

THAT YET.

At first blush we thought that Mr. Cleveland was radically wrong in failing to sign the river and harbor bill, but upon mature reflection we find that Congress was wholly to blame and not the President. Moreover much has been said against President Cleveland by the press of the Pacific coast for withholding his signature to the river and harbor appropriation bill. Some have attributed his action to what was once a democratic doctrine, opposition to appropriations for internal improvements, a doctrine in its day that was correct, but this was not the cause of the objection of President Cleveland. Since the commerce of nation has extended from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast and passes through every port or harbor on both sides of the continent within the United States the nation in order to foster that commerce has lent its aid to the improvement of harbors and rivers. This has passed from a political question to that of a commercial necessity and the condition of our water ways demands natural aid. President Cleveland signed the first river and harbor appropriation bill and would have signed the bill "pocketed" had it been possible for him to have done it. No one will for a moment say that the President should sign a bill without reading it. It is the fact that this river and harbor bill passed the House at a very late hour, too late to be considered and so near the close of the session that it was with great difficulty that it was enrolled before adjournment. The President was called upon in the last moments of the session to sign the bill with no time to consider it. These are the facts of the case and when his predecessor President Arthur was placed in the same position he vetoed the river and harbor bill. Congress should learn by experience that the President should have time to read and examine the bill. He is called upon to sign. When the facts are known President Cleveland will not be blamed for not signing that bill. If there were features of the bill that were objectionable he has a right to know it and to have time to read it. This right was denied him. It only shows the error of hasty consideration especially at the last moment. It reminds us of a case that came before the last legislature. One morning early a joint resolution was introduced in the Senate instructing our senators to vote for the inter-state commerce bill at once that was pending in the U. S. Senate. This joint resolution passed both Houses and in an hour was telegraphed to Washington. There was not a member of the Oregon legislature at that time who could explain the inter-state commerce bill, nor is there one who can do it now. It is now and has been since that bill passed, the business of railroad men to devise some means under that bill to prevent freights to Oregon and the Pacific coast generally from going around by the Isthmus or by the way of the Canadian Pacific railroad. The bill practically cuts off the traffic of roads coming to Oregon and California. Did the legislature intend to do this or did they want the bill to become a law and our people to be enslaved to these railroads under the inter-state commerce bill and its long haul crushing rate tax? We should look at the bill before we jump into it. If the inter-state commerce bill is carried out in all its provisions our transcontinental railroads cannot compete for traffic from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast nor vice versa. It cuts off the lumber trade with the east and cripples our own interests generally.

That there are rich and poor is a wise and beautiful arrangement, any observing thinking person can easily see. Such a one can also see, that, until all men can be induced to live according to the golden rule, there is no possibility for a different order of things. If all the wealth of the world were evenly distributed among the inhabitants thereof, no doubt each person would have a sufficiency of the necessities of life; but tomorrow there would be found many who had already squandered their portion, and others who having taken advantage of the ignorance and weakness of these improvident ones, would have obtained an undue proportion. They would be rich in the sense of the word as used of those described in the 5th chap. of James. And when men do learn to live according to the golden rule there may still be differences in their worldly estates. But there will be no bitter envious thought in the heart of him who is poor in this world's goods. He will have such an abundance of the heavenly riches in his soul that he will be content in his lot. He will find fulfilled in himself the promise "all things are yours," he will enjoy his neighbors prosperity as well as his own. And he who has an abundance of this world's goods, being poor in spirit will rejoice in possession of the kingdom of God, set up in his heart, and in his ability to distribute of his worldly goods to every man about him as he has need. While Christians joyfully anticipate such a state of things for the future, they do not forget to look at the beauty of God's arrangement even now. They see that if all were on an equality there would be no chance for the manifestation of that Christian love which is the salvation of the world. Where men are found in total ignorance of Christ, their spiritual degradation is so great that they are incapable of embracing any just ideas of the character of God. Their natures are sensual, they "walk after the flesh," their immortal spirits are dead within them and they cannot see the glory of God manifest in the physical universe, nor hear the voices of ever revolving days and nights which declare the wisdom of God. They are in the frigid zone so to speak. The beams of the Sun of Righteousness do not fall upon them with sufficient force to warm their hearts or make them open their eyes to light and life. The rays of the light that "lighteth every man that cometh into the world" must be gathered together in the focus of sanctified human love and sympathy in order to reach and warm them into life. The happiest soul in christendom is the one who has been able to gather and dispense the most of this light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. He is the light of the world and his glory fills the hearts of all those who fully accept him. They are commanded to arise and shine. But how? The poor man who has this treasure shows that the excellency of the power is in God, by carefully not deeming his time, by being content in his state, by cheerfully struggling on through all his trials (trials that his rich neighbors cannot conceive of) by calmly resigning himself to God's will, whatever that may be. He does not question the ways of God, though his neighbor who is rich in this world's goods may not regard his sufferings. He does not call on man in his extremity. He knows that the ears of God are open to his cry, and that in God's own good time, when patience has had her perfect work in his soul and all things are ready that he will be called to his mansion in glory. How many have thus endured to the end and passed from lowly where they had been clothed in rags and disease to a peaceful rest in Abraham's bosom. And the rich man who has his vessel filled with this heavenly light, how it beams from his eyes in kindly glances upon his lumber neighbor and flows from his lips in words of sympathy and comfort to all around him, when he sets himself to deal his bread to the hungry, to satisfy the afflicted soul. How gloriously does his light break forth as the morning. His righteousness goes before him, and the brightness of the Lord is his reward.

Ed. Review: My surprise was great to see that reply to my letter. He starts out by quoting the subject of the great amount of happiness the liquor manufacturer in the various kind of liquors will have by stopping their business and breaking them up. If friend Taylor had a saloon he could see the matter in a different light. Not much happiness in that Mr. Taylor. There is not much danger that we will have any trouble in the law, that will be ratified this fall for such reasoning as Mr. T. gives will not receive the approbation of very many voters, he missed the mark very much when he said the laws was passed against the crime of murder and thieves. Now that is right, but is there any law against a man buying any article of commerce? The liquor manufacturers has as good a right by all laws to his business as the miller to make flour and he pays license to the U. S. government and county and city. Now if Mr. Taylor can't see a difference between the crimes of murder and theft, I can't do him any good to write for him, but I would be glad for him to find the time when murderers and thieves ever got license for their business; if he can, he can teach me something new. The Book of books tells me what geeth in at the mouth defileth not, but what cometh out. So I want friend Taylor to please study the ten commandments and see if he can find where drinking standents is forbidden and please see the text where our Savior made that wine, it was not water, as you say, but wine, and after they had well drunken they said it was the best of wine at the last of the feast. Settle the matter with the bible not with me. Now the next thing is shall the manufacture of liquor be stopped, and the millions of money that the government gets by the liquors be got direct from other ways, and are the voters ready to pay all damages that the bill will cost, of course they know that will have to be done. No one that votes for that amendment will think for a moment to sell the liquors, my friend Taylor will not want to sell it but turn it out on the streets, but not until all damage is paid. Oh, shame on the man that will compare liquors to crime. Why St. Paul commended Timothy to take wine for the stomachs sake, and the use of wine is as old as the bible, the best men of old drank it and it was counted no crime, old father Noah in Genesis 9th chapter, 21st verse and Noah awoke from his wine, and 2 Samuels, 6th chapter, 19th verse King David dealt out a flagon of wine to a whole multitude, women and all, father Lot got drunk and he was warned by the angels out of Sodom. The best man in the city got drunk, I want it understood I never New

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