A SCANTY ICE SUPPLY.

PRICES TO BE HIGHER THIS SEASON.

REPORTS FROM VARIOUS ICE-GATHERING CENTRES TO "THE ICE TRADE JOURNAL."

Philadelphia, April 27 (Special).—The ice gathering season throughout the country is now substantially at an end, and reports have come in sufficiently to enable an estimate to be formed of the general result of the winter's operations. From Maine, New-York and some other important ice-producing States the reports are so full and accurate that they afford a trustworthy basis for estimating the prices of supply for the coming summer. At most points better results are shown than the most sanguine could have anticipated a month ago, and, as says "The Ice Trade Journal," the figures given will go far toward relieving the public mind of the uneasiness engendered by the garbled reports and guess-work which have hitherto burdened the columns of the press. There will be no ice famine. At the same time the crop of the country at-large falls far short of the average of former years, both in quantity and in quality, so that higher prices to the consumer are apparently inevitable.

From points on the Hudson River complaints come of thin ice. At Athens a good crop was gathered and the houses contain a large supply. The ice is chiefly clear and free from snow, but is only from eight to ten inches thick. It is estimated at Nyack that the crop gathered amounts to not more than fifty per cent of the average and the quality at that point is inferior. At Coxsackie the crop amounts to about 75 per cent of the average and higher prices are expected. The same report comes from Albany, where purchasers from various parts of the country have been busy seeking bargains. In the central part of the State the outlook is better. At Utica there is a good supply, taken largely from the city reservoirs, and no scarcity nor increase in prices is expected. At Elmira the report is much the same; the ice there is twelve to thirteen inches thick, and ample in quantity.

The ice season at Buffalo was very short, but every hour of the time was improved. With what was carried over from last year, there is a full average stock on hand, the quality is up to the highest standard and no increase in prices is contemplated. In fact some of the companies may have a surplus to sell to less favored places. Erie, Penn., makes a similar report as to quality. Altoona has a sufficient supply for all uses. In Eastern Pennsylvania, however, the situation is nearly as bad as it can be. At Norristown ice only from four to six inches thick was gathered. Preparations are already being made for higher prices and a serious shortage is looked for. At Westchester ice only three inches thick was cut, and the crop was regarded as almost an entire failure. At Reading it has been practically agreed to advance prices 30 or 40 per cent. Philadelphia and its vicinity are contemplating the importation of ice from more fortunate regions.

The harvest in Maine appears to have been a fairly good one. On the Kennebec nearly 570,000 tons were cut, and about 280,000 tons of ice in good condition were carried over. On the Penobscot there are 165,000 tons of new ice and 114,000 tons of old, almost filling the storage houses to their utmost capacity. Along the coast 275,000 tons have been gathered and there are about 50,000 tons of old ice, while over 70,000 tons have been loaded in vessels for shipment to other points. The total ice harvest in Maine this year is stated at 1,500,000 tons, an increase of nearly 175,000 tons over last year. New-Hampshire appears to have fared about as well as Maine, a full average crop ranging from ten to fifteen inches in thickness, with but little snow, having been stored; there will be enough for the season's uses and to spare. In Rhode Island there is a small supply, not more perhaps than five-eighths of an average crop. One-half of it is of a decidedly poor quality, and it is expected that prices will be almost doubled this summer.

Throughout Connecticut the winter has been a season of anxiety. The time given for ice-cutting was short, and was much broken into by warm weather and rain. At New-Haven there is not more than one-half the quantity in store that there was a year ago. No increase in price has yet been made, but some such movement appears inevitable. Some very poor ice has been stored and there will be much waste. At Hartford the crop is 33 per cent below the average, and the quality is decidedly poor. Much higher prices than last year are looked for. At Norwich there is said to be barely half a crop, and the same report comes from New-London. Higher prices are there looked for as a matter of course. At Worcester, Mass., there is a good supply both in quantity and quality. Although the cakes are rather thin, the houses there will have a full supply for the local demand and some to sell. At Springfield there is a little shortage, and the ice is rather thin, but of pretty good quality. At Holyoke, Westfield and other places in the western part of the State the ice is thin, but there is plenty of it. In the Eastern part of the State reports are less favorable. Portland and vicinity have secured their supply largely in New-Hampshire and in Maine. On the local lakes and streams the crop was almost a failure. The general supply is perhaps 50 per cent short, and as much of it is brought from a distance and freights are higher than last year, an increase in prices is looked for. At Gloucester there is thought to be enough to last through the season, and to supply the fishing vessels, which take about 20,000 tons per season. At Fall River there is a small harvest of thin ice, but of a pretty good quality.

