SERMONS WORTH READING.

III.

JESUS AS A MAN OF PRAYER.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MASTER'S SPIRIT AND HABIT, BY THE REV. DR. JOHN RHEY THOMPSON.

The Washington Square Methodist Episcopal Church, in Fourth-st., near Sixth-ave., has the well-earned reputation of being a most benevolent church. Last year the contributions to home and foreign missions amounted to over $5,300, which was more than that given by any other church of the denomination in the United States. It is one of the few flourishing down-town churches which have held their own against the tide of population. Its pastor, the Rev. Dr. John Rhey Thompson, has been in the ministry seventeen years. When only seventeen years old he was licensed to preach, and two years later was received as a regular preacher. Before he was twenty-five, he was elected president of the West Virginia State University, over which he presided for four years with success. His text yesterday morning was Matthew xiv, 23: "And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, He was there alone." He said in substance:

Earlier in this chapter Jesus is brought before us as overtaken by a great grief. It is related that when He heard of the cruel and shameful death of John the Baptist He took a ship and sailed across the Sea of Galilee into a desert and solitary place. All deep grief seeks solitude. The smitten heart seeks to be alone with its sorrow and its God. As soon, however, as the people knew where Jesus was, they followed Him on foot out of all the cities in the region round about, and when He saw the multitude of men and women streaming to Him from every quarter with their griefs, and sicknesses, and sorrows, and sins, it is said that "He had compassion on them and healed their sick." We may be sure also that He mingled wise and timely instruction with this gracious exercise of His healing power. In this grateful and blessed employ, rewarding but fatiguing, the whole of the day was spent.

At its close occurred that remarkable miracle of feeding the 5,000, beside women and children. And then He sent the multitudes away. He did not wait for them to go, but He told them to go, using that air of calm authority with which at times He manifested His power over men. Then, when the evening was come, as the last straggler of the great crowd disappeared in the distance, He went up into a mountain apart to pray, and He was there alone. The sun, perchance, was just disappearing beneath the blue waves of the Mediterranean, the western sky was all aflame with celestial splendor, the clouds were touched with gold, and slowly, as day deepened into night, one after another the stars of God came out and began to shine in the infinite blue above Him. Jesus is at prayer! A holy hush is on all the landscape. The Lord is in His holy temple, and all the earth is silent before Him. Only the noiseless, white-winged angels of God are there, keeping solemn watch and ward above the weary Son of Man.

THE NEED OF PRIVATE PRAYER.

We study this morning the spirit and habit of Jesus as a man of prayer. First of all, the example of Jesus herein emphasizes for us the duty, the beauty, and the value of solitary, secret prayer. He loved to pray, not only, but he loved to pray alone. There is no doubt that Jesus was fond of solitude, that crowds and cities were with Him matters of duty, and that the great temple of Nature, quiet meditation, the communion of His soul with His Father, were the joy, the inspiration, and the strength of His life. He derived the love, the insight, the courage, the patience, the tenderness and the fortitude with which he endured all that came to Him by this devotion to private prayer. My friends, have we fully learned this lesson? Have we learned the wisdom, the power, the beauty, of secret prayer?

We need to learn that no amount of public prayer, no amount of prayer in the family, in the church, or at the prayer-meeting, will ever atone for the loss we suffer if we neglect the example and command of our Lord concerning secret personal prayer. This is not strange. Those of us who are parents know that sometimes our children wish to be with us separately and alone. If we are wise and worthy parents, we will encourage and invite such intimacy on the part of each child. Every child has its own temperament, its own longings, plans, hopes, its own life to live, and the child may not prefer to open its secret heart before brothers and sisters, but will readily converse when alone with father or mother. And do we not often need to be alone with the great Father in heaven?

We are nothing but grown-up children, after all, and the distance between ourselves and our children, when compared with the distance between us and God, serves to reveal how much more we are children to Him than our children are to us. O, if we are wise we will often be alone with our Father, to be taught, to be refreshed, to be strengthened by the freedom of the intercourse afforded by solitude and privacy. Our Master, at every period, every phase, every turning point in His experience, was equal to the temptations, the trial-hours, the bufflettings that came to Him. Is He to be tempted of the devil forty days? He prays at His baptism before the trial comes. Does a great grief come into His life? He will be free from the crowd, and though at first they seem to outmatch Him, and in their thoughtless eagerness press about Him, His heart well-nigh breaking the meanwhile, when the evening comes, He will compel His disciples to get into the ship, and leave Him.

Is He nearing the day of arrest, trial, death? Then He spends the night in prayer. He prayed and His disciples slept. In the trial-hour of the next day, He conquered, and they, recreant and cowardly, miserably failed. The difference between two Christian men suddenly confronted with severe and unlooked-for temptation is, that the one who overcomes the temptation was on his knees in his closet that morning, and the man who yields to it has not been alone with God for a week. He who is alone with His Father in secret shall be openly rewarded in the hour of danger, and he who neglects His Father in secret will in the hour of peril suddenly find himself shorn of confidence and strength.

