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CIRCULATION
WEEK ENDING MARCH 13th, 1920
10,613

THE TREATY ACTION.

The treaty of peace, as the result of the action of the senate, in refusing to ratify it, stands today just where it did following the previous unfavorable action except that it has been voted to return it to the president.

Many long months of debate have gone for naught so far as disposing of the peace treaty is concerned. We are still under the armistice terms and for the second time the senate has refused to approve the document either as it was brought from Paris or with the reservations. There is now, as there has been in the adoption of the reservations, a majority of the senate favorable to approval with reservations, but not the needed two-thirds, the irreconcilables and the president's firm adherents being sufficient in number to prevent ratification even though they are diametrically opposed to each other.

The senate if it adheres to its present stand has made it unnecessary for President Wilson to pocket the treaty. By its action it has refused to approve both what he desired and what others attempted to make acceptable. The attitude taken by the president to such changes, and the changes were made for the purpose of taking care of the nation's interests, was such that he directed a sufficient number of the democrats in the stand for no changes whatever and exerted an influence which unquestionably played a most important part in making the vote what it was and preventing ratification under terms which were acceptable to the greater number.

Thus we still continue "to break the heart of Europe." The outcome was predicted and unless reconsideration can be secured the treaty is dead and the league of nations will not get whatever help it expects in this direction. The policy of a whole loaf or none is responsible.

FOOD PRICES.

It is reasonable to expect that the beginning of the reduction in the cost of living can be expected through the food prices. In the opinion of the New York Sun and Herald the time has come when "we may expect a lighter tax on the dinner table."

There have been certain indications recently which have given strength to the belief that such is going to result. There has been a slight letting up in some instances, but the Sun and Herald considers that "Now as we face the planting and growing season, with harvesting to come only a few months later, the national larder is full," and the effect of that condition is not to be overlooked.

We haven't got to the point where we have got so much wheat and corn that we can let up in the production to any considerable degree, but the amount carried over will be several times what we carried over last year and the corn reserve are equally large. We have millions of barrels of flour which we can spare without feeling it in order to help the distressed countries of Europe and we will also be able to take care of the export demands to say nothing of the domestic call. But with the amount carried over and the amount that will be produced under average conditions there is reason to expect that the time is coming at no distant date when the grain prices can drop and as the result those other prices, such as the meat products, are bound to be influenced. With a movement of this kind started substantial relief can be anticipated. It will extend in many directions.

It is certainly time that the decline in prices was started. If the peak has been reached, and there are conditions which point to it strongly, the getting back to normal may not come like a landslide but every movement in the downward direction will be heartily welcomed. And when the break comes in food prices it is going to be followed by others.

A CHANCE TO SAVE ROAD.

By the action in withdrawing the petition for authority to abandon the Norwich & Westerly road it is to be hoped that it will mean the passing of the crisis, but whether it does or not, it provides an opportunity for those who are interested in the maintenance of this transportation line to see what can be done towards retaining it.

The awakening to the fact that this part of the state faced the loss of a service which should not be dispensed with has been slow, but it is to be hoped that some way can be provided either under the present or some other management, whereby those who use the road now, those who have depended upon it and who have made investments under the belief that it was a fixture and those who cannot fail to regard it as a business help can be assured its continuance.

That the road has been a constant money loser there can be no question. That service has been received from it for which those who got it failed to pay for what they got is likewise evident. Due to the generosity of a man who has done much in this direction for the people of this part of Connecticut the Norwich & Westerly line was operated as it was for so long a period.

Whatever is done in the way of keeping the line in operation those who need it and want it should realize that fare and schedule adjustments in keeping with conditions must be expected. But that is far preferable to the loss of the road altogether. It is far from an auspicious time to handle such a problem but it is equally apparent that now is the time it must be done if it is going to be kept out of the hands of the junkman, and the interests along the way, from the start to the finish, should be able to meet the situation. There is more than one community that should be alive to protect the future business and accommodation to be obtained from the road. Therefore the most should be made of the withdrawal, which it is understood is not permanent but temporary.

