

Humorous Department

Too Late.—A tall, apparently ill-fated woman came to the door. She looked at the traveler in amazement for some minutes, and was resentful when he made known his wants.

"We've etc.," she said in a reproachful tone. "Tom's gone to town to fetch cornmeal."

Infering from this that there was no solid food in the larder, the traveler cheerfully suggested a glass of milk.

Again the woman shook her head, while her sallow visage lengthened. "Tom went 'n' forgot to milk the cow. He won't be back till even."

This seemed to be the traveler's opportunity both to show his good nature and to obtain a glass of milk.

"I'd be glad to milk her for you," he offered. "I was brought up on a farm."

"Again the woman shook her head. "You can't, stranger." And this time her resentment was tinged with futile regret.

"Tom rid the cow to town," Charleston Post.

Rather Ambiguous.—Reference having been made to ambiguous remarks, Senator James A. O'Gorman said he was reminded of a little incident along this line, says the Philadelphia Telegraph.

Some time since an esteemed citizen named Smith was stricken with a fever and for a day or two was unconscious. On the third day he began to get a grasp on things again and glanced around the room.

"What is it, dear?" asked Smith's devoted wife; hastening to his side. "What can I do for you?"

"Where am I?" responded Smith, still a little bewildered, as he glanced back and forth. "Where am I? Am I in heaven?"

"No, dear," softly cooed the loving wife. "I am still with you."

Heroic Treatment.—"In Belgium," said Will Irwin, "I know an artillery blacksmith who carried on the sleeve of his uniform the hammer and pincers—the insignia of his calling."

"What's the use of your sleeve mean?" a civilian asked him one day, according to the Washington Star.

"They mean I'm an army dentist," he said, with a wink at me.

"Dentist, eh?" said the civilian. "The pincers, then are to pull the teeth out with. But the hammer—the hammer?"

"The hammer," said the blacksmith, "is for use in bad cases to chloroform the patients."

Genuine Article.—It appears that at the rehearsal of a play a wonderful climax had been reached, which was to be heightened by the effective use of the usual thunder and lightning.

"What on earth are you doing, man?" shouted the manager, rushing behind the scenes. "Do you call that thunder? It is not a bit like it."

"Awful sorry, sir," responded the carpenter, "but the fact is, sir, I couldn't hear you because of the storm. That was real thunder, sir."

She Looked.—"I lost a dollar at the matinee this afternoon," remarked the fleshy woman to her husband, "and I never was so angry in my life."

"How'd it happen?" asked the man. "I dropped it in the aisle," she answered shortly. "and I looked for it—that's all I could do."

"Did you look good?" persisted the head of the house.

"Did I look good?" shrieked the woman, really angry now. "I looked as good as a fat woman crawling around on all fours ever does."—Collier's Weekly.

Anything.—He had told her the age-old story, torn with emotion, waited for a few short words that would decide his fate.

"George," she said, "before I give you my answer, you must tell me something. Do you drink anything?"

"A smile of relief lighted his handsome countenance. Was that all she wanted to know? Proudly, triumphant he clasped her in his arms and whispered in her shell-like ear:

"Anything," he said.

Problem Easy.—A teacher was examining a class of small boys in arithmetic. Addressing a particularly smart boy, she asked:

"Can five go into one?"

THE REAL GOSPEL OF WAR

It is the Same Old Story from the Beginning.

SOME OF THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES

An Interesting Study in Which the Writer Concludes that War is God's Way of Punishing the Pride and Disobedience of Mankind.

Russia has declared for temperance; France is beginning to pray; England is following the lead of Russia against drinking. Who can read the signs of the times and give the full meaning of these important facts? Does it mean that only for reasons of expediency and because of the war pressure these nations are reversing their usual customs? Perhaps their governments and their people may see nothing further in these great changes than is quite natural in view of the tremendous expenses and losses of the war.

Several thousand years ago a certain tribe of people settled in a pleasant and fertile country. The surrounding tribes were not very pleasant neighbors, and not very well disposed toward the newcomers. This was quite to be expected since the newcomers had driven them out, slaying many of them and were now occupying cities and farms to which they had no apparent title other than the old one of might. The surrounding tribes had strange customs, many of them quite pleasant in a way, but not very edifying. In fact, their customs were decidedly bad, as bad as whiskey and beer have been found to be when used too freely. Now, the king of the victorious tribe knew very well that his people could not thrive if they imported these quite delightful but very injurious customs, so he made a strict decree that his people must have nothing to do with such practices.