THE TRUE IDEA OF CHRISTIAN PRAYER.

There are sincere and honest people who reserve prayer for the emergencies of life only. I knew a man, a good man, a member of the church, a prayerful man, as people are ordinarily prayerful, who passed through a severe and menacing business experience, and he prayed more during a month of that period than he had for ten or twelve years prior to it. This was his own testimony, and he seemed to look upon it as eminently meritorious. When in the end his affairs turned out as he desired, he declared to me that it was because he prayed so much and so earnestly; he believed that God had answered his prayers as against the other man—for it was a situation where if one went up, the other must go down. That is not the true idea of Christian prayer, my friends. It is superstition, it is magic, it is anything but prayer, as Jesus interprets the meaning of prayer for us.

One man finds himself in a narrow and hard place as regards another man, and as one or the other must fail, he goes to work and prays with all his might; both are religious men; one is a Presbyterian and the other is a Methodist, and finally by dint of hard praying for three or four weeks, the Methodist beats the Presbyterian! Why, that is miserable, wretched superstition; that is not prayer at all. Prayer is something other and higher than the use of Omnipotence for the purpose of outwitting your brother-man.

There are those who reserve prayer for the emergency of death. So, also, there are those who reserve prayer for the emergency of grief or trouble. My brethren, it should not be so; our lives should be penetrated and pervaded with the spirit of prayer; the fragrant odor of prayer should be on the whole of life, on its sorrows and its joys, its successes and defeats, on our labors and our recreations, on all that we think, or love, or do, or say, or are; our whole lives should be lived in the very atmosphere of prayer! Do we not need it?

Try earnestly to live a real life, try for one whole day in every part of your life to fulfil one single command in the spirit as well as in the letter, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself," bind yourself to keep that for twenty-four hours, and, oh! how you will learn the need of prayer! If He needed to pray, how much more do we! If He, in the anticipation of temptation, needed to be forearmed by prayer, may we hope to escape without armor or weapons? If we would escape the corruption that has gotten into this world, if we hope to build ourselves up in all virtue and godliness, if we would be fruitful in the knowledge of Him, we must drill ourselves into the habit of prayer, so that prayer shall live in us, that it may be indeed our "vital breath," so that if we should be asked when we pray, and how often, and where, we may be able to smile as we remember that our whole mind and heart, all our time, yea, that our entire being has become a thanksgiving to the Power that made us.

WHERE THE MASTER PRAYED.

The spirit and habit of Jesus as a man of prayer teaches us that we are to seek our Father alone with Nature. Where did Jesus pray? In deserts—that is, in solitary places. Have you ever read a description of one of these desert places on the eastern side of the Sea of Genesareth whither Jesus oftentimes resorted for secret prayer? It will be good reading for you to take your Farrar's or Geikie's "Life of Jesus" this afternoon and learn what a barren, desolate and forbidding region it was. If ever you have travelled much, and especially in the country, you know that when you reached a desolate region it was not hard to pray. He loved the mountains, and prayed on their sides and on their summits; He loved the sea, and prayed on its pebbly beach; He loved Nature, and He loved to be alone with His Father and with Nature. He did not disparage or despise the temple or the synagogue. He never sought to cast any odium on public or consecrated places; but as for Himself, He preferred to pray in the great temple of the universe.

This lesson, also, we need to learn. We are all being insensibly affected by this city life of ours. These long rows of houses, these paved streets, this little patch of blue sky, that we see perhaps once a fortnight, is slowly and unfavorably affecting us, cramping and dwarfing us, making us conventional, artificial, unreal, mechanical. Bryant was right; Nature does calm us:

> "She glides
> Into our darker musings, with a mild
> And healing sympathy that steals away
> Their sharpness ere we are aware."

There is that in Nature, and there is that in communion with Nature, which none of us can afford to dispense with, either in the foundation or the building of character. I count that man fortunate who was born within sight of the mighty sea or a lofty range of mountains. The great German, Jean Paul, says somewhere that "music dilates the heart to its whole capacity for the Infinite." So does the sea to the child, and so will a lofty range of mountains to a young and growing soul. Without these three things no great, or strong, or deep, or fruitful character can be built—solitude, communion with Nature, prayer to Almighty God. All other characters are weak, feverish, unreal, unequal to life's heavy tasks, and yield when suddenly brought under pressure. The great, strong, deep, calm, mighty souls have been those that dared to be alone; those who loved the sea and the mountains and the sky; those that under the mystic azure arch have prayed to God. There is an added solemnity, a heightened reality to life and love, to work and duty, to prayer and God, as we stand under the unfretting stars, seeming to whisper,

> "Peace, peace, troubled soul!
> Immortality is not far away!"

NEED OF REGULAR TIMES FOR PRAYER.

