

DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL

BY HOFER BROS.



THE CHRISTIAN IDEAL IN LITERATURE.

It is a remarkable fact that the books and the plays that are most successful and take the strongest hold on the people are written around the theme of Christianity.

The books most widely read have been Hall Caine's "The Christian," Lew Wallace's "Ben Hur," and Henry Sienkiewicz's "Quo Vadis," and they have also been dramatized and presented as plays very extensively.

Historical novels began in England with Walter Scott, but none of his followers and imitators have achieved the success of Sienkiewicz, THE PRINCE OF POLISH PROSE.

In Quo Vadis this writer strove to reproduce from one side all the richness, bestiality, and political corruption of ails Rome, Rome at the highest under the reign of Nero, the archetype of paganism.

"PRO CHRISTO," FOR CHRIST, is the motto of this wonderful piece of fiction that sprang from a race very much despised and misunderstood in this country, and yet the race that gave to the world Kosciusko, and Copernicus, who overthrew the Ptolemaic theory and made the sun the center of the solar system.

It is not generally known that it was the Polish nobility and their faithful followers who saved Europe for Christians and prevented the hordes of Mohammedanism from sweeping the western part of that continent.

The Polish noblemen, from whom Sienkiewicz was descended, fought back the roving armies of the Turks, Kozaks, Tartars, and Wolochs, and FOR CENTURIES DEFENDED EUROPE AGAINST INVASIONS OF BARBARISM.

They were the intrepid border nation of Christianity, and while they fought the campaigns "Pro Christo," England, Germany and France made material progress that left unfortunate Poland far in the background.

BUT THE CHRISTIAN IDEAL SURVIVED and in the fifteenth century Poland was richer in literature than any other European country except Italy, where English culture found its main source of inspiration, through Chaucer, Milton and Shakespeare.

Greater than Walter Scott or Dumas, the Polish writer, in this one work at least is the superior of any novelist now living in England, France or Germany.

It has been translated into every language and presented on every stage, even that of Russia, where antipathy to anything of Polish origin is fiercer than any of the national prejudices.

The novels of the Polish writers are full of wholesome food for thinking minds. THEY HAVE MORE COLOR, MORE BACKGROUND, MORE HISTORICAL EFFECT AND ECLAT, than Ben Hur or The Christian.

The fascinating Poie does not soil pages with speculations on how many microbes are in a drop of spotted blood drawn from the veins of tainted, wretched life, ALONG THE LINES OF THE FRENCH FALSE-REALISTS.

The Christian ideal in fiction is wholesome, PREFERRING STRUGGLES FOR A GLORIOUS CAUSE IN GREEN FIELDS, PERFUMED WITH FLOWERS, HEALTH AND VIRTUE, to the putrid cravings found in the pages of Zola.

What a supreme height is attained in historical fiction when in Quo Vadis, the vision of the Christ appears on the hilltop to frightened Peter, who feels himself unable longer to cope with the mighty Caesar thirsting for the blood of Christian martyrs!

That will ever remain one of the strongest passages in the literature of the whole world. There yet ring in our ears the cry of the Christians murdered in the Roman circuses, "PRO CHRISTO!"

What are the lessons set forth in Christian novels and on the Christian stage? The personal experiences as well as the wisdom of those great writers MAKE THEM WORSHIP CHRIST, and declare religion is good for the people at large.

They do not admit even a shade of doubt on a question touching so closely the human heart. They know that THE CHRISTIAN IDEAL ALONE WILL SUSTAIN IN the presence of sorrow, the uncertainties of fate, the uncertainties of life, and the contradictions and shortcomings of human justice.

They teach that the only safe way to bridge the chasms of doubt and cross the dark precipices of destiny

is by FLIGHT ON THE SUSTAINING WINGS OF FAITH, AND CONFIDENCE IN THE INFINITE GOODNESS OF THE FATHER.

In the satisfying certainties of the Christian ideal they banish from the human soul all uneasy preoccupations and the dolorous echoes of eternal problems that can never be answered by any material philosophy.

The Christian ideal in literature sweeps away the anguish of the human mind, the mystery of human origin, the apparently inexplicable necessity of suffering, and the torturing torments of the carnal conscience.

Each of these three great novels considers the Christian faith as the principal and the only help which humanity can lay hold upon in everyday life.

AVOID LITIGATION.

Those who are actively engaged in formulating continuous litigation in this community over Sunday law enforcement and other matters are not helping improve the community. There are ways enough to kill a town without that.