ORDERING COAL.

Experience has shown us what it means to have idle seasons in the coal mining regions. Not only do we get the shortage of fuel but we also get the increase in price, and it is not the fancy prices but the other kind that people are seeking these days.

During the war in order to move sufficient coal to take care of the needs and thereby overcome the possibility of an insufficient supply for the winter the householders were urged to get their orders in early. It was excellent advice and it is surprising that it has not become a habit instead of an unusual occurrence. In many lines of business a slack period when orders are not coming in is used to create a surplus which can be stored away until demands are received. But it is not so with coal mining. When the coal is gotten out it must be moved and not piled up, and it isn't moved unless there are orders for it.

While coal miners are idle they are losing just that much time and the loss of time in the mines means a corresponding reduction in output. There are enough days lost through holidays and other reasons without loss of production through scarcity of orders.

It might be argued that dealers ought to know about what the requirements are going to be and proceed to fill their bins accordingly. That may be true and unquestionably is done to a much greater extent than is known, but it is nevertheless a reasonable request that early orders be placed with the understanding that the benefits of prices at time of delivery will be extended. That keeps the coal moving, permits the dealers to do business at the most advantageous time of the year and helps to avoid the rush periods, for with cellars filled during good weather better service can be given to those who cannot put in large supplies and must get it frequently and in small quantities.

DEALING WITH TURKS.

However reluctant the allies may have been in reaching their decision to occupy Constantinople, just what it is going to mean will depend to a great extent upon how the Turks conduct themselves. It is made clear by the allies that the authority of the sultan is not to be taken away and it is at the same time declared that the Turks are not to be driven out of Constantinople. The time has arrived, however, when what is left of Turkey has got to toe the mark. With the idea of strengthening the Turkish government, and putting down the disturbing and menacing elements the allies will act. The massacres since the armistice have demonstrated the necessity of calling all the Turkish factions to account.

The taking over of Constantinople the allies will reserve the right to rid Europe of the Turks if the Turks by their conduct in the future warrant it. There have been many threats made to those people and seemingly in most instances they have amounted to nothing. If the allies expect the Turks to respect their demands they must live up to their threatened penalties. Even now, following the occupation of Constantinople and proposes to establish a new government at Adrianople. It is apparently another instance where the allied programme is not taken seriously and where the Turks feel that they can do as they please. To tolerate such conditions will simply make the situation in that part of the world far worse than it is.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Balkans of South America are doing their best to keep the war fires burning.

There are some others in Germany who think they can succeed where Kapp failed.

Salvation and air may be free but there will be trouble convincing the tax collector.

In view of what Admiral Sims says there is no use for us to get a swelled head over our navy.

When Colonel Bryan starts out on a whirl around the circle he will be treading familiar ground.

Even though it doesn't meet popular fancy the Ebert government was able to get back on its feet.

The man on the corner says: Among the missing these days are the old fashioned "For Rent" signs.

There is supposed to be a certain charm about knocking Wood, but it is not likely to hold good in the political field.

There is no head of the state department now and possibly you have noticed there are no cabinet meetings either.

That California burglar who stole milk and beef tea and didn't touch $10,000 worth of liquor was probably a graduate of an inebriate farm.

Those who are backing Eugene V. Debs apparently think the penitentiary is the stepping stone to the presidency. It is simply more Bergerism.

'Twas only a few days ago New New York was paying hundreds of dollars a day to get rid of its ice. Now those buying it are paying ten cents more a hundred.

With the Massachusetts house adopting a daylight saving law by a three to one vote it not only coincides with quite widespread demands but it is likely to influence action in other states.

General Obregon is wise to point out that he will cultivate the friendship of the United States if elected president of Mexico. It may not please some Mexicans but it is the only thing to do.