Finally, the example of Jesus as a man of prayer teaches us that we are to make provision for fitting times and occasions to pray, and that we are to give ourselves to securing those times with firmness and earnestness. I recall your attention to the teaching of the text and context: "And they that had eaten were about five thousand men, beside women and children. And Jesus straightway constrained"—that is, compelled—"His disciples to get into a ship, and to go before Him unto the other side, while He sent the multitudes away." He seems to have been seized with a holy impulse, with a divine fervor. As a hungry man, long abstaining from food by enforcement, draws near at last to a table filled with bounties, and is impatient, so does His soul, that had all day long carried its lonely grief over the death of John the Baptist, now at last cry out, "I must have my Father!" The disciples are gone. He sends the multitude away, and at once He seeks prayer with God.

Oh, how our prayers contrast with His! How veined they are with insincerity! How cold they are! How formal, how lifeless, how perfunctory, how official, how weak! How few of us have ever learned to send the multitude away, if not the multitude of people, then the multitude of distracting thoughts. We make a feeble, languid, sickly effort to dispossess our mind, and so we seek to appease our conscience. We kneel down to offer a few hurried words of prayer, and all the time we hear the worldly voices, or the tramp of hurrying feet, and we are not alone with our God; nor do we have the time, the patience, the strenuousness of faith, required to say to this crowd of thoughts about gold, and honor, and wealth, and ease, and pleasure, "Leave me!"

How long has it been since by foresight you saved an hour to be alone with God? How superficial our prayers are! Alas! how many use prayer merely as a spell, as a kind of cabalistic word or necromancy, like some Eastern magician or African fetish-worshipper; we rush through the list of the charmed words, vainly and superstitiously imagining that because we have said them we have averted the wrath of an angry God. What a humiliation of prayer that is!

MANY WRONG USES OF PRAYER.

How many use prayer as a charm, as the ignorant savage hangs about his neck his string of beads to keep off the demons and the evil spirits that otherwise might consume him! How many there are who use prayer simply that they may have their children live longer; how many use prayer that the new business scheme may be prospered; how many use prayer that they may have an advantage over a rival! Again I say, this is not prayer; it is superstition, gross and debauching. Prayer is communion with God, prayer is the uplifting of the soul until it is in God's presence consciously, prayer is that spiritual exercise by which a man enters into joyous and purifying communion with the Great Spirit of the universe; and the best prayer of all prayers asks nothing, it loves and adores and worships, and thus is gradually transformed into the moral likeness of Him to whom we pray.

Suffer me, my brethren, to exhort you to pray. Are you young, and just fastening on the armor for the strife of life? Then pray as Jesus prayed at His baptism, that the Holy Ghost may descend upon you! Are you in joy? Then suffuse and perfume your joys in prayer. Are you in adversity? Then pray to be delivered from the bitter spirit of envy and malignity and despair. Are you weary of the world? Then force yourself to be alone with God, and the stars, and the sea, and the mountain, and duty and eternity, and you will come back to life equipped to wage successful war against every foe. Do you see the Cross looming up darkly before you? Then pray that you may have fellowship with His sufferings through whose Cross the world found life. Does the crowd applaud you? Then pray that no crown may ever be on your forehead but the Crown of Life. Does the crowd hiss and execrate you? Then pray that you may have fellowship with Him who was alone save as the Father was with Him.

Are you on the mount of vision, breathing the heavenly air, your heart glowing with strange joy, the horizons disappearing one after another, until there are no horizons, and you feel the presence and power of eternity? Then pray that you may not be content to stay there, but that you may be quickened to come back to where men struggle, and help them. Has the evening come? It hastens for some of us. Has the evening come? Does the sinking sun begin to touch the waves of life's mysterious sea? Are you looking upon the well-worn paths, and the familiar landscape, and the dear faces for the last time? Do you feel the damp dew, the chill shadow, the solemn breath, of night? Then pray that it may please God graciously to fulfil in you the words of the prophet: At evening time it shall be light.

AN EARNEST CAMPAIGN IN NEW-JERSEY.

A CORDIAL GREETING TO MR. BLAINE—INCREASED REGISTRATION.

Trenton, N. J., Oct. 28.—All eyes were turned upon Newark yesterday, when Mr. Blaine visited the city and was received with the enthusiasm that always welcomes his appearance there. He has visited the city at every important election for a number of years, and has been received with unvarying cordiality. On the same evening Mr. Mills, of Texas, also visited Newark, and the same city has had a dozen other meetings of importance in the last week, while the next ten days are to be crowded with political events. The situation is much the same all over the State. A campaign that up to October 1 had been considered among the quietest on record, though its earnestness was admitted, has developed into one of intense interest. The Republicans are certainly well pleased with the situation, the more so as they are satisfied that their opponents are over-confident.

The Legislature will be Republican beyond any present doubt, although there is no margin for careless work and constant effort will be necessary to make assurance sure. It is probable that the Republican candidate in the Democratic IVth Congressional District will be elected. It is said to be certain that the so-called regular Democratic candidate, Fowler, will be third man in the race, so vigorously has he been opposed by his own party press.