Reports from New-Jersey are unsatisfactory. Preparations were made last fall for gathering a large crop. Some new ice houses were put up on the Delaware which have not been needed. A great deal of ice was cut but not more than five inches thick, and the supply of old ice carried over is small. Higher prices to nearly all the cities of the State are looked for. There will, of course, be a large demand—perhaps a larger one than usual from the Southern States. Washington and Baltimore will look to New-England almost entirely for their supply. Some of the Western States, which usually gather a sufficient harvest for local use, are short this year, and will require a large supply from the North and East. Up in Minnesota there is a splendid supply. In January, ice fourteen inches thick was cut, for fear that the remainder of the season would be less favorable; but February did much better, and thousands of tons at twenty-seven inches were stored, and this is all of perfect quality. No increase of prices is thought of there, but unfortunately the capacity of storage houses is not much more than sufficient for the local supply, and not much ice can be spared for shipment. At St. Louis, Cincinnati, Louisville and other cities, dealers and the public are pretty nearly in despair, and there is a wild demand for supplies from the far North. On the whole, therefore, according to the best reports at present obtainable, there will be a scarcity of ice throughout the United States and importations from Norway may perhaps be looked for. A cool summer would help matters wonderfully.

AN ECONOMIC FALLACY EXPLODED.

From The Boston Post.

A correspondent, whose hints I value, sends me a clipping from a suburban newspaper, which is very nearly to the following effect:

"Alexander Pope, the well known artist, has painted a portrait of Mr. ——'s Irish setter. As an artistic piece of work the picture of the dog is good. But while there are hundreds of children in the city crying for bread, the paying of a large sum of money for the painting of a dog's portrait is not a thing to commend."

This contains an economic fallacy which one sees and hears repeated over and over again. Of course, the real fact of the case is that the public, including those persons who suffer for want of bread, neither lose nor profit when a large price is paid for a horse or a dog, or for a picture of either. So much money changes hands, but no capital is used up, and the means of living are neither diminished nor increased. Of course, if nobody employed Mr. Alexander Pope in his capacity as a painter, he would have to support himself—unless he happens to have an independent fortune—by doing other labor. If, for example, we could set him to work at tilling the ground, bread might be made so much the cheaper. But if we adopted this principle, art would have to go by the board, and until we do so there is no occasion for complaint when a round sum of money is paid for a thing of beauty.

THE WORST FATE OF ALL.

As described by The Chicago Herald.

They are telling another one of those St. Peter stories on a St. Louis man, by the way. It is related of the man from the other end of the big bridge that he died and went to heaven first. As usual, St. Peter opened the pearly gates and asked him who he was and where he hailed from. "I am from St. Louis," he replied, "and my name is Charlie Oddsocks." At this St. Peter directed him to the floor below and closed the gates in his face. Down below Satan answered his knock and asked the usual questions. "Charlie Oddsocks, from St. Louis," came the reply. "Sorry old man," said Satan, "but we can't let you in here." With a heart-rending groan the St. Louis man turned away and murmured pathetically: "My G——, have I to go back to St. Louis?"

ISN'T THIS A MORBID CRAVING?

From The Washington Post.

"George Parsons Lathrop is writing a novel," says "The Philadelphia Times." That is good news. What this country needs is another novel. We are pretty nearly recovered from "Robert Elsmere," and "John Ward, Preacher." We have squeezed the last juicy sentiment from the mystical and impassioned pages of Mrs. Atherton, and Amelie Rives. We have found Mr. Froude a delusion and snare. Now we are prepared for another one. We don't care what it is, philosophical, psychological, theological, analytical, mystical, historical, or inflammatory. We are used to everything. We are hardened to anything. We object to nothing so it goes by the name of novels. Reduce the navy, disband the army, or cut us short on baseballists, but give us another novel—quick.

A GRACEFUL SURRENDER.

From The Detroit Free Press.

A patrolman who was walking down Cass-ave. the other day was halted by a boy of ten who asked:

"Are you after pa?"

"No, my son."

"After ma?"

"No."

"After brother Jim?"

"No."

"After our hired girl?"

"No."

"Then, you must be after me! Say, I never never done it, but I'll go along without resistance! Put on the handcuffs and call the wagon!"

BARNARD COLLEGE GROWING.

PLANS FOR COLUMBIA'S ANNEX.

THE FIRST CLASS WILL PROBABLY START IN THE FALL—MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES BUSY.

The action taken by the trustees of Columbia College recently was the one step necessary to assure the success of Barnard College, or the annex to Columbia College, for women. They have now given their official sanction to the plan proposed by the committee representing the interests of those who have been prominent in forwarding the annex project, and have also approved the constitution, by-laws, Board of Trustees and associate members, together with the name, "Barnard College," which the committee has suggested. It now remains for the Executive Committee to raise the necessary funds to start the college, since the women have agreed to meet the expenses of the institution without drawing upon the college treasury.