THE MAN WHO TALKS

It has been said that we are in danger of losing the old fashioned grace of courtesy. There was a type of gentleman in the New England of yesterday that has become almost an extinct species. Once in awhile you will see a specimen of the brand today and he is worth looking at and imitating. He was tall, dignified, genial, well-dressed, usually appearing in public in broadcloth and silk hat; he spoke kindly to everybody and was cultivated in manner and speech. This man would have been horrified at the uncouth habits of modern, hurried Americans. A select party of cultivated young Japanese was sent to this country to study the effect of Christianity on the life of the people. One of the first things they saw was a big crowd jamming into a railway station, each one pulling and hauling to be the first seated. These young men stood back in blank amazement for they had never seen its like in pagan Japan. The most conspicuous boor today is the ill-mannered auto driver. On North Main street a few people were walking on the car tracks as there was nowhere else to go. An automobile came tearing along, covering everybody with mud and slush. There was not room enough to give the machine a wide berth, but a suspended license, giving the boor a wide berth from his car for a year, would teach him a lesson in good manners. O, for a return for the old time courtesy that considered others!

We are a people who make results quickly and distances short. At least that is our aim and in most instances we succeed. The celerity with which our shipyards launched the finished product after the keel was laid filled Europe with astonishment and Germany cries, "Impossible!" But along mechanical lines this country has a very strange habit of doing the impossible. We hardly think of distance when the telephone brings our voices in touch with Boston, New York and even Chicago. But when red tape is introduced the order is reversed; results come slowly and distances are lengthened. There are some branches of the government that cannot be accused of undue haste, or in making distances unreasonably short. It is not putting spurs to lightning when it takes two weeks for merchandise to cover the distance between New York and Boston, or eighteen months for a letter, sent to a soldier in the Argonne forest, to be returned to Norwich. It has been noticed of late that members of congress who died in 1917 have recently had their funeral services in the national capitol. This is not undue haste. We like to have congress dignified, but hope it won't be petrified. Let us trust science will discover some serum for red tape as it has for both the tape worm and the book worm.

Is not good nature something more than a mere trend of temperament? It plays too great a part in the human makeup to be the idle offshoot of a mere trend. We do not rate the grace of amiability at its true value. We merely say of the fellow who has it, "O, he's a lucky chap, for he wouldn't get anywhere if it wasn't for his good nature." In making such a statement we hardly do the man justice for we fail to realize just the effort he puts forth to cultivate and preserve a good nature. He is doubtless born with a trend that way but he must take the trend up and work it for all it is worth. Being born with the artistic sense doesn't make the artist. That "sense" must be cultivated before the Madonna is chiselled or The Transfiguration painted. Coming into the world with a voice—as most babies do—doesn't make either a Beecher or a Caruso, but the training given to the trend. As the little one learns to walk only by walking, so one becomes good natured only by practising the grace of amiability. Isn't good nature an asset from the money point of view? Other things being equal which of two bankers will you consult, the man with a grouch or the man with a smile? It wouldn't be bad to establish a school to teach good nature.

The spirit of daring in itself is a most admirable quality provided there is a balance wheel that keeps it from running riot. It is usually the bright boy who dares, because daring requires the initiative, and this the dullard never takes, because he is only capable of imitation. It shows courage, love of novelty and display, a progressive spirit, activity, love of adventure, with physical and mental strength. Such qualities backed up by prudence and good judgment are just the qualities necessary for great success in life. The men to whom we are most indebted for great achievements have been daring men. There is no pioneer work without daring. In navigation Columbus, Hudson, The Pilgrim Fathers dared. In science Fulton, Simon Lake, Wilbur Wright dared. In religion Luther, Wesley, Edwards, Bushnell dared. In philanthropy. Florence Nightingale, Clara Barton, and our own Red Cross nurses in France dared. For humanity, the Canadians who "went over the top" at Vimy Ridge and the doughboys in the Argonne dared. In all these cases daring simply spells immortality. Father, don't scold that boy of yours if he dares to do the things from which his playmates shrink! Give him good advice and caution.