The registry under the new law shows conclusively that the vote will be larger than smaller on account of the change in method. That there has been some false registration in Jersey City has been abundantly proven, and 300 warrants have been issued at the request of the Republican Committee. The registration of Hoboken will be examined this week. One Republican in Jersey City recently discovered that four different men had voted upon his name in as many different precincts at a recent election.

THE SUNDAY TRIBUNE.

Mr. Smalley wrote in The Sunday Tribune of Sir Morell Mackenzie and told some incidents in the history of the English doctor's relations with his Imperial patient; E. C.'s letter from Paris commented on the unveiling of the Shakespeare statue there and of Shakespeare's influence in France; Mr. Fred H. Carruth described his adventures in search of a box among the freight stations of West-st.; Mrs. J. R. Green's "Henry the Second" was reviewed, as were "The Kalevala," a Finnish epic poem done into English by Mr. John Martin Crawford, and four new novels by American writers; a correspondent in Rio Janeiro wrote about Brazil under emancipation; other features were Washington Gossip; Tin Types Taken in New-York Streets (with illustrations); Down South, a sketch; Bedell, and the Moral of Him; How Men Fail in New-York; Beyond the Big Bridge; Gossip of the Ball Field; Colonies for [illegible] and Literary Notes, and all the news of the day, the leading topics of which were as follows:

Foreign.—Emperor William, in replying to the congratulations of the municipal authorities of Berlin upon his return, urged the authorities to silence, if possible, the gossip in the press about his private family affairs. ═══ The Empress Frederick is to visit England. ═══ The Bulgarian Sobranje was opened by Prince Ferdinand. ═══ Mr. Spurgeon is reported very sick. ═══ The case of De Baun, the defaulting New-York cashier, was argued in Montreal; decision was reserved.

Domestic.—Thirteen whaling vessels from San Francisco were reported locked in the ice off the north coast of Siberia. ═══ General Harrison received delegations of railroad men; Mrs. Harrison was visited by young women students of her Alma Mater at Oxford, Ohio. ═══ Warner Miller made a speech in Rockland County. ═══ The ferryboat Erastus Wiman went on a trial trip at Baltimore. ═══ John Guy Vassar died in Poughkeepsie. ═══ Mr. Bayard said that no Cabinet meeting had been held to consider the question of asking Lord Sackville's recall; that none would be held until the President's return; that no instructions had been sent to Minister Phelps. ═══ There were four deaths and forty-six new cases of yellow fever in Jacksonville. ═══ The Philadelphia Stock Exchange opened its new rooms in the new Drexel Building.

City and Suburban.—Mr. Blaine and General Adam King spoke at two great Republican mass-meetings in Newark. ═══ President Cleveland reviewed the Democratic parade; instead of the 60,000 voters expected to be in line there were only 14,420 by actual count. The President and his party returned to Washington in the evening. ═══ Ex-Justice Noah Davis elected president of the Harrison and Morton Club of the Bar of the city, organized at the Union League Club. ═══ Stocks dull and lower, closing steady.

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SUGGESTIONS TO VOTERS.

MUST LIVE A YEAR IN JERSEY.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: A person living in New-York hires a house in Jersey City and pays rent from November 1, 1887. A few days later he furnishes the house, but does not occupy it until November 19, his wedding day. Is he entitled to vote in Jersey City on November 6, of this year? An answer in your valuable paper will oblige. A CONSTANT READER.

Jersey City, Oct. 24, 1888.

(He cannot vote, as he did not become a resident of New-Jersey until November 19, 1887, and the New-Jersey Constitution requires a year's residence in the State as a qualification of a voter.—Ed.)

YOU ARE ENTITLED TO VOTE.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I arrived here on April 13, 1887, coming from Holyoke, Mass., to take a position which I have since occupied. My family were left behind as I was not able to secure a house for them until April 1, 1888, when they joined me here. I remained at this place at the election of 1887, considering this as my residence. Can I vote as having been resident of this State for more than one year? A PROTECTIONIST.

Castleton, N. Y., Oct. 22, 1888.

(You became a resident of this State when you adopted it as your permanent home and had a place of residence within its borders. The delay in moving your family does not deprive you of your right. You have complied with the Constitutional requirements as to length of residence in the State.—Ed.)

TEMPORARY ABSENCE NO BAR.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Is "A. J." entitled to vote at the approaching election? He lived in Europe for two years before October, 1887. He returned to New-York but immediately left for Cuba, where he remained until March, 1888. Since that time he has lived in one district in this city. He declares that he has never given up his residence in this State. W.

New-York, Oct. 23, 1888.

(If A. J. lived in this State before he started out on his travels he did not lose his residence by his temporary absence.—Ed.)