The word of the king was law, and for a time was obeyed, and all went well. But soon the influence of the neighbors began to be seen, and gradually the prohibitions began to be practiced until they became quite common. The king was very angry and concluded that the people should be treated as we sometimes find it best to treat a very bad and self-willed boy. They received a good, sound thrashing, so severe that in many many cases death resulted. The punishment was inflicted by the very tribes who had been ousted from their possessions. The king accomplished this by extending to them for a time his generalship, which was always invincible. The severe lesson had a salutary effect for quite a while. The people became well behaved and were very prosperous.

The little story is familiar to most of us, and is the more interesting because "true." Has it any relation to the action of Russia, France and England in their recent decisions about temperance and desirability of prayer? Perhaps so. The ruler of Russia, France and England is one and the same. Long ago he showed them and all people that temperance as well as other filthy habits would lead to their decadence and final ruin. But some people are hard-headed, and it may take even war, with its horrors to make them sensible and well behaved. If it takes even a war to bring them to their senses the war will come; for the king will save his people if possible. Even the slaughter of millions may be necessary, but the lesson must be learned.

Perhaps America may be wise enough to learn common sense from the experience of Europe and clean house in a reasonable way rather than persist in her various follies, so well known to us all, until the cleansing fire visits her also.

The Basis for Permanent Peace. The nations of the world are slowly learning that the teachings of the Galleian are sound. In the truth of this statement rests whatever of hope we may entertain for a permanent and satisfactory peace when the present war is over. Before the terms of peace can be wisely discussed the true nature of war must be acknowledged. If you read Bernhardi or Prof. Crambe you may conclude with them that war is really a blessing to a people, developing their courage, self-sacrifice, etc. I am willing, indeed, to agree with them that war is a blessing but for a very different reason from the one they recognize.

A loving father has a willful, disobedient son. After all other measures of correction fail, he punishes the last resort, he strikes the rod. A good sound thrashing will do more for that boy than hours of counsel and tender love. The result proves the wisdom of the father and the lad grows into a worthy man. War is nothing more than the punishment of God upon willful, disobedient people who never obey until they are compelled through suffering to turn from their selfishness and follies to the soul's last resort, God. The punishment may entail rivers of blood and oceans of tears, but the means are justified by the end, at least in this case. Furthermore, no other means have ever been found adequate.

Illustrations without number can be given of the truth of this statement. The one best known is found in the history of Israel. But close analysis will show that the same treatment is true of other wars.

The problems before the nations is to learn what God intends by this most terrible war in the world's history. And now we have arrived at the point where we began, viz., that the teachings of the Galleian are sound. God sent his Son to teach men how to live. "I am come that they may have life and that they may have it more abundantly." And what does he tell us about living? That the underlying principle governing all our relations with each other is embodied in that one immortal saying: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Many experiments have been made to test the wisdom of this command. Have they been successful and does the rule really apply to everyday affairs? How about humanitarianism so much talked of at present and which is one of the strong, leading tendencies of the present generation? Certainly humanitarianism is the direct application of the rule. Does humanitarianism work, is it sensible or visionary, is it a sound policy, does it tend to peace, or is its influence for discord, does it make the world any better? To ask the question is to answer it. Every other test of the command has resulted in like manner. In short, God knows what is best for man, and Christ made no mistake when he stated God's laws for man.

Objection will be made that war is often the result of ambition, revenge, greed, etc. These indeed are secondary causes, but what more do they all amount to than failure to consider the rights of other nations as equal to our own rights? Again, objection will be made that if war is a punishment from God, then the punishment is a failure, for war has existed from the earliest times, and therefore God's chastisements are unavailing and mankind will continue to the end of time much as it is now. Partly true and partly false. One generation quickly forgets the experiences, the tragedies, the sentiments of an earlier generation. One of the puzzles of life is that we almost never learn from others' experience. The teaching of history is clear about the luxury, the weakening of moral sentiment, the final decline of the splendid Roman empire, but many nations since then have gone or are going the same way. No, there is nothing in history that will controvert the assumption that war is God's way of bringing nations and races to a proper understanding of the fact that this is the world and if killers and people will not live in it in accordance with his laws but insist upon infringing those laws, by the very nature of the case retribution must follow. The more severe the punishment the shorter it may be. The horror of the present war has never been equalled. But the sins of the nations have never been so great because in the light of God's revelation of his will and his law made so plain by the Christ that a man can read his meaning even while he runs a half-wit in the bright light of this revelation. I say, brighter as the years roll by, what do we find to be the conditions prevailing throughout the nations? Drunkenness everywhere; vice, commercialized or otherwise, rampant in city, town, village, even in the home; lust of gold and lust of power consuming the hearts and filling the minds of multitudes; trifling with justice in the name of the law; suffering of the poor; envy, jealousy, hatred, common as the air we breathe. This is but the beginning of the list of crimes and follies of the present day; a condition which has long existed and which has caused agony so great that the cry has long been ascending to the very gates of heaven. "How long, O Lord, how long?" The answer to the cry is being seen in the present war.