The history of the effort which has resulted successfully thus far is as follows: Somewhat over a year ago Mrs. Alfred Meyer, who was once a student in the collegiate course for women at Columbia, and who has always taken a lively interest in the education of women at Columbia, presented a plan for the establishment of an annex to Columbia in the shape of a college for women, which should sustain the same relations to the college that the College of Physicians and Surgeons now does, with the exception that the School of Arts and the Annex would have the same staff of instructors. A memorial embodying these ideas was presented to the trustees at their March meeting in 1888, signed by many prominent persons, including Mayor Hewitt, Dr. W. R. Huntington, Dr. Arthur Brooks, Dr. W. M. Taylor, Dr. Lyman Abbott, Dr. Gottheil, Mary Mapes Dodge, Editor of "St. Nicholas," R. W. Gilder, Editor of "The Century"; Miss Booth, at that time the Editor of "Harper's Bazar"; President Hunter, of the Normal College; President Webb, of the College of the City of New-York, and Mrs. Francis Fisher Wood, the president of the Vassar Alumnae Association.

To this memorial the trustees gave partial consent, provided that the college for women should have the same professors and instructors as Columbia; that there should be no dormitories or sleeping apartments for the girls in the college buildings or in the immediate neighborhood of Columbia College; that the college for women should meet its own expenses, not requiring any money from Columbia College for its support; that the trustees of the new college should be approved by the trustees of Columbia College, and that the college should be able to sever its connection with the annex whenever the trustees should see fit. The women agreed to these sweeping conditions, only asking that the college give the Annex four years of grace before the trustees of Columbia College should be able to sever connection between the two. The women presented the following names as trustees for their college: Mrs. Francis B. Arnold, the Rev. Arthur Brooks, Miss Helen Dawes Brown, Mrs. W. C. Brownell, Mrs. Joseph H. Choate, Frederic R. Coudert, ex-Judge Noah Davis, Hamilton W. Mabie, Mrs. F. J. H. Merrill, Mrs. Alfred Meyer, George Plympton, Mrs. John D. Rockefellar, Jacob H. Schiff, Mrs. Augustus Shepard, Francis Lynde Stetson, Mrs. J. S. T. Stranahan, Mrs. James Talcott, Miss Ada Ward, Everett P. Wheeler, Miss Alice Williams and Mrs. Francis Fisher Wood. These have also been approved by the Columbia trustees.

One of the Barnard College trustees said to a Tribune reporter: "Matters are looking very bright for the college now. We have an executive committee which consists of the Rev. Arthur Brooks, chairman, Mrs. Joseph H. Choate, Mrs. Alfred Meyer, Mrs. Francis Fisher Wood, Miss Ella Weed, Silas Brownell and Hamilton W. Mabie. This, however, is not a permanent committee. We have also a House Committee, an Academic Committee and a Committee on Ways and Means, and are progressing as rapidly as possible. Yes, I think we shall be able to begin the college in the fall. There are a number of girls now waiting to enter the first class, and the present outlook is favorable to an early beginning. I have no idea who will have direct control of the college."

As the women have no building, they will probably begin in a modest way by renting some house. They will probably begin with a freshman class and a post-graduate class only, and will then make increases as the needs of the college indicate, but these matters are under consideration by the committees on House and Academic Courses.

HOME NEWS.

NEW-YORK CITY.

Erdelyi Naczi and his orchestra will give an excellent musical programme at the Eden Musee this afternoon and evening. The dancing of the pretty Hungarian girls abounds in unique features. The girls appear in the costumes of their country.

Judgment for $1,650 was given by Justice Truax, in the Superior Court, yesterday, in the suit of Lera Pappenheim against the Metropolitan Elevated and Manhattan Railway companies, for damages to her property, No. 2,346 Second-ave., since April 23, 1883, caused by the construction and maintenance of the elevated road in front of the property.

The Society for the Home Study of the Holy Scripture and Church History has been incorporated. The corporation is to be under the spiritual supervision of the Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in America. It will have offices in New-York, Saratoga Springs and elsewhere. The incorporators, who are also the managers or trustees, are Sarah B. Smiley, of Saratoga Springs; Susan B. Nelson, Anna C. Weir and Agnes D. Abbott, all of this city; Letitia Townsend, of Glen Cove; Susan D. Wilson, of Philadelphia; Susan L. Johnson, of Lynn, Mass., and Henrietta M. Fletcher, of Baltimore.

Policeman James Donovan, of the Nineteenth Precinct, died from scarlet fever at his home, No. 459 Ninth-ave., yesterday.