This plan of crucifying the city on the moral wave program always puts the community on the defensive, and helps no one but the lawyers.

If people want to go to church and Sunday school there is no way to stop them, and there is no way to force them if they don't want to.

Most of the moral-wavers, who engage in the spurious enterprise of involving the community in lawsuits over Sunday closing pay no taxes and have little or no public spirit or enterprise. They build no streets, roads or sidewalks, and never head subscription lists.

Their policies are agitation, disturbance, setting the community by the ears in a frantic desire to enjoy a notoriety for brass-band morality.

They are not contented to set their neighbors a good example, but want to accomplish wholesale reforms by long-range applications of the terrors of the law and swift-handed justice.

The courts should sit down on spurious and sensational moral-wave litigations that force bills of costs on the city and county, and accomplish nothing.

If any citizen or property owner can show that he has suffered loss or injury from any infraction of laws by another, he has a right to the protection of courts and government.

But if he merely has political "wheels" and indulges in speculative theories as to what he thinks should be the condition of society, what right has he to bring lawsuits, to involve the community in litigation, and to heap up burdens on the taxpayer? None whatever.

Salem is a good enough town without spending public funds to give it a reputation for Carrie Nationalism.

SALEM MUST DO HER PART.

In the work of securing good roads and extensions of electric lines Salem must do her part.

We cannot expect that all these extensive improvements will be made by the people of the country.

It is a fact that the city is benefited equally with the county by improved transportation facilities. The city gets nearly all the benefit, as a matter of fact.

Both the Liberty-Rosedale and Chemawa extensions ought to be constructed. They will bring trade and develop the country.

A committee composed of Supt. Potter and Lloyd Reynolds and Messrs. Albert, Bishop and Pearce was named on the Chemawa line.

The Chemawa people and the farmers subscribed about two thousand dollars in two days.

Salem should double that and secure the Chemawa motor line.

These lines are built for all times, and there ought to be some way to extend these payments over a number of years.

Let us not wait, however, for some more equitable system, but secure these lines at once.

HYPNOTISM—OR TACT.

Mrs. Charles Keeley of Chicago has been teaching the Progressive Health club of that city how to make a husband eat what he dislikes.

Mrs. Keeley placed before the club her menu for a sample breakfast—a half dozen strawberries on a bit of lettuce leaf, a few oatmeal wafers, a half orange and two teaspoonsful of breakfast food.

Mrs. Keeley explained that the orange was for the liver, the lettuce for the nerves, the strawberries for the iron in the blood and the oatmeal cakes for the rough food which corresponds to the stones in a chicken's craw.

"But how can we make our husbands eat this?" asked a club member. "He will eat anything you place before him, if he loves you," volunteered one.

"No, that is not love," said Mrs. Keeley, "that is hypnotism. A woman must hypnotize her husband to make

him eat that which he dislikes, but which is for his good."

That is easy. Provided, of course, you know how to hypnotize your husband, a tea which Mrs. Keeley volunteered to teach the club. All that is necessary, she said, is to learn to "breathe in several rhythms."

Now: The average man being forewarned of these things should realize that he is liable to be hypnotized to be saved from dyspepsia. The best way will be to let the wife "breathe in several rhythms" and have her way. She may follow the practice for a week.

But, should the fad last longer the husband might get onto the seven rhythm business and suggest beefsteak for the iron in the blood, coffee for the nerves and graham gems for the place corresponding to the chicken's craw.

It is all a matter of hypnotism—and tact.

X-RADIUMS

Lieut. Hobson gets no more kisses since he is bald-headed.

The landslide for Parker in Eastern Oregon is not assuming tremendous proportions.

Bottles of fine kerosene can be drawn from any old well in Marion county, if the owner is reasonably sure of a good lot of newspaper advertising. Nothing like it.

If Willamette University would turn around and give a subscription of \$100 to build the Rosedale electric extension, instead of one of their faculty involving the city in moral-wave litigation, it would help the community, and build up the University.

There is some talk about times not being so good. Well, they couldn't be much better than they have been for some years. Inflated prosperity balloons have carried us right up against the ceiling, and we can't go any higher. If we do anything we must drop.

New York News.

New York, July 16. — Labor conditions in this state were not very satisfactory during the first three months of the present year. According to the figures in a bulletin recently issued by the state labor department the proportion of union laborers who were idle during the first three months of this year was 14.6, against 5.5 during the corresponding period of last year. Of the 55,710 who did not work at all during the months of January, February and March, 34,365 belonged to the building trades, 25,723 union workers were idle on account of wage or other disputes. The total number of idle for all causes was 103,996, or 27.2 per cent, as compared with 12.1 per cent at the corresponding time of last year. In this state no noteworthy reductions in wages have been made and, in a general way wage rates are now at their highest point for a decade.