The query often arises—Is this the last great war? There is no reason for thinking so unless mankind reaches the state of development, of evolution if you like, where common sense at last prevails over stupid perversity. If that wonderful day is dawning when at last the ruler of the universe is recognized as a God that punishes as well as a father that loves and saves, then there is hope of permanent peace and not until then.

It may be suggested that according to this theory America is spotless, since she has not yet at least been drawn into the vortex of this world-wide madness; and we know that such is far from being the truth. No, our fair land is smirched and soiled with the same villainous and criminal folly. But America is still a young nation; God is still patient with her; there is ample time for her to fill to the brim her cup of iniquity and to so weary the patience of the Almighty that at last she, too, will feel the lightning and the fury of his wrath. At times we can almost hear the warning and can almost see the flash of the distant storm.

Listen: Not long ago very early one morning, before the darkness had left the sky, before the birds began to sing, I heard a rumble of distant thunder. In the stillness of the night it sounded ominous, startling, and suddenly I seemed to see a vision of the future, the ultimate America, caught at last in the consequence of her sin and groaning under the agony of punishment divine.

In the dawning of the morning Came the thunder of the Lord, The day of wrath was breaking In accordance with his word. Malachi 4:1.

I do verily believe that unless there is some radical change in our treatment of these great issues that there is no escape from the wrath of an outraged God.

Regarding the terms of peace for the present war. Is it possible to discuss the terms on an entirely new basis, in a manner different from any hitherto employed, a basis consonant with our original proposition, love to our neighbor? Let us see how such a policy would work out if applied to the nations of Europe. Let us suppose that some years ago Great Britain decided on a certain policy affecting her trade relationship with Germany, France and Russia. The policy became law and was executed because it was advantageous to Britain. Its effects on Germany, France and Russia would undoubtedly be injurious, but that fact would be of secondary importance, and in turn might even be considered an advantage as a retaliation for some previous injury to England resulting from a policy adopted by either Germany, France or Russia at some former time. Now, what do we do? When England adopts this policy beneficial to herself alone and injurious to her neighbors, exciting their just resentment, right then and there has been sown one of the seeds of a future war. A wiser and more statesmanlike method of procedure would be for England to frankly present to Germany, France and Russia a brief of her new policy and inquire of them if such policy would be mutually satisfactory. If either Germany, France or Russia should reply that such a policy would be, in their opinion, prove injurious, a council of nations involved could be called and after due deliberation a policy could be framed which would be of benefit to all. Now, what have we found? Such action on the part of England would compel the respect of Germany, France and Russia, would win their affection. In time of distress because of famine, pestilence or any other affliction, Germany, France and Russia would hurry to the assistance of England, seeing in her a big brother in distress. (One of the seeds of permanent peace would have been sown. There is no need to extend the argument. Its appeal will meet every reasonable mind. But will the minds of those whose high duty it is to arrange the terms of this peace, be reasonable? There is the danger and there is the uncertainty.

As some one has already suggested there would no longer be need of army or navy except a police force on land and sea, adequate to quell any disturbance that might arise because of some member of the new family of nations forgetting the rule under which all were living. This police force could be easily sustained by a tax on all the

CONCERNING CITY POINT

17,000 People Discharged Each Day and Re-employed the Next.

From waste fields to a thriving community of 50,000 inhabitants in a few weeks is the transformation which has taken place just across the Virginia state line from here, on a spot which will soon be listed on the map as City Point.

Immense powder mills, the largest and most modern in the world, now nearing completion and belonging to the duPont de Nemours Powder Co., are the magnet that has drawn 17,000 workmen to this new metropolis of the Old Dominion state. In this city of uncompleted homes and thousands of tents, liquor has been tabooed. Although the workmen employed in the departments already completed and the mechanics and laborers working on the uncompleted buildings are for the most part drawn from all parts of both states, the absence of liquor has resulted in an orderly community, though the town is yet in its inception.

One of the novel features of the big powder plant is the fact that while only regular roll maintained by the company is for the managers of the different departments. Each of the 17,000 employees is hired and discharged each day. Every night each employee is paid for the day and his employment, in so far as the company is concerned, is ended. If he shows up in the morning he is again hired and put to work. This method of handling a force of 17,000, while a novel one, has been found to give the best results at City Point.