The Rev. Dr. Edward Parker, president of the Baptist College, Manchester, England, and William Dale Shaw, of Huddersfield, arrived on the Germanic on Friday. They are a deputation from the Close Communion Baptist Churches of England. A reception committee from the Baptist Ministers' Conference, consisting of the Rev. Dr. Thomas Armitage, the Rev. M. H. Pogson, the Rev. J. W. Ashworth and the Rev. Frank Fletcher, welcomed them. James B. Colgate, of Glenwood, will entertain them while in the city. Dr. Parker will preach to-day in the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church. The visitors will also be present at conventions in Memphis, Tenn., and Boston. A reception will be given to them in this city on May 28.

The Iron Steamboat Company, having given the Sirius to the Centennial Committee, and that boat having been detailed for the Presidential guests, and all the rest of the fleet being in service for the parade, the position assigned in the first division is justly prominent. With the Taurus, Cepheus and Cetus for the public, leaving West Twenty-third-st., North River, at 9:30 a. m., and Pier New No. 1, North River, at 9:45 and 10 a. m., the public, to the limited number of 1,000 on each boat, will have abundant opportunity to view the parade to the best advantage and take part in it. The ticket-offices at the piers will be open early to-morrow morning.

The following additional contributions have been received at this office for the family of Patrick McTamany, the Jersey City switchman who sacrificed his life to save that of a child: "Emergency Circle of the King's Daughters," $5; "X," $1.

The Indian Commissioners yesterday awarded the contracts for transporting Indian supplies from seaports to Indian agencies for the year to several Western firms. The bids were slightly in advance of those of last year, and the total cost of transportation will be in the neighborhood of $250,000.

The annual elections to the honors of the Phi Beta Kappa Society from the class of '89 at the University of the City of New-York resulted in the selection of six men. They are G. L. Anderson, A. C. P. Opdyke, C. S. Rue, W. A. Kirkwood, Arthur M. King and L. J. Tompkins. The members of the faculty and the senior delegation of Phi Beta Kappa may nominate candidates from the first third of the junior class for this honor.

The bark J. Walter Scannell was seen lying off Bedlow's Island flying signals of distress yesterday afternoon. The police boat Patrol went off to her, and found that the crew had refused to go to Rio Janeiro in the vessel, claiming that she was not fit for such a voyage. The captain came ashore to get a new crew.

The collection of animals, birds, fossils, shells and American woods of the Museum of Natural History will be open free to the public this week, and on Wednesday and Saturday evenings.

A dispatch from Paris stating that Thomas Edison, the inventor, had been the recipient of numerous attentions from President Carnot, published in several papers, was found to be incorrect yesterday.

A large audience greeted Consul-General Botassi yesterday afternoon at Association Hall, in Twenty-third-st., to hear his interesting lecture upon Ancient and Modern Greece.

Among the Centennial decorations combining simplicity and elegance is that on the fur store of A. Jaeckel, in Nineteenth-st., between Broadway and Fifth-ave., designed and executed under the owner's supervision. Mr. Jaeckel has also chartered a steamer to take his friends to view the naval parade.

The third annual exhibition of the educational department of the Twenty-third-st. branch of the Young Men's Christian Association will be held to-morrow evening.

The United Service Club, No. 44 West Twenty-eighth-st., extends its privileges to all commissioned officers, Army, Navy and National Guard, during Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week.

The funeral of Albert M. Frey, the young pool champion, was held yesterday morning at St. Francis Xavier's Church. Father McKinnon conducted the services. The burial was at Holy Cross Cemetery, Flatbush, L. I.

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PREPARING POULTRY FOR THE TABLE.

INTRODUCING THE FRENCH METHOD OF FORCING FOWLS TO BECOME PLUMP AND TENDER.

William C. Williams, formerly a newspaper man, of Olean, N. Y., who has been for some time engaged in the business of breeding poultry, has returned recently from a long stay in France, where he has studied carefully an improved method of preparing fowls for the table. As a result of his investigations, and with the aid of the extensive machinery which he has brought with him, Mr. Williams believes that he will be able to work a complete change in the system of poultry rearing and fattening hitherto in use throughout this country. The essential point of difference between the French and American systems, as explained by Mr. Williams in conversation with a Tribune reporter, is this:

While Uncle Sam devotes his attention to the production of the finest types of bird, the French farmer always has in view the fowl's ultimate destination, the dinner-table. Mr. Williams feeds his fowls only on the finest quality of cereals, mixed with milk. In conjunction with his brother, Henry Williams, he has established in Olean what may be fairly described as a poultry-breeding factory. The machinery consists essentially of a series of large revolving upright cylinders, twenty feet in circumference, eighteen feet in height, with boxes or stalls for 300 fowls each, and the fowls are placed in them in comfortable positions but securely tied. Here the birds remain for twenty-one days.

