

# Public Opinion the Best Censor of the Drama

By DR. THOMAS DIXON, JR.,  
Author and Preacher, New York.



FROM time to time we have efforts to establish a limit to the freedom of the press. Such efforts have never been successful in the atmosphere of the American Republic.

No man questions the fact that some of our newspapers have disgraced their high office as purveyors of news and leaders of public opinion. And yet the evils of a throttled press have always been greater to the mind of the American citizen than the license or venom of the obscene journalist. And so our press has remained absolutely unfettered.

From time to time the question of a censorship of the drama has arisen with like results as regards the establishment of a censor, but with occasional developments of actual suppression.

In a recent case the police commissioner of New York undertook this high office and exercised it for 4,000,000 of people, to say nothing of the adjoining states.

In my judgment the drama is sure to develop in America within this century into enormous proportions. As a power in shaping and controlling public opinion it may become as great a force in shaping the destiny of the nation as the press itself.

Can we trust this force to grow without guidance or limitation? As an American citizen I believe that we can.

The highest censor after all is an intelligent public opinion. This power now controls the producing manager with a grip of terror. Indeed, the fear of public opinion and the servile fawning with which the manager seeks to flatter his constituency are one of the weaknesses of the stage as contrasted with the strength of the press.

The American public is tired of the machine-made rubbish which has been so long imported from Europe. With the growth of our school system and the spread of universal education, has come a demand for a national drama and national literature. The books which now sell in America are written by Americans. The plays which succeed to-day are those which have in them the red, rich blood of our own life. Our people wish to be entertained, but they have begun to demand an element of reality in the message which the playwright brings. Not the realism of cheap vulgarity—but the genuine sensationalism of dramatic ideas into which our daily lives are woven.

## The Dilly Dialogues

A HUMOROUS DISCUSSION OF AFFAIRS OF THE TIME

By CAMPBELL MAC CULLOCH

Dramatic Office of the New York Telegraph.

"Tell me, dear Uncle," said little Dilly, as he glanced up from the Congressional Record he was perusing, "what is politics?"

"Politics, my dear nephew," observed Uncle George, gently, from the depths of his easy chair, where he had been reading the latest play of George Bernard Shaw, which he now surreptitiously concealed with a slight blush, "is synonymous with many words in the English language, such as graft, crookedness, and the like, in addition to some even harsher epithets, for a fuller description of which I must refer you to Messrs. Platt and Dewey."

"But, dear uncle," said little Dilly, with a puzzled air, "in my dictionary it is defined as 'that part of ethics which consists in the regulation and government of a nation or state for the preservation of its safety, peace and prosperity.'"

"Do not move me to ribald laughter, Dilly, as my nervous system is somewhat shattered at this moment. I am forced to admit that your dictionary intended to deal with the question properly, but it has fallen far short of the requirements. To be more explicit, my dear boy, politics, while originally scheduled to deal along the primrose path you mention, has in fact fallen a long way behind, and is now hopelessly off the track. When you ethymological compendium refers to ethics in that manner it does so with many due reservations. Politics has nothing to do with ethics. In fact, the two are as widely separated as a colored collector of revenues would be from a Texas governor. Politics is not a condition, Dilly; it is a game. There are two great political parties, my dear boy, and the burning question of one is: 'How much can we steal?' while that of the other is, 'Grab it before it's all gone.' You will at once observe where the ordinary citizen obtains his rights. Vulgarly speaking, it strikes him in the region of the fifth cervical vertebrae. A brief reference to your beloved dictionary will reveal to you that ethics may be described as morality. Even the most rabid politician has never the nerve to class himself among the highly virtuous. Roughly speaking, the politician is a wise guy, and he usually knows enough to seek refuge in a mansion when it rains, though sometimes, under the steady downpour, he makes a mistake and gets in the wrong house and is unable to get out until a term of years has expired."

"Is all politics crooked, dear uncle?" asked Dilly, anxiously.

"No, not all, my boy," replied Uncle George. "There may be some description of it that is as pure as the driven snow. You will not discover that description in the United States, however. At times the vile and licentious press has hinted at anomalous conditions politically, but that is but petty jealousy. This same press has pointed out with calm unctious that congress, the senate, the boards of aldermen, etc., including the city officials of even the meanest municipality are out for the stuff, but those of us who know the conditions merely write sardonically and reach out for two

### AMBITION THAT COLLAPSED

Man Who Became Famous Lost All Interest in the Place of His Birth.