The first free sanitarium for persons suffering from tuberculosis has recently been opened by the New York health authorities. The official name of this institution is the New York State hospital for Incipient tuberculosis. It is located at Daybrook, Essex county, about three miles from Saranac Lake, in one of the most beautiful parts of the Adirondacs. It has cost over a quarter of a million dollars. If this institution should prove beneficial, it is believed that a whole chain of similar asylums will be erected in different parts of the state.

Odds and Ends.

Pottawatomie county is said to be the leading county of Oklahoma in surety of crops and diversity of crop raising.

A Greek professor has discovered that the British national anthem is merely a plagiarism from the Byzantine.

The town council of Queenstown, Cape Colony, contemplates putting up a plant for telephone and water work service; the estimate cost is nearly \$350,000.

The British possessions in West Africa cover 530,000 square miles, containing 20,000,000 negroes, and easily capable of producing a yearly cotton crop of 10,000,000 bales.

The Cherokee Advocate (the only Indian paper), the official organ of the Cherokee nation, is 64 years old. It is published at Tahlequah, at the nation's expense. One-half is printed in the Cherokee language. The paper is forbidden to deal in politics. Its cost of publication is about \$2500 above all receipts.



To Supply More Farm Laborers.

Ten years ago the late Senator Davis, of Minn., in discussing the Chinese question, asserted that there was a peril as threatening to this country as that involved in the introduction of the yellow men of the Orient. That peril lay in the organized attempt to hold certain classes of European immigrants in this country bound by their ancestral traditions, language and customs for several generations.

He argued that a deliberate scheme to Europeanize American institutions by planting immense colonies of unassimilable foreigners was dangerous and ought to be resisted. Such a movement is again discernible, though with less evidence of premeditation—no Cabensy now appears as its sponsor.

The Sentry can see a vast difference between accepting an army of Scandinavians, with less than four in a thousand illiterate, or of Germans, with a slightly increased proportion, all of whom make good citizens everywhere, and taking in some of the Slavonic peoples, or South Italians, of whom nearly one half are illiterate. The former elements assimilate readily with our present population, while the latter are Americanized only after a long period, and the tendency, where they are gathered in masses, is to transform American settlements into alien communities.

Thousands, perhaps, of these people were farmers, and if properly advised as to the inducements offered in the interior, whether as farm hands in the wheat regions or laborers in the rice, cotton and sugar fields, they could doubtless be induced to seek those regions to their great permanent advantage and that of the country.

It would be much better if these and all other classes of foreigners who come hither could be more widely dispersed throughout the length and breadth of our vast domain. The great center of the new foreign population is the state of New York, where taken together, the Italians, Germans, Irish and Jews make up three-fourths of the entire population of greater New York, while the white Americans of native parentage aggregate only one sixth of the whole.

It is not difficult to see, in the light of this revelation, how little prospect there is of "Americanizing" the city of New York under such conditions. Certainly there is enough of the foreign element there now to tax to the utmost the assimilative powers of that portion of the Republic. It would be better for the country and much more profitable to the immigrant if he could be induced to pass through the city and onward to the west and south, the farther the better. In the

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farming and planting sections of the country there are not only better prospects for material welfare, but the churches and schools and local institutions are so organized as to lend themselves readily to the development of a better advancement for the rising generation. There is in prospect a large influx of Hungarians this year as the result of the establishment of a new line direct from New York to Hungary. Rates are very low and may go still lower. The price of a ticket from the Hungarian port of departure to New York is said to be as low as \$17. These facilities, with the inducements always offered on this side and the war scare in Europe, may be relied upon to greatly stimulate emigration. As an additional reason why this tide of immigration should be turned from the cities to the rural districts may be incidentally mentioned the fact that the commissioner who has examined into the naturalization frauds reports that immigrants from Southern Europe become an easy prey to the promoter of fraudulent naturalization. The report further indicates that the charm of politics is to these repudiated products of demoralized despotism one of the strong inducements to remaining in the large centers of population. In the farming regions, where politics has not been so completely reduced to a science, there would be fewer temptations of this character, together with a greater probability of obtaining work at good wages, with more comfortable and elevating surroundings. This country has hitherto been the Mecca of the most desirable class of

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