The feeding apparatus consists of a platform elevator with a trough containing the feed and force-pump, to which is attached a rubber hose and nozzle bent in the form exactly to fit the fowl's mouth and throat. The feeder, standing on the elevator, opens the chicken's mouth, inserts the nozzle, presses upon a spring, and thus forces the food into the chicken's crop, care being taken to regulate the amount of nourishment in accordance with the condition, age and class of the fowl. Care is also taken that the birds shall be entirely protected from all noise or other disturbance, and none but the best obtainable breeds are brought into use. From the time the bird enters its box until the time it is taken out to execution the sole object of its existence is to feed itself up to the requisite pitch of plumpness. Mr. Williams's work so far has resulted in the production of a white, tender meat with a peculiarly fine flavor that will recommend itself to the fancy of the epicure. According to letters shown The Tribune reporter in the course of the conversation, Mr. Williams's production has received the commendation of many experts in choice dishes.

A system somewhat similar to that just described was tried on a large scale near Englewood, N. J., some years ago, but was abandoned after a time. The reasons for its failure are not known.

WHEN "LARRY" SUCCEEDED CLARKSON.

From The Lewiston Journal.

"Dear me!" Mrs. Stickum exclaimed to her husband, the other day, after Mr. Mugwump left the room. "This political talk mixes me all up. What is the difference between civil service reform and a political outrage?"

"H'm!" said Stickum. "That's a matter of standpoint. From Mr. Mugwump's standpoint, when Cleveland was removing fifty postmasters a day and putting Democrats in their places, that was 'civil service reform'; and when Harrison waits till a postmaster's term has expired and then appoints a Republican to the office, that's a political outrage."

"But I don't quite see the principle of the thing," exclaimed Mrs. Stickum, in confusion.

"The principle of the thing is," said Stickum, blandly, "that it's not what's done, but who does it."

"Oh, I begin to see!" said Mrs. Stickum, dubiously. "But suppose Mr. Mugwump himself should appoint a postmaster or something of that sort, would that be a political outrage or civil service reform?"

"Neither, my dear. That would be 'an interposition of Divine Providence.'"

WHAT ARE HEALTH BUREAUS FOR?

From The San Francisco Report.

"Pees this the Hilth Office?" inquired a hardened looking citizen with a gin countenance of Clerk Williams this morning.

"Yes, sir," was the reply.

"Well, thin, Oi want some hilth. For the last twenty years Oi hav bin takin' a drap too much till Oi'm bruck in mot constatushun. Plase fix me up."

"If you want to be vaccinated, we'll attend to you, sir."

"It's vaccination you'd give me, is it? Well, Oi've been vaccinatin' me stummick wid bad whiskey for many a year, and the treatment is not bineficial. No, sir; Oi want yees to give me me hilth again."

"My dear sir, we can't do it. It's not our business."

"Thin ye dhraw salary for chatin' the public. Oi'm a taxpayer. Gimme hilth."

"Can't."

"Wat?"

"Can't."

"Thin, by the coattail of St. Patrick, I'll spile yhurs by using ye to dust the flure and furniture," and he began to hastily remove his tattered coat.

"Hi! there, doctor, bring in that last smallpox patient!" shouted the clerk.

There was a wild shriek of terror, the coatless form of the health-seeker vanished through the door, and an instant later he was making railroad time down Market-st.

The smallpox case, it is but proper to say, did not appear.

IN THE CHURCH PORCH.

A HUNDRED YEARS OF CHRISTIANITY.

In their celebrations this week, the churches will very properly give thanks for their growth in numbers, wealth, and, let us hope and believe, spirituality also, during the last hundred years. We look at the past, of course, through the glamor of romance, and therefore we are not apt to realize how much there was lacking in the current Christianity of Washington's day. The attitude of the denominations toward each other was characterized by an intolerance and sectarian bitterness that happily we can hardly comprehend to-day. Christian public opinion on the subject of non-denominational philanthropy was very sluggish, each church, as a rule, spending all its energies on its own denominational work. There were few church buildings outside the large towns, and the religious condition of the people in the country was in many cases deplorable. Much more importance was attached to the dogmas than to the spirit of religion, and many members of the church in good standing thought it right and proper to do things that to-day would make their membership in the church impossible. The attitude of religious people toward temperance was especially lax; and one now reads with amazement of the number of gallons of rum consumed at church gatherings and funerals in the good old days. Churches were seldom heated in winter, and were uncomfortable at all times. While generally fervent, the music was rude and often unpleasing. The sermons were elaborate theological essays, often two hours in length, and the preachers rarely attempted to attract by their style; why should they, indeed, when the people would come anyhow? The church buildings were generally ugly square boxes, utterly devoid of any artistic beauty. Mirth and gladness were looked upon with suspicion as almost devilish in their character, and a spirit of sanctified gloom was regarded as the highest outlook of religion. Amusements were sternly interdicted, and the good Christians of the day were taught to believe in literal earnest that this world is all a fleeting show. Doubtless there were rifts in the clouds even then; but they must have been few and far between. The modern spirit had not yet made itself felt.