Isn't there a bit of mystery connected with that very common word, "Shortage?" It is like Providence in that it is "past finding out." As it certainly "covers a multitude of sins" it may be likened to charity. It helps the retailer in these stressful days more than any other word in the English language. If he is out of what you are after, he rolls his eyes heavenward and says very impressively "shortage!" What does he mean? That last year's crop was below the average? That poor transportation has balled him up? that the wholesaler couldn't supply him? or that he has failed to order said article? At any rate the word "shortage" is a godsend to him. Has "shortage" anything to do in breaking up the standard price of a given article? Ask the retailer for sugar and if he is an old hand at the business he will say very piously, "There's a terrible shortage in sugar but I can let you have one pound for 23 cents." Another man with less unction will sell one pound for 20 cents; still another for 19, until you get to the young chap new at the game who says "17 cents per pound." Truly "shortage" moves in a mysterious way its wonders to perform.

To learn wisdom one need not go to Calvin's "Institutes" or Mather's "Magnalia," for we have it right before us in the melting snow. If snow melted very rapidly it would mean disastrous floods. It is the rain, not the snow that causes damage. Snow holds moisture back to answer the earth's needs; and when it seems to be going too fast there suddenly comes a drop in temperature that holds the process up, converting slush into ice, and ice melts more slowly than snow. Throw a chunk into boiling water and it takes its own time to dissolve. In this way the ground gets its moisture and the valleys are saved from floods. Isn't it too much to say that this wise provision is merely a matter of haphazard?

There are two sides to every question, but marriage is often a one-sided affair.

HOW BELGIUM IS COMING BACK

The remarkable resumption of Belgium's coal mining, the complete reorganization of her transportation system, the determined progress of her wrecked steel industry, the resurrection of the great port of Antwerp, the recovery of $600,000,000 worth of machinery stolen by Germany, the firm and orderly adjustment of her labor problems, the repopulation of her textile mills, and her reentry into world finance as one of the great trading nations—these are some of the bolder outlines in a sketch of New Belgium, entitled "Belgium's Recovery," just written by D. L. Blount, an American who until recently directed the central information office of the Belgian ministry of economic affairs. This booklet, issued in connection with the placing of a $25,000,000 loan in this country by the Belgian government, tells a story paralleled only by the historic recovery of France after the war of 1870.

The degree of Belgium's recovery must be measured by the purposeful and scientific destruction Germany inflicted on her. Her factories were not merely wrecked. The Germans destroyed them in such a way as to make their rebuilding peculiarly difficult, and to eliminate their competition entirely after the war. This is the key to Mr. Blount's interpretation of the new Belgium.

"The most striking figures," says Mr. Blount, "of the actual resumption of Belgian industry for the first ten months of 1919 as compared with those for the corresponding period of 1913 are the following: Coal mines, 34 per cent.; refined sugar, 100 per cent.; cotton spinning in operation, 75 per cent.; cotton looms, 60 per cent.; wool products 75 per cent.; shoes, 70 per cent.; window glass, 34 ped cent.; plate glass, 36 per cent. Even the steel mills, which suffered most, have resumed 30 per cent."

First, fuel, and then transportation; these are the dominant influences in Belgium's recovery. Of the Belgian coal situation, Mr. Blount writes:

"Coal [illegible] October was 99 per cent. of normal, figures for October [illegible] long tons. During the [illegible] nine months of 1919 Belgium exported 2,970,871 long tons. These exports have been made on a basis of reciprocity."