BETTORS ON ELECTION CANNOT VOTE.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Can a man vote who has a bet depending on the result of the election, if he has all the other qualifications of a voter? J. B. L.

New-York, Oct. 17, 1888.

(The State Constitution provides that no person "who shall make or become directly or indirectly interested in any bet or wager depending upon the results of any election shall vote at such election." On challenge for such cause, the person challenged can not vote until he has sworn or affirmed that he has not made nor become directly nor indirectly interested in any such bet or wager.—Ed.)

CANNOT VOTE IN TWO STATES.

To the Editor of the Tribune.

Sir: A young man went from this place to California two and a half years ago, and returned last April. Can he vote here? Would his intention to return to California make any difference? Where can a copy of the election laws be procured? INSPECTOR.

Meridian, N. Y., Oct. 22, 1888.

(If the young man voted in California or considered that State his place of residence, he can not vote in this State until he has lived here for one year. If he intends to return to California to live, his intention would make it evident that his stay here was temporary, and he certainly could not vote. A useful compilation of the election laws was at one time made by the Secretary of State, but the edition may have been exhausted.—Ed.)

LOST HIS RIGHTS IN THIS COUNTRY.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: A native-born citizen of the United States went to Canada, and while a resident there became a citizen of Canada, taking the necessary oath of allegiance. Does he, by returning to the United States and residing in this State one year, in the county four months, and the district thirty days, become entitled to vote? J. R.

Waddington, Oct. 22, 1888.

(No. By his naturalization in Canada he has renounced his allegiance to the United States, and he cannot again become a citizen of this country without naturalization.—Ed.)

YOUR FRIEND IS ALL RIGHT.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: A friend of mine moved to this town from another county in this State on July 7. Is he entitled to vote at the coming election? A. R. G.

Sherburne, Oct. 23, 1888.

(Yes. He will have been a resident of the county for the last four months when he offers to vote.—Ed.)

YOU SHOULD CERTAINLY VOTE.

To the Editor of the Tribune.

Sir: I have lived in various parts of the city for several years, my family leaving home only in the summer months. Last June we left our city home for the country, leaving our surplus baggage in the house. I returned early in August, and stayed at a down-town hotel. My family returned early in October, and we went again to the house which we left in June. Am I entitled to vote? G. H. M.

New-York, Oct. 22, 1888.

Neither your temporary absence in the country nor your stay at a hotel until your family returned made any break in your legal residence in the election district in which your permanent home was. The law requires a residence of thirty days before election as a qualification of a voter, and you appear, from details in your letter too minute for publication, to have lived for two years in the same election district.—Ed.)

NEW-JERSEY REPUBLICANS, REGISTER.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: A statement has appeared in several of the newspapers to the effect that Thursday, October 25, was the last day of registration in New-Jersey. This is a mistake. According to the law passed by the New-Jersey Legislature last winter, the last day of registration for all cities of over 100,000 inhabitants is Thursday, October 25. This only applies to the cities of Jersey City and Newark. In all other parts of the State of New-Jersey, the last day of registration is Thursday, November 1. I hope you will state this fact prominently in your columns, as many voters in New-Jersey outside of Jersey City and Newark have failed to register, and may be misled into thinking that they have thereby lost their vote. For all such, there is one more day of grace, viz.: Thursday of next week, and it is very important that all Republicans living in New-Jersey should see to it that no vote is lost through misapprehension with respect to the application of this new law of registration. GILBERT R. HAWES.

New-York, Oct. 27, 1888.

THE FUND FOR BOYCOTTED WOMEN.

A musical and literary entertainment was given by various artists and glee clubs at the Windsor Theatre last evening for the benefit of the fund for boycotted women. Recitations were given by J. H. Gilmour, Alfred Kline, George Marion and F. S. Gibbs. Other features of the programme were a violin solo by Signor Praeger; piano solo, Madame Constance Howard; banjo playing, Reuben Brooks, and selections by Miss Gertie Hoyt, Master Harrie, the boy soprano; the Socialistische Siedertafel and the Quartette Sassalea Ottensen. Signor Agramonte acted as accompanist. Manager Murtha placed the theatre at the disposal of the Workingwomen's Society for the benefit of the fund.

SERVICES IN MEMORY OF COLONEL PULSIFER.

Boston, Oct. 28 (Special).—Memorial services were held this afternoon in the Swedenborgian Church, at Newtonville, in memory of Colonel Royal M. Pulsifer. The church was crowded with friends of the dead man, and the church was draped in mourning. There were also several beautiful floral tributes, tastefully arranged near the pulpit. The address was delivered by the pastor of the church, the Rev. John Worcester, who paid a kind tribute to the memory of Mr. Pulsifer, who had done a great deal for the church as well as for his native place. Mr. Pulsifer's public career and his home life were alluded to appropriately, and a warm tribute was paid to his kindly nature and to his many excellent qualities.

FOR COLORED CATHOLICS IN PITTSBURG.