But the evolution has not been entirely upward. The Christianity of to-day is less earnest and sincere in many ways than that of a hundred years ago. It is seriously weakened by the spirit of doubt and speculation so largely fostered by modern science. Its high ideals are somewhat obscured by materialism and conformity to the world. It has lost its hold on large numbers of people, either because of tendencies outside of itself, for which it is not responsible, or because of tendencies and defects within itself, for which it is responsible. It is either its misfortune or its fault that it is more or less out of harmony with a great deal that is regarded as of paramount importance in modern life. It fails in many things to attain a large and comprehensive outlook. It continues to run in many worn-out ecclestastical grooves, cut out for it by the fathers and schoolmen, and so in a measure is unable to understand the busy pulsating life of this age. And it therefore comes to be looked upon by many people as a moribund institution of the past, with no vital message of hope or love for the men and women of to-day.

I feel the more free to mention these defects, because I believe that they are not vital. American Christianity, in spite of all its shortcomings and weaknesses, is without doubt the most powerful and far-reaching force in the Nation, and, humanly speaking, the only force that stands between our social system and the spectre of anarchy and moral death. It is well for even the agnostic and the infidel to remember that Christianity is moulding the lives and shaping the conduct of vast numbers of people who refuse to acknowledge its claims. In the busy and crowded city, or in the pioneer settlements of the West, it stands for law, order, virtue and morality. It is the conservator of society, the defender of the home. No matter what attitude we may assume toward it, it holds us all within its powerful grasp, and compels us involuntarily to own allegiance to the truth and beauty of its code. We may not like to acknowledge it, but it is a fact that the fate of the Republic is bound up in the fate of Christianity, and every blow aimed at the fundamental principles of the Religion of Jesus, is aimed equally at the civil and social system under which we are living.

Standing to-day at the close of the first century of its National life, American Christianity ought to discern clearly its mistakes in the past, its possibilities for the future. It needs not a new faith, nor perhaps even a new statement of faith, so much as a new enthusiasm, and a truer conception of the meaning and import of the old historic creed. There are ominous mutterings of religious and social discontent in the air. The old feudal conception of man and his relations and the old feudal theory of ecclesiastical and social order are slowly but surely dying. And in their place will arise—nay, is even now arising—a nobler and more symmetrical vision of all-pervading, all-embracing human brotherhood. It is the Gospel of the Galilean Fisherman translated into the secular life of the nineteenth century. What shall be the attitude of the Christian Church toward this renaissance of Christ's teaching? Will it be found on the side of the dying tyrannies, and proclaiming the divine right of the organized cruelties that have entrenched themselves in our social system? Or will it be found on the side of man, pitying his sorrows, assuaging his griefs, righting his wrongs, delivering him from the hand of the oppressor, freeing him from the shackles of superstition, teaching his ignorance, and opening his mind to a conception of the real beauty of goodness and holiness? It is questions such as these, rather than squabbles over ritual and ecclesiastical ordinances, that should engage its attention during the coming years.

A few years ago Sir Charles Dilke wrote an entertaining book, entitled "Greater Britain." Similarly, much might be said about the greater Christianity that manifests itself in so many forms to-day outside of the organized churches. The fact that there is such a Christianity is an interesting and suggestive thought, because it has grown into being almost without the knowledge of the churches, and while they were eagerly striving to strengthen their several organizations. But although the hospital, the asylum, the home for the aged and for the young, and the numberless other philanthropic institutions of every kind, have not always sprung up within the shadow of the church, they are due to its beneficent spirit. While churchmen have been arguing, often in wrath and bitterness, over the meaning of Christ's words, His spirit has been touching the hearts of men and women in and out of the church; and so this greater Christianity has grown up all around the churches, supplementing their failures, realizing their ideals, and reacting for good upon the great body of organic Christianity. I know that infidels may build a hospital, or endow a home for the helpless, although, as a matter of fact, few of them have done so. But even if an infidel did, he would be doing an essentially Christian deed, in spite of his formal unbelief. For to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and make glad the heart of the sorrowful, is of the very essence of Christianity; and he who does these things is so far forth a Christian, no matter what is his attitude toward theology. Let the churches to-day contemplate the greater Christianity which has so revolutionized modern life, and gather from it new inspiration for the future. The dogmas they so highly prize, and the ecclesiastical ordinances they so dearly love, may not prosper as they desire. But the mighty spirit which they enshrine is abroad in the land, and is fusing all its people into one great human brotherhood.