For the most part the town looks like a big camp. Section officers are provided by the powder company to enforce the law and maintain order. Offenders are punished promptly, and while some liquor has been confiscated in the town it is impossible for a man to drink it and obtain employment with the powder company the next day if he is found out.

High explosives for the European governments are already being turned out at the new plant in tremendous quantities. Carload after carload is shipped daily to seaports, where it is loaded for European ports. Tri-nitro-toluene, one of the most powerful explosives known and in the last few years used in the British army and navy, being produced in large quantities.—Bluefield, W. Va. Dispatch.

ODDS AND ENDS

Some Things You Know and Some You Don't Know.

Electric locomotives, powerful enough to haul 340 ton trains up steep grades have been adopted by a new Swiss railroad.

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According to La Razon, the number of domestic animals in Argentina at the end of 1914 was as follows: Horned cattle, 29,000,000; horses, 9,700,000; mules, 508,000; asses, 340,000; sheep, 30,000,000; goats, 4,520,000; pigs, 3,050,000.

In the Middle Ages people in England wore the benches, or points, of their shoes so long that the encumbered themselves in walking and were forced to tie them up to their knees.

FACT, FASHION AND FANCY

Paragraphs Calculated to Interest York County Women.

To wash discolored embroidery, place in a vessel with cold water, blue, but not too deep, and with the juice of a lemon. Boil for half an hour, and afterwards rinse in cold water and dry in fresh air.

Did you know that: A big fur rose, one saah end, triple skirts of chiffon and beads that shine are among the season's novelties? Children will wear plain Panama hats trimmed with a black velvet ribbon simply tied around the crown.

"Dutch dresses" are very attractive for young girls. Frequently they have the broad straps over the shoulders, the high, broad belt and full gathered skirt.

Gathered skirts frequently have shirred waistlines.

A simple way to arrange the French twist is to gather up the hair that grows upon the crown of the head, as if one were to form an old-fashioned roach, as displayed in the old time photographs. Pin this so it will be out of the way. Take the back hair and a bit above the ears and do in a French twist. With the topknot hair form a thick, wide roll from one side to the other. Anchor with a hair net. You will look a bit weird, but what matter! You will be in style, and think what glory that is! Though the freaks of fashion be absurd, to disregard them entirely is to drop behind.

Ball skirts, which have arrived, furnish a good opportunity for flosses. It will be recalled that the genuine crinoline skirt of years ago was covered with small ruffles, and although the skirts of today may not have twenty tiny ruffles reaching to the waist from the bottom of the skirt, as was a feature of the old time skirts, five flosses will be considered in the height of the mode and the triple floss skirt will be commonly seen. These flosses will be made of self-material, of lace or embroidery, and for evening wear, will frequently be trimmed with bias folds of silks or with floral wreaths.

How many readers of this column like to make candy? Quite a number, we are sure. The other day a young lady who has a reputation as being one of the best candy makers in this section, presented us a recipe for making marshmallow fudge. And we are passing it on: One-half pound of marshmallows, one cupful of water, two cupfuls of brown sugar, two ounces of chocolate, one cupful of powdered sugar and one-fourth teaspoonful of cream of tartar. Cook all the ingredients, except the marshmallows, and beat until it stiffens; add the chopped marshmallows, and beat again. Pour in buttered pan and mark in squares.

Lemon pie is a favorite in many families and if rightly made is a truly delicious desert. A recipe for the pie is here given: Separate the yolks of four eggs from the whites. Beat the yolks well and add two-thirds cupful of sugar and juice of one lemon. Put this mixture into a double boiler and cook until real thick. This will take thirty minutes at least. Stir frequently. When thick, remove from fire and let cool. In the meantime beat stiff the whites of two eggs, and when the yolk mixture has cooled fold in the whites carefully. Have a pie crust shell baked ready, and into it put the filling. Beat stiff the whites of the two remaining eggs and sweeten slightly. Spread over filling of pie and brown in oven.

Here is a list of the proper relishes to accompany meats: Roast beef, broiled horse-radish; roast mutton, current jelly; roast lamb, mint sauce; roast pork, apple sauce; boiled mutton, caper sauce; boiled chicken, bread and egg sauce; roast turkey, oyster sauce; venison, wild duck or game, current jelly sauce; boiled fish, drawn butter or caper sauce; broiled or baked fish, fish or cream sauce; roast goose, apple sauce; broiled fresh mackerel, stewed gooseberries; boiled shad, boiled rice and salad; fresh salmon, green peas and cream sauce; broiled steaks and chops, tomato sauce; veal cutlets and fillets, etc., mushroom sauce; poultry and boiled fish, oyster sauce; salt fish, maitre d'hotel sauce.

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