Pittsburg, Oct. 28 (Special).—A colored Catholic school will be opened in this city, and as soon as possible afterward a church will be given by Bishop Phelan to the colored people for their exclusive use. The latter will probably be under the pastorate of George Reed, a young colored student of this city, who is now studying at the Propaganda in Rome and will be ordained in about one year. The school will be in charge of two Sisters of Mercy. A great many colored people have promised to send their children and to attend church themselves. Hundreds of colored children now go to the Eleventh, Seventh, Sixth and Fifth Ward schools, and as a consequence the attendance there will fall off.

A NEW STEEL STEAMSHIP.

Philadelphia, Oct. 28 (Special).—The new steel steamship Corona left the Neafie & Levy shipyards today, bound for Valparaiso and San Francisco. She will be placed on the line running from the latter city.

AN ENVOY EXTRAORDINARY.

THE A, B, C OF LORD SACKVILLE'S PROFESSION.

It is forbidden to diplomatic agents abroad to participate in any manner in the political concerns of the country of their residence.—(Secretary Bayard's Instructions to American Diplomatic Agents, 1885.

HIS OPINION SOLICITED

ON WHAT WAS NONE OF HIS BUSINESS.

Pomona, Cal., Sept. 4, 1888.

To the British Minister, Washington, D. C.:

Sir: The gravity of the political situation here and the duties of those voters who are of English birth but still consider England the mother land constitute the apology I hereby offer for intruding for information.

Mr. Cleveland's message to Congress on the Fishery question justly excites our alarm and compels us to seek further knowledge before finally casting our votes for him as we had intended to do. Many English citizens have for years refrained from being naturalized, as they thought no good would accrue from the act, but Mr. Cleveland's Administration has been so favorable and friendly toward England, so kind in not enforcing the Retaliatory act passed by Congress, so sound on the free-trade question and so hostile to the dynamite school of Ireland, that by the hundreds—yes, by the thousands—they have become naturalized for the express purpose of helping to elect him over again. The one above all of American politicians they consider their own and their country's best friend.

I am one of these unfortunates with a right to vote for President in November. I am unable to understand for whom I shall cast my ballot, when but one month ago I was sure Mr. Cleveland was the man. IF CLEVELAND WAS PURSUING A NEW POLICY TOWARD CANADA, TEMPORARILY ONLY AND FOR THE SAKE OF OBTAINING POPULARITY AND CONTINUATION OF HIS OFFICE FOUR YEARS MORE, BUT INTENDS TO CEASE HIS POLICY WHEN HIS RE-ELECTION IS SECURED IN NOVEMBER AND AGAIN FAVOR ENGLAND'S INTEREST, THEN I SHOULD HAVE NO FURTHER DOUBTS, BUT GO FORWARD AND VOTE FOR HIM.

I know of no one better able to direct me, sir, and I most respectfully ask your advice in the matter. I will further add that the two men, Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Harrison, are very evenly matched and a few votes may elect either one. Mr. Harrison is a high-tariff man, a believer on the American side of all questions and undoubtedly an enemy to British interests generally. This State is equally divided between the parties, and a mere handful of our naturalized countrymen can turn it either way. When it is remembered that a small State (Colorado) defeated Mr. Tilden in 1876 and elected Hayes, the Republican, the importance of California is at once apparent to all.

As you are at the fountain head of knowledge on the question, and KNOW WHETHER MR. CLEVELAND'S PRESENT POLICY IS TEMPORARY ONLY, AND WHETHER HE WILL, AS SOON AS HE SECURES ANOTHER TERM OF FOUR YEARS IN THE PRESIDENCY, SUSPEND IT FOR ONE OF FRIENDSHIP AND FREE TRADE, I apply to you privately and confidentially for information, which shall in turn be treated as entirely secret. Such information would put me at rest myself, and if favorable to Mr. Cleveland enable me, on my own responsibility, to assure many of our countrymen that THEY WOULD DO ENGLAND A SERVICE BY VOTING FOR CLEVELAND AND AGAINST THE REPUBLICAN SYSTEM OF TARIFF. As I before observed, we know not what to do, but look for more light on a mysterious subject, which the sooner it comes will better serve true Englishmen in casting their votes. Yours, very respectfully, CHARLES F. MURCHISON.

BUT JOHN BULL'S MOUTHPIECE

REPLIES WITH AMAZING FRANKNESS.

(Private.)

Beverly, Mass., Sept. 13, 1888.

Sir: I am in receipt of your letter of the 4th inst., and beg to say that I fully appreciate the difficulty in which you find yourself in casting your vote. You are probably aware that any political party which openly favored the mother country at the present moment would lose popularity, and that the party in power is fully aware of this fact. The party, however, is, I believe, still desirous of maintaining friendly relations with Great Britain, and is still as desirous of settling all questions with Canada, which have been unfortunately reopened since the retraction of the treaty by the Republican majority in the Senate, and by the President's message, to which you allude. All allowances must, therefore, be made for the political situation as regards the Presidential election thus created. It is, however, impossible to predict the course which President Cleveland may pursue in the matter of retaliation, should he be elected; but there is every reason to believe that, while upholding the position he has taken, he will manifest a spirit of conciliation in dealing with the question involved in his message. I enclose an article from "The New-York Times" of August 22, and remain,

Yours faithfully,
L. S. SACKVILLE WEST.