With a total of 5,400 miles, Belgium had the greatest railway mileage of any country in proportion to territory. Of this, 1,366 miles of standard gauge track had been destroyed at the time of the armistice, and more than 1,400 bridges. Yet, says Mr. Blount, "all but 35 miles of track, rendered useless by the devastation of the adjacent area, has been reconstructed. So rapid has been the work of repair that there is practically no vestige of the war on the roadbeds of Belgium and, furthermore, great extension work has been carried on. There has been a steady reclaiming of rolling stock from Germany, although much of it was in very bad condition, and together with what was left of the former Belgian rolling stock, requires constant repairing. Notwithstanding these difficulties, in September last, 40 per cent. of the passenger service and 50 per cent. of the pre-war freight traffic had been resumed.

No less important in Mr. Blount's analysis is the Belgian steel situation, of which he says: "The effort which Belgium is making to regain her position as a large exporter of steel products (she exported before the war 79 per cent. of her production) is shown by the fact that in the first nine months of 1919 92,000 long tons, the exports for September alone being 46,000 long tons. Comparison of certain figures for October last with those for cast iron, 18 per cent.; iron and steel wire and rods, 35 per cent. nails, 55 per cent.

Belgium, so frequently called the "kitchen garden of northern Europe" is once more in a strong position agriculturally. Belgium's soil used to yield on an average about $100 per acre, greater than any other country. Three-fifths of her total area was under cultivation. According to Mr. Blount not more than one per cent. of her total area came under actual devastation from trench warfare, and a recent governmental appropriation of 30,000,000 francs has given a great impetus to the restoration of even this comparatively small district near the "last ditch of the Yser.

With agriculture, coal and steel ranks the textile industry of Belgium. Among the important statistics noted by Mr. Blount, we find that the cotton mills have attained 75 per cent. of their pre-war capacity. "Wages have been increased 150 per cent. About 90 per cent. of the workmen are unionized and a spirit of satisfaction seems to prevail among them. Mills are booked well ahead with orders, including shipments to Holland, England, France and South America—45 per cent. of Belgium's textiles were exported before the war." The flax spinning and weaving mills of Flanders have resumed about 50 per cent., the woolen mills about 75 per cent.

Zinc and window glass, both very profitable industries, gave likewise come back in very gratifying ratios, and behind all of Belgium's domestic strength ranges the great potential wealth of her holdings in the Congo. The economic future of this territory, 80 times as large as Belgium proper, is so great, according to Mr. Blount, "as to make all speculation seem paltry."

Few countries have had less difficulty than Belgium in adjusting their post-war labor problems, first, explains Mr. Blount, because "the Belgian laborer did not receive the high wages which munition workers obtained in other allied countries during four years and the passing of the war has meant to him an increase in wages rather than a threatened reduction to a scale in keeping with the new conditions. Second, the high cost of living has not affected the laborer in Belgium in the same degree as in other countries, owing to its natural tariff and to the remarkable organization of Belgian co-operative societies."

The net result of Belgium's pre-war conservatism, and of her rapid recovery since the armistice, is to place her finances in an unusually favorable position, which Mr. Blount explains in detail, continuing: "On June 24, 1919, the council of five signed an agreement giving formal approval to priority for Belgium to the amount of 2,500,000,000 gold francs ($482,000,000) out of the reparation to be paid by Germany. Of this it is understood that Belgium will use $227,000,000 toward the repayment of $252,000,000 advanced to her by Great Britain, France and the United States since the armistice.

In her foreign trade, too, Belgium is again making herself felt. Her general exports for the first ten months of 1919 reached 47.6 per cent. of the pre-war value. In the first nine months she imported from the United States alone an amount equivalent to $37 for every inhabitant. She ranks fifth among the nations of the world as a market for United States exports at the present time. "Unfortunately," comments Mr. Blount, "the more we sold to Belgium the less she could buy, as her exports to us were less than 1 per cent. of her purchases from us. Belgian exchange kept falling until Belgians were paying more than 100 per cent. premium on goods bought from the United States. Inability to relieve the Belgian exchange situation has recently obliged Belgians to limit their purchases to the strict necessities unobtainable elsewhere and has forced them, against their will, to buy from Germany those products which our manufacturers could not sell to them on long term credit."