There was once a young man who came from a wee bit of a town, and whenever he would ask folks where he was raised they would tell him where that was, relates the Cleveland Leader.

It frked the young man to find that his native town was such an inconspicuous place, and he said to himself:

"I will hustle around and make myself famous, and then Blink Center will get some notice, for after I have become a celebrity everybody will learn that I was born and raised there."

So for years and years he climbed the path of fame, until at last his name was known in every house in the land.

And then he died, and folks talked a good deal about him, and his life was cited to the young people as an example of what persistence and industry accomplish.

At last his fame grew so lustrous that it was necessary to organize a society bearing his name.

Then the society got to work and looked up his birthplace.

Did the society locate it at Blink Center?

No; for nobody at Blink Center could remember anything of such a family as his. So the brass tablet in memory of his birth was affixed to a tumble-down house in the outskirts of a city 100 miles from Blink Center.

However, it was easier for excursionists to get there than to go to Blink Center on a Jerkwater railway.

Yet this teaches us that all its vanity and that we often cut a good deal of ice without first building an iceberg.

It occupies an oblique position just between the lungs and the stomach, separating the two and forming what is often termed the floor of the former and the roof of the latter. But, as said before, it separates the fire box or thoracic cavity, and the ash pan, or abdominal cavity; the two particular organs which it lies immediately between, however, are the stomach and lungs.

### MINIATURE AUTOMOBILES.

Some of Bronze Designed for Ornamental Purposes Are Costly.

The automobile has been reproduced in miniature in almost innumerable forms and sizes, made of metal and of basket work and of cardboard, and designed for various uses, as for toys, for candy boxes, for flower holders and so on, or it may be solely for ornament.

Many of these miniature reproductions have been accurate and elaborate in design and finish and some of them have been pretty costly.

Among reproductions of the last named sort, designed for ornamental purposes, are miniature automobiles in bronze, which may be perhaps a foot in length over all and are in appearance very realistic and striking. One, for example, shows a touring car, correct in design and proportion and worked out true in detail, supported on a low pedestal representing a bit of roadway. It is a very handsome and natural appearing little bronze auto, looking fit to step into and start up.

Another miniature auto of this sort in bronze represents a runabout moving at great speed along a road. It contains figures of two men bending forward against the rushing wind and driving the machine for all they know—an impressionist piece this.

Some of these miniature autos in bronze come from Paris, some from Vienna, and some of them sell for \$100 and more.

### POINTING OUT DISTINCTION

Statement of Former Slave Woman Which Meant No Disrespect.

The following anecdote recently brought to Richmond by a Georgia woman is a true story, says the Baltimore Sun.

A Boston couple were recreating near Augusta and met an old negro woman to whom they took a fancy. They invited her to pay them a visit and the black woman accepted, especially as her expenses were paid. In due time she arrived in Boston and was installed in the house of the white folks. She occupied one of the best rooms and ate at the same table with her host and hostess. At one of the meals the hostess said:

"Mrs. Jones, you were a slave, weren't you?"

"Yes, marm," replied Mrs. Jones. "I belonged to Mar's Robert Howell."

"I suppose he never invited you to eat at his table," remarked the Boston woman.

"No, honey, dat he ain't," replied Mrs. Jones. "My master was a gentleman. He ain't never let no nigger eat at de table 'long er him."

And in making this speech she meant no disrespect to her hostess. She meant merely to point out a natural distinction.

Burial on the Congo.

A Swiss traveler, Paul Brun, who has returned from two and a half years' travels among the savage tribes of the Congo, describes in his recently-published journal the dreadful burial ceremony of a chief of the man-eating Bakete. The body is set in a chamber hollowed in the side of a deep ditch, into which young girls are thrown, their arms and legs broken with a club. In the tomb with the chief are goats and fowls, together with his weapons, and especially his gun, which is broken to save it from theft. The earth is then filled in, and his wives and slaves are slain over his grave.

Book Not Yet Written.

No sooner does a writer deliver himself of some study of abnormal social conditions or make some pathologic exhibit of a cancerous growth on the business body of the country than he is hailed as the true interpreter of the American spirit and the most accurate photographer of American qualities. The great American novel is discovered by these critics a dozen times a year.—Cleveland Leader.

Problematical.

"Miss Kookoo, if I should call some evening next week might I depend on you to come?"

"Why, that would—would I depend upon whether or not I knew what evening you were coming, Mr. Thiskull."—Chicago Tribune.

## Home Health Club

By DAVID H. REEDER, Ph. D., M. D.