From "The New-York Times," Aug. 22.

There is this further consideration in favor of supporting the Administration on this issue. It will leave the question still open for friendly means of settlement of some kind, while a support of the Senate's position would close all avenues of future negotiations, and bring upon the country the disastrous consequences of retaliation, hostility, and possible war. It would put an end to all prospect of improving the commercial relations of the United States and Canada. This is one of the questions which the people should keep in mind in casting their votes next November.

INDISCREET LORD SACKVILLE.

HOW JOHN BULL'S INTERFERENCE STRIKES THE COUNTRY.

A CONSPIRATOR OR AN IMBECILE.

From The Philadelphia Times (Dem.)

Minister Sackville, who represents the English Government at Washington, has committed an insolent and unpardonable affront to the whole American people, and through them to their Government, by assuming to advise a British-American naturalized citizen how to vote in the selection of a President.

It matters not whether Lord Sackville is a fool or a knave; whether he was "trapped," as he says, or whether he conspired with politicians to arouse National prejudice in a Presidential contest. He is an an experienced English diplomat, where diplomacy is a profession, and if he was "trapped," he is in his dotage, and should be dismissed for imbecility; if he was not "trapped," he is a low political conspirator and should be kicked out of the country for villany.

AMERICA, NOT ENGLAND, SHOULD MOVE.

From The New-York Sun (Dem.)

Neither General Taylor, nor his Secretary of State, Mr. John M. Clayton, saw any occasion for standing upon ceremony with a foreign diplomat who had insulted the Government of the United States. They did not send to Paris to ask President Cavaignac to have the kindness to withdraw the offensive envoy. They took another and a more decided course. They sent M. Poussin his passports, and bade him get out without delay. That is what President Cleveland and Secretary Bayard ought to have done with Lord Sackville.

"IT IS ENGLISH, QUITE ENGLISH, YOU KNOW."

From The Indianapolis Journal.

Lionel Sackville West's letter has placed the Democratic campaign on the correct basis. It is English, you know, and Mr. Cleveland meets My Lord's hearty approval.

BAYARD'S TOLERANCE EXPLAINED.

From The Cincinnati Commercial Gazette.

The question is asked why they (Bayard and Company) did not instantly demand the recall of West. Well, perhaps they had given themselves away to him.

AN OUTRAGE, EVEN IF WELL MEANT.

From The Boston Traveller.

It is none the less an insult because it was intended to promote Mr. Cleveland's political interests.

HANDS OFF, IF YOU PLEASE, MR. BULL!

From The Washington Star.

England, with its historical reputation for meddling with the domestic concerns of the other nations of the world, needs to be especially warned to keep off American premises. The self-constituted guardian of Asia, Africa, south America and Europe already has its hands full without undertaking the task of controlling the elections of this republic and of dictating in reference to its domestic concerns. The cautiously-worded and confidential letter of the British Minister is rendered especially offensive to the American, because it is given color by the known meddlesome policy of England in its dealings with other nations.

WHO PROMPTED THIS AMAZING ACT?

Dispatch to The Philadelphia Times.

To-night the matter was surrounded with a new and startling light, turned on by a distinguished foreign diplomat, now in this city. The gentleman referred to has passed much of his time in the study of diplomacy, and he laughs at the idea that the British Minister has been innocently entrapped by a Republican snare. Said he: "There must be some motive underlying what appears to be an error of the most serious character. Is it probable that the British Minister would of his own motion take upon himself the responsibility of advising a voter how to cast his ballot in a country in which Lord Sackville is an alien? Bear in mind that this man to whom the criticised letter was written is no longer a British subject, but is an American citizen. Why should the representative of a foreign Kingdom take upon himself, not only to give him advice, but to convey it with an assumption of confidence. The letter is written with evident care, and it is an elaborate exposition of Great Britain's hope in the solution of a vexatious problem. To one acquainted with the methods of the intriguing Court of St. James, it is as plain as the noonday sun that Lord Sackville would not have taken upon himself the authority for such a written declaration had he not received positive instructions from his home Government. That letter had its inspiration from London, and was written for the public eye.

NEITHER A MYTH NOR A FORGERY.

From The Brooklyn Standard-Union.

Can they deny that the English Minister is in existence, or that he wrote the letter quoted? And can they deny that the letter was written in the interest of Cleveland and of free trade when it reenforces its own arguments by an extract from an American newspaper which is working might and main for the triumph of Cleveland and free trade?

MORE LIKE BENEDICT ARNOLD THAN WASHINGTON.