In conclusion, Mr. Blount finds that "to buy new machinery as well as raw materials, Belgium needs credit of sufficiently long terms to permit her industries to bring up the volume of exports, and thereby reduce the unfavorable trade balance which now militates against her outside purchases."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why Not Let Each Have His Own Ideas?

Mr. Editor: It seems to me that this department is of late mostly occupied with different religious opinions, as has been the way of mortals to dispute on these subjects from time immemorial, each one being sure that his or her own belief is the right one and the only one that will eventually land them in their heavenly home. All these beliefs are but different roads leading to the same place, some choose one and some another, and there is some good and some truth in all of them, even in the much abused Spiritualism. So, why not let each one have their own ideas on these matters? Why should we all be sure that our views are exactly right when the same texts of Scripture have been interpreted to mean many different things? Most of us believe in what the creed says: "I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy Catholic church," etc., and beyond that minor matters are non essential. I am forcibly reminded of a discussion which I heard long years ago between a minister and a good deacon who wasted a whole Sunday school session and lost their tempers, or mislaid them for the time, in disputing whether Absalom was hung by his head or his hair. And as that tragedy occurred ages ago it didn't make any material difference only for each to convince the other that he was wrong, which neither of them succeded in doing. I have no doubt that if by the grace of God we reach a better land we shall find many there whom as we think of it now we wouldn't expect to see.

M. B. N.

Litchfield, March 17, 1920.

What Is Bothering the People?

Mr. Editor: Just a few short lines in answer to Rev. Mr. Tholen.

Contrary to his thinking the people of this country are not at all disturbed or dissatisfied with being deprived of drink. That isnt the issue. It isn't the question of beer, wine, gin or whiskey being sold unrestricted at all.

The question that is bothering the people, and which ultimately must be referred to them, is the unjust, corrupt, crooked, brow-beating tactics, employed by the prohibitionists. There is no doubt in my mind, but what a great majority of the people are dissatisfied with this prohibition amendment.

If we were not constituted as a democracy the people would have to accept the mandate of this "Class Rule," without a murmur.

But as there is dissatisfaction, and as we are a democracy, there is strong objection to the means employed to secure prohibition, and it must be referred back to the people, before being definitely settled.

Next November the people will express themselves, (as they did in 1860) in a manner that no one, not even Rev. Mr. Tholen can mistake, and if the undercurrent of public opinion is any kind of a barometer, almost every fair, square, and just man is convinced that the verdict will be a reversal of the 18th amendment, not by any one class, but by the majestic will of a free people.

Would that every person could read the editorial in the New York Sun for today, the 18th inst.

Respectfully submitted,

VOTER.

Norwich, March 18, 1920.

Prohibition Causes Foreign Born to Leave.

Mr. Editor: Will you allow me space in your paper to make a few comments on the above.

If the foreigners find it so necessary to become partly intoxicated in order to work—in our land (at least this is only an idea of Congressman Seigel's) is not our country better off for their leave-taking? In most cases are not the undesirable foreigners the ones who are the worst criminals? If there were more Emma Goldmans and Alex Berkmans shipped out of our country would it not be better than to furnish our beloved America for a dumping ground? When we read words like these coming from an eminent divine with his full name signed to it in one of the papers, as I did a year or two ago, "Prohibition is illegal as it robs the government of its legitimate revenue," what are men and women to think of such a clergyman after toiling and spending much of their time in trying to get rid of the accursed rum that has been the greatest destroyer in our land? Think what it will mean to the coming generation as well as this for it to be stamped out forever?

W. C. A. U.

Norwich, March 17, 1920.

Observer and a Listener, on Emmet —a Valedictory.

Mr. Editor: If it were not for the feeling that the courtesy of your columns has been already extended sufficiently to me, nothing would give me more pleasure than to follow up the meanderings of Observer, and, so far from my being "peeved" by anything he has written, I assure you that I am perfectly delighted.