The average clergyman of Washington's day wielded much more influence, in certain ways, than the clergyman of to-day. The modern clergyman is no longer an oracle. He is not necessarily the most cultivated or the most learned man in his congregation. He no longer does the thinking for his flock, even in the domain of religion. The magazine and the newspaper preach to vastly larger audiences than he can ever hope to have. The halo of sacerdotalism has almost disappeared from around his brow, even in the churches where sacerdotalism most flourishes. A clergyman is not esteemed nowadays simply and only because the hand of a bishop or elder has been laid upon his head, or because an ecclesiastical council has set him apart from the rest of mankind. It is his character, and not his office, which gives him a claim on the good-will of men.

But if the influence of the clergy has been lessened in some ways, it has been increased in others. The old feudal idea of the ministry as a caste is giving way to the new democratic idea of the ministry as a moral force in the community. The world to-day demands that the clergyman shall be first of all a teacher and a follower of pure morality, and the exponent of the best thought of the age. He may be a priest of God, ordained to offer sacrifices in the temple; but he must also be a priest of humanity, daily offering the sacrifice of a pure and exalted example in the great temple of secular life. The world cares little for the mysterious powers conveyed by the laying on of hands; but it cares much for the visible gifts of exalted goodness, high intelligence, and enlightened progress. And the clergymen who lead their age in these things will receive its homage and devotion. The Church is still a tremendous fact in the world, though it has wisely discarded many of the outward emblems of its power. It has dropped the picturesque garb, as well as some of the worn-out ideals of mediaevalism, and is learning to face the problems of its age clad in the sober vestments of the workaday world. There are sentimental souls who bewail the lost power of the clergy, and sigh for the time when the people looked up to them with superstitious awe. But it is a fortunate thing for both the clergy and the people that a truer conception of the clerical office is making its way in the world. Intelligence and culture will inevitably destroy the power of the Indian "medicine man"; they will only strengthen the power and widen the influence of the man who teaches his fellows by the God-given right of having something to teach.

Mistakes are often made in sending clergymen to the West who have failed in the East, and especially in sending young seminary exotics to communities where only a strong virile manhood is appreciated. But then, perhaps it is just as great a mistake to send such men anywhere. Said Dr. Parkhurst in a recent address: "Our institutions of learning are cluttered up with little dignitaries, curiosities outside of the museum, bipedal grammars, lexicons going about in coat and trousers, but whose touch is not a baptism. Not a man of us but would be a greater, mightier and more luscious man to-day if we had not for four years of our life been held in enforced contact with so much commonplace material and cultivated diminutiveness in the shape of tutors and professors, who could amuse us with their erudition, but could not work in us as a profound inspiration." College men who go into some secular calling soon escape from these swaddling bands; but those who enter the ministry often learn to love these limitations. They go through the world wearing a double convex pair of colored glasses, tinged with ecclesiastical and scholastic traditions, through which they view the great panorama of modern life. Of course, they often fail to see things as they are; and equally of course, they cry out in alarm when a few rays of pure white secular light happen to reach their eyes. Such men, however fervent may be their zeal or however pure may be their life, are bound to fail in the modern ministry, whether they are sent to preach in the cultivated East or in the wild and woolly West.

It is not yet clear that any churches are organized in Oklahoma, but I should not be surprised to learn that such is the case. The building of a church in a new Western town is not always due to the religious zeal of the citizens. It is quite as much the result of a desire to impress the Eastern capitalist with the stable character of the "boom." A good saloon, of course, is of more immediate importance; and so that is at once established. Next to the saloon ranks the daily paper, and arrangements are promptly made to move it from the "prairie schooner" in which it is at first published to a "palatial" building of rough boards, erected over night. Thus provided with a mouthpiece, the "boom" at once proceeds to get up and get. Sites for a magnificent opera-house and a mammoth hotel have been provided for long ago, and the noble proportions of a City Hall are eloquently outlined on paper. These preliminaries being settled, the necessity of building a church is dwelt upon in the paper. Quite possibly, a meeting of leading citizens is held, at which a great deal of "resoluting" is done, and in which the gambler, the saloonkeeper and the real estate agent stand shoulder to shoulder with the bona-fide church members in advocating the moral advancement of the town. Everybody chips in to a church-building fund, and a committee is appointed to secure a live minister. What denomination the church shall represent depends partly on the vague prepossessions of the leading citizens, and partly on accident. That, however, is distinctly a minor question. The great thing is to have a church of some denomination, which shall vindicate the moral character of the "boom," and attract the Eastern tenderfoot with money. This rough-and-ready method of establishing Christianity may shock the fastidious Eastern Christian; but on the whole it works well, and the churches so established prove to be most effective agencies for good.