From The Wheeling Intelligencer.

Mr. Cleveland is the first President of the United States in whose behalf so indecorous a thing has been done. It stamps him anew as the British candidate.

HIS ZEAL KNEW NO BOUNDS.

From The Worcester Gazette.

Lord Sackville was under no obligation to answer his correspondent's questions. If the man had become a naturalized citizen of the United States, he had no claim on the British Minister, beyond some degree of courtesy to a stranger. Lord Sackville might have acknowledged the inquiry without answering it.

WRITING, NOT PRINTING, WAS THE OFFENCE.

From The Springfield Union.

Lord Sackville's offence would have been the same if his letter had not been published. He has used his official position as the representative of the British Government, to influence political action in this country, an act which is contrary to all the rules of diplomacy.

AN UNGRATEFUL STATESMAN.

From The Boston Advertiser.

Sackville will have to follow Higgins; the necessities of the Administration demand the sacrifice. Mr. Cleveland's friendship for a man ceases when he is no longer of use to him, and when his sacrifice will benefit himself the friend has to walk the plank.

SOMEBODY BESIDES LORD SACKVILLE MUST GO.

From The Buffalo Commercial Advertiser.

It is a mistake that will be defended nowhere, and cannot fail to lead to Lord Sackville's withdrawal from Washington. But what about the beneficiary of Lord Sackville's friendly electioneering? We think Mr. Cleveland will also be obliged to leave Washington in the near future.

MIGHTY ALLURING, TO BE SURE.

From The Cleveland Leader.

When you set a trap for Englishmen bait it with free trade and there will always be a good catch.

MURCHISON'S NEEDLESS TROUBLE.

From The Portland Press.

"The London Times" has practically told citizens of the United States that Englishmen desire the election of Mr. Cleveland, and of course that is sufficient to indicate to the American voter who prefers the advancement of the interests of England to those of the United States how he should vote. Had Mr. Murchison been a subscriber to "The London Times" his letter to Lord Sackville would have been entirely superfluous. He would have found sufficient advice there to guide him how to vote to advance the interests of the Mother Country. But he probably wasn't a subscriber, and so applied to the nearest intelligent Englishman whom he knew of.

HOW DOES MR. BRICE LIKE IT NOW?

From The Cincinnati Commercial Gazette.

There is a lovely line of news from New-York. It is that Cal. Brice & Co. were circulating West's letter—the British Crown Trade Mark on the Cleveland campaign—among citizens of English birth, until they heard that it was a circular saw that would sever all the bowels of the party with a whirl; and then they made haste to call in their letters and hide from the storm that was in the air.

WHAT WOULD ANDREW JACKSON SAY?

From The Atlanta Constitution.

This extraordinary letter has been published, and the Republicans are using it as campaign material to very good effect. The British ass that wrote it has acknowledged that it is a genuine document, and he goes so far as to suggest that he was "trapped" into writing it. But he admits that he wrote it, and he adds that he has nothing to apologize for. In other words, having announced that the President is a fraud and a hypocrite, he proposes to stick to it through thick and thin.

This is a very extraordinary position for a British Minister to take, and we may be sure that if these were the days of Andrew Jackson, Lord Sackville, or Colonel Sackville-West, as the case may be, would not eat many more meals in this country as the representative of the British Government in Washington. He would be kicked out of the country as he richly deserves to be.

WORK OF THE BUREAU OF ENGRAVING.

Washington, Oct. 28.—Edward O. Graves, chief of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, in his annual report says that the appropriations for the support of the bureau during the fiscal year were $964,030, but notwithstanding the unusually large amount of work done, over $15,000 was turned into the Treasury at the close of the year. A comparison of the work done during the three years ended June 30, 1885, with the succeeding three years, Mr. Graves says, shows an increase in production of 5,694,336 sheets of securities, and a decrease in cost of $540,802. These results, he says, have been accomplished by the adoption of simpler business methods, the discharge of superfluous employes, the abolition of unnecessary places, and by a higher standard of qualification. Of the use of steam presses the report says: "It can now be said that all of the work is equal to that done on the hand presses. All the backs of the new silver certificates of the denominations of $1, $2, $5 and $10 have for many months been printed on them. In clearness, sharpness, and uniformity of impression, and all the qualities which tend to prevent successful counterfeiting, they are up to the highest standard. To subsitute hand presses would increase the annual expenses nearly $300,000." The first and most striking effect of the recent order putting the Bureau under the classified Civil Service, the report says, has been to put a stop to the importunity for employment.

POTATO CROP GREATER THAN EVER BEFORE.

Chicago, Ill., Oct. 28.—The following estimate of the potato crop of the United States for 1888 will appear in "The Farmers' Review": "There is no longer room for doubt that the potato crop of the present season is the largest ever grown in the United States. From statistics furnished by correspondents, based on actual harvest returns, we make the following estimate of the yield: Ohio, 15,068,448 bushels; Indiana, 6,791,