that it was never the intention of the government to sell to any person. If

these matters were thoroughly sifted, we would, undoubtedly, discover that Uncle Sam does not allow any avaricious biped to absorb and grab the fishing ground, oyster and clam beds of his domain. It is the old fable of the dog in the manger—they do not want the bone and they will not allow anyone else to have it. In conclusion, we repeat the advice above given—make test cases, then, the swamp land business may be finally settled, and an American citizen may be able to dig a clam in any portion of Coos Bay without being compelled to pay for it.

SECURITY OF THE PRESS.

A subscriber takes us to task on the late squabble between this paper and the News. He says that, "it looks wicked, and contains qualities that are both serious and disreputable."

Don't be alarmed. There is nothing serious about it. It is a way that newspaper men, lawyers, and hotel runners have of throwing billet-doux at each other. "Subscriber" may have read "Mid-shipman Easy," one of Marryat's works. If so, he has read under the definition of what constitutes a repartee, worse language than that used in the present controversy. On the 24th inst., the News called us a "typhoid, gangrene, epizootic, demoniac." We laugh, at the same time we do not know what it means, and we do not believe any one else does. No doubt, the News is coining a new "Blarney."

"Subscriber" may have observed that the big, overgrown, Dungan-heel'd blatherskite of the News, called us an "enemy." Now if he had called us a collyrium, we would have appreciated the accusation. On numerous occasions when this turbulent ruffian of the News would go clam digging, and turn his number twelve out to grass, he caught cold which settled in his upper story and rendered those orbs which resemble two burnt holes in a blanket, unfit for use. On such occasions we doctored the desolate "vilyun."

In separating the terms collyrium and enemy, we are making a distinction without a difference, still, that of collyrium has but one signification. "Subscriber" may rest assured that we are done with the matter, and will conclude the performance with some of our own views and experience in this state.

The object of a low element prevailing the atmosphere of society, is ever to attack and subjugate all other elements, and thereby reduce them to a common level. A low element can creep into the newspaper business with as much facility as it can into any other; but it is ten-fold more injurious by reason of the talent, experience and profuse circulation which aid its dissemination. Personal vice may be abundant, but it is subject to certain limits; a commercial business may be corrupt, but punishment will follow the exposure, and then the evil will have been circumscribed. On the other hand, the newspaper spreads the evil far and near. This has frequently been witnessed in the course adopted by the newspapers in Oregon. Having resided on this coast thirty-six years, we have had sufficient opportunities to observe this custom, and have thought that it was owing, largely, to the paucity of population and the jealousy of opposition. Political animosity was then, and is yet a factor in this debasing custom; but in the early days there was a dearth of news items and it was a common thing to behold whole columns of a newspaper devoted to the abuse of its opponents. As the country becomes populated and the ties of familiar congregation increase, this objectionable feature of the public press is deprecated, and is, fortunately, fast becoming obsolete. There is nothing in it to commend it to public patronage; it tends towards vitiating the mind of youth, and serves to illustrate the low, moral character of those who indulge in it. A discriminating public will always be watchful of this evil, and the final verdict will be a discontinuance of its support of those who think that their personal matters are the only subjects of interest to which their subscribers have any right. A just exception to the above may be taken where the character of some person in the community is subjected to undeserved abuse, and a suitable defense becomes necessary.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Salvation Army was egged at Patis, Ontario, recently.

Mitchell, Dakota, had a \$126,000 fire recently.

Ben Johnson was hanged in Cincinnati.

The physicians of Spezia, Italy, believe that flies spread the cholera.

There is great excitement in Benton, Montana, over recent gold discoveries.

Twelve persons condemned to death, now languish in the jail at Cincinnati, Ohio.

The brig Anita Owen from Santiago de Cuba to New York, lost three men overboard, on the passage.

Alonzo Morreys, formerly of Portland, Or., was found dead in his bed in San Francisco.

Ex-Empress Eugenie, of France, is rapidly declining in health, and it is feared that she will not much longer survive.

The Paris papers announce that if China issues letters of marque, the French will hang all who may be captured, as pirates.

The Czar attended the theatre in Warsaw, incognito. He denies freedom to others, and therefore, cannot enjoy it himself.

At Petaluma, Cal., recently, Patrick Shea poisoned himself and four children with strychnine. The father and two children are dead.