### HICCOUGH.

I have recently been called upon to relieve a severe case of hiccough which has lasted several days. Although a great deal of medicine has been used, the case was growing steadily worse. Five minutes' treatment with my two hands effected a complete cure, and there has been no return of the trouble.

Hiccough, being a spasmodic spasm of the diaphragm and the glottis, it is only natural to suppose that the proper way to overcome the difficulty is to remove the contractions. But, before proceeding further, the correct thing to do is to learn just what this diaphragm is. First, it is a muscle; it is the partition between the forebox and ash pan of the body. Above this partition are the organs which receive the fuel and convert it into power, and below it are those through which the ashes or matter from which all useful properties have been extracted are to be eliminated.

It occupies an oblique position just between the lungs and the stomach, separating the two and forming what is often termed the floor of the former and the roof of the latter. But, as said before, it separates the fire box or thoracic cavity, and the ash pan, or abdominal cavity; the two particular organs which it lies immediately between, however, are the stomach and lungs.

The diaphragm is concave in form, the concave side being toward the abdomen. You have doubtless frequently seen a little hollow rubber ball, such as children play with. Well, if you were to cut one of those balls in two through the center, the shape of either side would very much resemble that of the diaphragm, excepting that the hollow is not quite so pronounced—the diaphragm is as large as a hat crown. Then if this half-ball were placed in an oblique position between the stomach and lungs, it would represent the diaphragm very well.

The prime use of this muscle is in respiration. The fibers of the muscle contract, causing it to become nearly straight, instead of concave, thus making the cavity in the chest larger and tending to produce a vacuum. The air rushes in to fill this space, and thus the air cells of the lungs are filled; the diaphragm again resumes its natural shape, thereby forcing the air out again, completing respiration.

Has not everyone observed that a full breath is always taken just before coughing, sneezing, or, in fact, any act causing a violent expulsion of air from the lungs? This explains why a "good laugh" or "good cry" is beneficial, both requiring deep inspirations. And in all of these the diaphragm is, of course, brought into active service.

Now that it has been explained that hiccough is a spasmodic contraction of the diaphragm, just what this diaphragm is, what it does, and how it does it, the next thing is to determine how this condition (spasmodic contraction) is to be overcome.

The technical term of hiccough is singultus; but that does not in the least change the impression upon the mind of the suffering individual, unless he is soberly announcing it to him the effect is to cause a profound fright, in which case the trouble is likely to disappear, for the nerves controlling the action of the diaphragm are intimately associated with the emotional or abdominal brain. That is the reason why some experimenters have advised people to place the elbows far apart and slowly bring the points of the index fingers together. This fixes the attention closely upon the points of the fingers, the breath is usually held, while the arms being away from the sides, give freedom to the muscles in expanding, and the combination effects a cure.

But this is only in instances caused by simple and harmless things. There are cases caused by fatigue, nervous debility, low fever, an excess of food or liquids in the stomach, or inflammation or irritation of an obscure nature, and these will not readily yield to such treatment.

One noted writer tells of a case in which all of the remedies prescribed by the authorities were used successively, each in turn failing to bring relief, and finally the attending physician gave up the case in desperation.

It was speedily cured, however, by a motherly neighbor woman, with spontaneous doses of onion juice. Another successful home remedy is a very few drops of oil of cloves on a spoonful of sugar. Bits of ice swallowed has also been found useful, as well as hot fomentations to the abdomen. At the best, all of these remedies are uncertain and unreliable. Therefore, it becomes the duty of the Home Health Club to teach the members of a certain, safe, sure, and, at the same time, simple method of cure.

In the first place, it might be well to remember that the movements of all the muscles are controlled by nerves. It was shown that the diaphragm is a muscle, and that the difficulty in question is a spasmodic contraction of this organ of respiration; so, then, the thing to determine is what nerve or nerves control the action of this special muscle, where it is most easily accessible—and the rest will be plain enough.

The nerve controlling the action of the diaphragm is the phrenic, and it can be most readily reached by pressure applied immediately to the front of the third, fourth and fifth cervical vertebrae.

same time taking him by the wrist and strongly raising his arms high above his head—and the hiccough entirely disappears. I would advise you to give this method a trial, and believe you will have perfectly satisfactory results.

### CLUB NOTES.

If D. F. F., of St. Peter, Minn., will write again, giving name and address in full, I will cheerfully answer his query.