In a correspondence conducted over a nom-de-plume (this is French) the personal element is supposed to be suppressed, yet my opponent frequently draws comparisons between himself and me—always to my disadvantage. If the topic be prayer—he prays more than I do. If to abbreviate my sentences I use a Latin phrase of common use; he could teach me Latin.

All this kind of bragging is absent from my letters and I trust that your readers note, also, that while he says my quotation was inapropos, he did not trouble us with his translation. Furthermore, the crux of my contention is not what he says, but has relation t othe hanging of Robert Emmet, which the orator said was done by the English and would have taken place with Washington had he not been successful. This statement was prejudicial, and only a guess so far as Washington's fate was concerned. But, in relation to Emmet, neither the Orator nor Observer gave us anything beyond what could be obtained from the Encyclopedia Britannica.

The facts are, that Emmet was tried in his own country, by his peers, and where his crime was committed. The charges were insurrection and murders committed in connection with it. These are capital offences in all civilized nations, and we have had examples in our own country have.

The truth is, that Emmet was an impulsive misguided youth, who paid the penalty for his own rashness and also for the sins of others who escaped the gallows.

Observer does not stand alone, as one who holds that religion has no place in politics. That is the creed of the atheist and of the anarchist—but the Christian's creed is this: "Whether, therefore ye eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." This, we conclude, covers voting, and is embraced under the title of religion.

Au revoir.

A LISTENER.

Norwich, March 19, 1920.

Five Minutes a Day With Our Presidents

Copyright 1920—By James Morgan

V—FIRST IN THE HEARTS OF HIS COUNTRYMEN

1796—March, retired to Mt. Vernon.
1799—Dec. 14, died.
Dec. 18, buried.

The welcoming shouts of his slaves and the baying of his dogs at Mt. Vernon, no doubt, were more pleasing to Washington, on his retirement from the presidency, than any public applause. For the second time he had come home with an empty wallet from an eight-year absence in the service of his country.

When he died Washington was worth five hundred thirty thousand dollars above the value of Mt. Vernon and apart from Mrs. Washington's estate. But he was always land poor. When called to the presidency he was behind in his taxes; even with his doctor's bill, and had to borrow money to pay his way to the inauguration. As President his steward and fourteen servants at the capital cost him six hundred dollars a month for their food and wages, and he gave away more money than his latter-day successors. Besides providing that his usual charities at Mt. Vernon should be continued, liberal charities in the Presidency were a serious drain on his official pay.

Without a child of his own, Washington always had a large family to support. He adopted or brought up nine children belonging to his and Mrs. Washington's relatives, and forty-one relatives received bequests at his death.

Hating slavery, yet he had more than three hundred slaves; but he seldom sold one, his negroes growing old and helpless on his farm. Nor did this just man leave them to the mercies of another master after he was gone. In his will he freed them all with a thoughtful provision for those who because of age or infancy, could not shift for themselves.

Many a man does not look to the welfare of his brother as closely as Washington cared for his old body servant in the Revolution (purchase price three hundred forty-three dollars) and in his will he remembered faithful "Billy" with an annuity. His wife [illegible] well. The war over, he pensioned this veteran of the [illegible] never again wore a saddle.

Albert Gallatin said that Lafayette was the only man Washington loved. But Washington himself expressed his love for General Knox and in his loyal devotion to General Green, he offered at the latter's death to educate his fatherless son.

His devotion to his wife through forty years of married life was illustrated on his dying day. Although he awoke in the night with a chill, scarcely able to speak and breathing with difficulty, for fear that Mrs. Washington might take cold he would not let her get up to call a servant.

His life-long consideration of others lasted to the end. When he lay helpless and speechless, he made a feeble [illegible] for the servant who had been patiently standing at [illegible].