That cholera is on the increase at Naples, is shown by the following record for twenty four hours: Number of new cases 968; deaths, 326.

During a terrific thunder storm at Olean, New York, a 36,000 gallon tank of oil was struck by lightning and set on fire. Loss, \$20,000.

Oliver H. Bateman, confined in the Savannah, Mo., jail, confesses to the murder of the McLaughlin girls at Flagg Springs, Mo., August 31st.

Several physicians at Rome will be prosecuted for refusing to attend cholera patients. And this occurs at the headquarters of refined Christianity.

Minister Foote informs the Department of state at Washington that an American line of steamers has been placed along the coast and rivers of Corea.

Vills Peterson and Peter Miller, two Danish sailors, have made a voyage in a canoe, from the island of Kodiak, near Alaska, to Victoria, British Columbia.

A number of army officers at Warsaw have been exiled to Siberia, for life, because they were members of a secret society. Poor fellows. They never heard of Coos county, or they would have emigrated.

Operations in the London markets have lately been inclined to a hopeful view of the outlook of American affairs, in consequence of the excellent reports of the cotton, corn, wheat and all other crops.

Captain Dully and mate Stephenson of the lost Yacht Mignonette, have been committed to trial in London on a charge of murder. While drifting about at sea in a small boat, without water or food, they killed the cabin boy, and drank his blood, eating his body afterwards.

San Francisco, Sept. 19.—Nathan Derefus, a well known orange and lime peddler, among saloons, borrowed \$700 from saloon-keepers to "corner" lines, promising big returns to them on the transaction. He cleared \$10,000 on the business, and then disappeared with what he had borrowed and made.

A dispatch from Peking says, the Russian fleet has left Chefoo, with excessive supplies of provisions. It is believed that Russia meditates a blow at the integrity of China while the latter is seriously engaged with France. It would be an equitable blessing in that case, if the "heathen Chinese" could blow every Russian and Frenchman that invades their territory into the air.

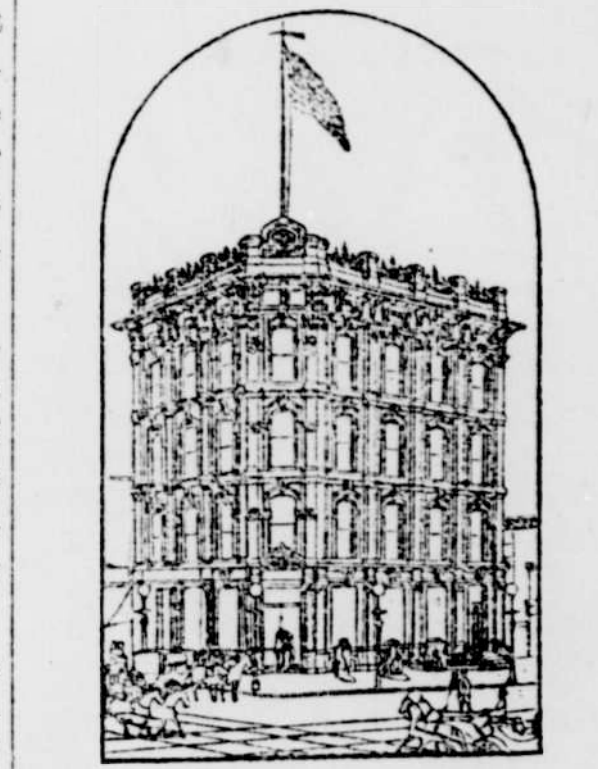
Market Report. Eggs, per doz. 20c; Apples, per bushel, 50; Flour, per barrel, 6.25; Butter, per roll, 50; Cheese, per pound, 20; Beefsteak, 10; Beef, per fore qr., 6; do, per hind qr., 10; Mutton, 8 @ 12 1/2; Salt Pork, 12 1/2; Corned Beef, 8; Hams, 15; Bacon (sides), 15; do (shoulder), 12; Lard, 17; Potatoes, 1; Cabbage, 1; Sugar, 12 @ 16 1/2; Coffee, in tins, 25; do, green, 16 1/2; Tea, green, 30 @ 75; do, English bkfst, 75; Rice, 10; Beans, 6; Apples, dried, 10 @ 16 1/2; Raisins, do, 25; Currants, do, 12 1/2; Wool, 15; Dry Hides, 12 1/2; Green, do, 6; Hay, per ton, \$10.00.

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