Connecticut.—Dr. David H. Reeder, Laporte, Ind.—Dear Doctor: We take this paper regularly, and I have always been specially interested in your department. Now I have come to trouble you. I am an old woman, 77 years, and have always been healthy. Last year I had a lump in my right breast. There are so many cases of cancer these days, that I felt that I must do what would help me from suffering and dying with a terrible cancer. I went to a prominent surgeon and had my breast examined. Dr. X—pronounced it cancer without doubt, and advised me to have the breast removed by a surgical operation, "the sooner the better for me." In making plans when and where to have it done, I concluded to go to a Massachusetts hospital, because it was nearer my home. I also consulted another surgeon, who also said it was cancer, and gave me the same advice as Dr. X—. I engaged him to perform the operation at the Massachusetts hospital on Decoration day. I went through all the preliminaries and operation like a hero, and came out of everything nobly; did not even have any sickness from taking the anesthetic. One of the hospital doctors who gave me the anesthetic came in my room to see me, and told me there were doubts about its being cancer—that they had sent it to a laboratory to be analyzed. It proved to be a cystic growth. Now, was not that too bad that such a mistake should have been made? I feel that it has cut short my life ten years in taking away my vitality, as I am weaker for it, and want you to help me out by sending me medicine to give me strength and advice, if you think I need it. I feel like changing Dr. Franklin's advice, and say to all surgeons: "Be sure you are right, then don't go ahead until you try other remedies."

I have a simple cure for burns that I have used for years. It may be of some benefit to some one if you see fit to put it in the paper. It is tea leaves. It is the best I ever used, and it will prevent any blistering and smarting, and seems to draw out the fire and toughen the skin. I go to the teapot and take the tea leaves that have been steeped, or, if I do not have them, I take the dry tea and moisten with hot water. Sincerely, Mrs. G. J.

I am sure that all of my readers, as well as myself, will heartily sympathize with you. If you had only been able to know the contents of my recent lecture on breast cancer, all of the suffering might have been saved, as well as the great expense of such an operation. I know that hereafter all who read of your experience will write to the Home Health Club for the simple and practical treatment which I give in the lecture referred to before submitting to surgery. I think, however, that you need not despair, but follow up the suggestions which I give you in a private letter. I thank you on behalf of my readers for the helpful suggestion you make for the home treatment of burns.

All readers of this publication are at liberty to inquire for any information pertaining to the subject of health. Address all communications to the Home Health Club or Dr. David H. Reeder, Laporte, Ind., with name and address in full, and at least four cents in postage.

### Things to Forget.

If you would increase your happiness and prolong your life, forget your neighbor's faults. Forget the temptations. Forget the fault-finding and give little thought to the cause which provoked it. Forget the peculiarities of your friends, and only remember the good points which make you fond of them. Forget all personal quarrels or stories you may have heard by accident, and which, if repeated, would seem a thousand times worse than they are. Blot out as far as possible all the disagreeable things of life; they will come, but they will grow larger when you remember them, and the constant thought of acts of meanness, or worse still, malice, will only tend to make you more familiar with them. Obliterate everything disagreeable from yesterday. Start out with a clean sheet for to-day, and write upon it for sweet memory's sake only those things which are lovely and lovable.—Detroit Free Press.

### The Province of Physicians.

The physician of the future will find his greatest services in prolonging human life. The asylum and the poorhouse are not to be regarded as shining lights of advanced political economy, but there is something in life besides mere political economy, and the prolongation of existence is regarded as one of the chief functions both of the medical profession and of public charities. On the other hand, says the Scientific American, it must be considered that there is a distinct economical loss in cutting off from existence a man before he has run the full course of his career. To train a man for usefulness requires now fully a quarter of a century, and it seems only fair that he should have at least twice that time for the manifestation of his activities. If, therefore, he be cut off at 35, 40 or 45 the community is robbed of service to which it is entitled.

### A Big Work.

The British and Foreign Bible Society has published its one hundred and first annual report. During the year the society has issued 5,857,648 copies of the Bible or parts of the Bible. The Scriptures have been translated into 12 new languages. If 300 men, each speaking a different language, were now to call at the society's headquarters, they would find the whole of the Bible or some portion of it in their language. The total number of issues made by the society since its foundation is 192,537,746.

## SAVED FROM CATARRH OF LUNGS SO COMMON IN WINTER BY TAKING PE-RU-NA.

Sore Throat Develops Into Bronchitis.

Mrs. Addie Harding, 121 W. Brighton Ave., Syracuse, N. Y., writes: "I have been a user of Peruna for the past twelve years. With me it is a sure preventive of colds and many other ills."