SOME GEORGIA INDUSTRIES.

PINE FOREST PRODUCTS TURNED TO USE.

NAVAL STORES EASILY SUPPLIED—SAVANNAH'S CHANCES FOR A NAVY YARD.

Savannah, Ga., April 23.—For those who have capital to invest in naval stores, industries, lumber mills, extensive sheep or cattle ranches, or large cotton plantations, Georgia offers the most desirable advantages. Under the designation of naval stores are included turpentine, rosin, pitch and tar. These products are derived from the sap of the long-leaf pine of the South, vast forests of which form an immense belt across the whole State of Georgia. The collection of the sap and its manufacture afford employment to thousands of people.

Recognizing the advantages which Georgia possesses in this respect, the South Atlantic and Gulf Coast Naval Commissioners, sent out to select a site for the new Navy Yard, have been examining the coast line from Charleston to Brunswick. The Commission is composed of Commodore McCann, Captain Boyd and Captain Brownson, with Lieutenant Kennedy as secretary. The site to be selected will have to be beyond the range of bombardment, and necessarily several miles in from the sea. Savannah Harbor thus offers fair inducements for such a naval station, and it is not unlikely that it will be the choice of the commissioners. Fixing the site of the new Navy Yard here would give a strong impetus to the already extensive lumber industries in the pine woods just back of the city. This is now the great seaport and centre of the naval store and lumber business of Georgia. The great swamps which border on the rivers of the State abound in dense growths of cypress trees, which are now being used extensively for ship-building purposes. The exports to Germany of this valuable timber are also large and increasing every year. Thousands of barrels of turpentine and rosin come in from the woods annually and pass through Savannah Harbor to all points north and west.

Commercially the pine woods of Georgia are probably her most important resource. They are almost inexhaustible and of a superior quality to those found further up on the Carolina coasts. As soon as the large saw-mills denude one section of the country they move to new districts, and they begin operations again. Young pine trees spring up at once all around the stumps of the old ones, and in five years they are ready to be tapped for turpentine. This does not materially injure the trees, and they continue to grow into large timber, while the turpentine farmers are making a good living from an abundant flow of sap. In fifteen or twenty years the trees are ready for the woodman's axe again. Thus they actually grow faster than they are cut down.

In the primitive sort of lumber mills there is always more or less waste, and a great deal of timber that would be utilized in some way by a Northern lumberman is burned up. Lumber is so cheap here that it does not pay to make any use of refuse matter. Things are being systematized, however, more generally every year, and ways of disposing of all parts of the trees to profit are being invented. The pine-fibre industry is probably the most recent and the best illustration of what can be done with the pine woods by a little thinking and experimenting. Whose brain first saw textile possibilities in pine foliage is quite unknown, but by the discovery what has been only waste matter is now converted into various articles not only of comfort, but of commercial importance. The varieties known as pitch, long-leaved and field pine have leaves averaging fourteen inches in length, and some measure twenty-seven. Children and women gather these leaves from felled trees, and bring them to the factory. Fifteen cents a hundred pounds is the average price paid for this "straw," as it is called.

The "straw" is then thrown into a huge tank and a little caustic soda is added. For twelve hours the mass is then cooked by steam from pipes passing through the tank. Then it is passed through the rubber, which cleanses it entirely from all soda, pulp, etc., leaving clean fibre alone. The wringer, breaker and carder then successively handle it and the dryer finishes it. The fibre is used for various purposes. The coarser material is in demand for mattresses, and general upholstering, being elastic, durable and exempt from insect ravages. The finest is marked "surgeon's packing," and is used by physicians in various ways. Mattings, carpets and other flooring material are made out of it. When this peculiar industry was first started the object was to make flooring material; but the makers soon set about evolving from the pine wool a fabric which would resist the chemical action so destructive to every material heretofore used as packing for phosphates. The result is a cloth that will endure every test. The cotton planter is thus benefited by the invention, and the manufacturers of fertilizers are also coming in for their share of the good that the material is conferring upon the South. Oil is another product which the pine straw produces. This is drawn from the green straw by subjecting it to the action of steam in a great retort or boiler. The medicinal properties of this oil are well recognized by medical men, and there is a great and general demand for it. Thus thousands of dollars are being annually made of a material that a few years ago was allowed to go to waste.

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