The Nations are united, as in no other instance, in honoring the memory of Washington. England competer with America in her praise of the rebel who snatched from the British Empire its greatest possession. "As much one of our heroes as Alfred the Great is yours," Frederic Harrison has told us. "The purest figure in history," said Gladstone. "A life without a stain, a fame without a flaw," Thackeray declared. "The greatest man of our own or of any age," Lord Brougham acclaimed him. Byron ranked him only "Next to Divinity." Southey bowed to "Washington's awful memory," and Lord Erskine wrote him, "You are the only being for whom I ever felt an awful reverence," a reverence that Green, the historian said "still hushes us in the presence of his memory." The tribute paid in Congress at the time of his death by "Light Horse Harry," father of Robert E. Lee, remains the most familiar: "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

Monday: John Adams and Abby.

Sunday Morning Talk

Decide Today.

The habit of putting off grows upon one like any other habit. The more one accustoms himself to delaying in matters that he knows he ought to attend to, the more difficult it becomes to act promptly and decisively. Or, to state the case on its positive side. The more one learns to act upon his convictions without loss of time the more likely it is that his convictions will sway his actions. To many people it has become so common a thing to hear that they should know "while it is called today," attend to their soul's needs, that the pleading and the warning fall upon dulled senses. The ears hear phrases that have become very familiar, so familiar as to no longer have much meaning. But what is to be done about it? The preacher can only go on pleading and warning with the hope that some of the deaf ears will open and perceive some meaning and forcefulness of the simple truths.

Some deep experience of sin, some calamity, or some struggle with himself may fit a man to feel the force of a truth as he has never felt it before, and may thus be the means of bringing him to the point of yielding to the truth. There comes to all of us times when we are more disgusted with ourselves than at other times, when we are more desirous of finding some means of climbing out of and above ourselves.

Such opportunities should be laid hold of with avidity; for them especially, the Holy Spirit is saying, Now is the accepted time. This disgust with self is a proof that the Holy Spirit is struggling with us, and that it is a time when it would be easy to yield ourselves to His guidance.

Sin is very deceitful. It deceives us into thinking that wrong is right, and that evil is good. It deceives us into thinking that we can have "a real good time" by following our own inclinations. It is deceptive in many ways, but in no way does it do us more harm by its deceitfulness than in this, that it makes us think it desirable to put off giving ourselves to God. It teaches us that we may procrastinate safely, that we may go on in a sinful way for a while and then become righteous. It teaches us to take an entirely false view, indeed, of which it means to give ourselves to God; sin makes us think of that as a hardship to be endured in order to escape the wrath of God at the judgment day. It prevents us seeing that coming to God is its own reward.

Sin prevents us from realizing its own deformity. We can all see clearly enough the repulsiveness of those sins in others which go against the grain of our nature, but sin robs us of the power to see the repulsiveness of pet wrong doings and our own pet wrong doings and our own unloving and therefore unlovely hearts. Sin hardens us in our own wilfulness, and unbelief and procrastination.

Therefore the warning: "Exhort one another daily, while it is called Today; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin."

Stories That Recall Others.

The Times and the Customs.

He was one of the few of the surviving cab drivers who had succumbed to the lure of the automobile and had become a taxi driver. But in his heart he longed for horses and the older, happier days.

And this night he was particularly unhappy because while starting on a hurry call his motor had stalled.

"It used to be I'd say, 'Giddap, dere yo,' and crack my whip and away we'd go," he lamented. "Now, I say, 'Turn over, darn ye!' and crack my elbow a 'crankin' her, and we don't go at all."

Sweet Boomerang.

In one of the restaurants there is a young woman, who as the end of the meal approaches steps to the table and inquires, "Is there anything else?' It is of course good business and she does it nicely, too.

One of the patrons who had been attracted by the interested inquiry desired to ask her what sort of replies people made to her inquiry, believing that there must have been some funny answers. He delayed for several days but finally plucked up courage and ventured:

"What to you has been the funniest thing patrons have said when you asked them that question?"

"That is," she said with admirable sangfreid.

When we hear a woman say that all men are alike we wonder how she found it out.

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