Two or three times a year I am troubled with my throat, a kind of raw feeling, turning to bronchitis. I have had the services of my physician in each case. Two years ago, when I felt a spell coming I tried Peruna to check it, and to my delight was not troubled with the smothered and choking feeling and never have been since. I can check it every time with Peruna."



Mrs. Virginia Caviana.

Chronic Catarrh of Throat and Lungs.

Mrs. Virginia Caviana, room 39, Cambridge Block, Portland, Ore., writes: "I was a sufferer with catarrh of the throat and lungs for a long time before Peruna was recommended to me. I gave it a trial, although I thought at the time it would be just like other medicine and do me no good. I was pleased to find that my improvement began in less than two weeks and continued until I was entirely well. I gained nearly 15 pounds, have a splendid appetite and am grateful for what your medicine has done for me."

### SICK HEADACHE

Positively cured by CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. They also relieve Diarrhoea from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Heavy Eating. A perfect remedy for Biliousness, Stomach Troubles, Headache, Constipation, Pimples, Itching of the Skin, and all the ailments of the Bowels. Purely Vegetable. SMALL PILL. SMALL DOSE. SMALL PRICE.

GENUINE SIGNATURE. Refuse substitutes.

### Holdings Out a Hope.

This is what the litigant in the adjoining county wrote to the circuit clerk: "Is it necessary for me to be at the trial in person? When does my case come up?"

Response by the circuit clerk: "No; your attorney can represent you. You will have your hearing week after next."

Rejoinder of litigant: "If you are sure of that, I'll come. I'm deaf."—Chicago Tribune.

### Evidence of Refinement.

Mrs. Nuritch—Mr. Nuritch is so particular so refined in his tastes, don't you know? For instance, he has his coffee imported direct and no one else in this country gets any just like it.

Mrs. McCall—Indeed? I suppose he drinks a great deal of it.

"Oh, not only a sauciful at each meal."—Philadelphia Press.

### Cures Rheumatism and Catarrh—Medicine Sent Free.

Send no money—simply write and try Botanic Blood Balm at our expense. Botanic Blood Balm (B. B. B.) kills or destroys the poison in the blood which causes the arthritic and rheumatic bladder, shifting pains, difficulty in moving fingers, toes or legs, bone pains, swollen muscles and joints of rheumatism, at the throat, breaking, spitting, droppings in throat, bad hearing, specks flying before the eyes, all played out feeling of catarrh. Botanic Blood Balm has cured hundreds of cases of 20 or 40 years' chronic, deep-seated cases. Impossible for any one to suffer the agonies or symptoms of rheumatism or catarrh, while or after taking Blood Balm. It makes the blood pure and rich, thereby giving a healthy blood supply. Cures are permanent and not a patching up. Drug store, \$1 per large bottle. Sample of Blood Balm sent free and prepaid, also special medical advice by describing your trouble and writing Blood Balm Co., Atlanta, Ga.

### One Wife Too Many.

Prison Visitor—What are you in for, my man?

Convict—Second degree.

"Matrimony."—Philadelphia Press.

A Cup of Garfield Tea before retiring will insure a natural and refreshing sleep. Kidneys, stomach and bowels. Send for sample package. Garfield Tea Co., Brooklyn, N. Y. Send name of your druggist.

An awakened public sentiment is a good thing, until it begins to get peevish and unreasonable from lack of sleep.—Puck.

Taylor's Cherokee Remedy of Sweet Gum and Mullen is Nature's great remedy—Cures Coughs, Colds, Whooping Cough, and all throat and lung troubles. At drug stores, 25c, 50c, and \$1.00 per bottle.

The older a man is the more confident he becomes that he could turn a hand-spring if he wanted to do so.

A pessimist is a person who told you he beforehand.

## THE EXTERNAL USE OF St. Jacobs Oil

It penetrates to the seat of torture, and relief promptly follows. Price, 25c. and 50c.

## ANTI-GRIPINE

IS GUARANTEED TO CURE GRIP, BAD COLDS, HEADACHE AND NEURALGIA. One Dose Relieves the Pain. Send for FREE TRIAL. W. W. Wood & Sons, Chicago, Ill.

## FOR HALF A CENTURY WOOD'S FEVER PILLS

HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED AS A SURE CURE FOR ALL MALARIAL AND FEBRILE DISEASES. At a Famous Dispensary, Wood's Fever Pills, and in every Town and City. Get a Box. DR. W. W. WOOD & SONS, CALIF., ILL.