

first put under ether or chloroform, no more than are human beings.

We sincerely hope that when Mr. Hunt is compelled to have an operation on his cranium, in order to fill up the "vacancy" which is apparent to all, it will not be necessary for the contributor who signed his convicting article in *The Forum* last Friday, using the words "A Physician," to ease his cries of pain by administering an anesthetic. It most assuredly will not be necessary, as Mr. Hunt does not believe in such.—Bess, H.

**THE LAST STAND OF DESPOTISM.**—Now that war has been declared, let all Americans aid in every way they can to crush special privilege, despotism and divine rights of kings, emperors and supreme individual authority. Everybody can help. Uncle Sam needs men, money and brains. Right here I contribute some of the latter.

When the working man goes to war for his country he not only stakes his own life, but everything that he possesses. He leaves behind him all that is precious and dear. He leaves destitute his broken-hearted mother, weeping wife and crying babes, sweetheart and sister to mourn. Can we ask anybody to do more? No! Then let the capitalist loan money without interest and the manufacturer and merchant furnish supplies without profit, and last, but not least, are the churches which our government has been more than good to. Yes, has even granted them special privileges.

They pay no "income" taxes. Church property alone, exclusive of parsonages, amount to \$1,257,575,-867 in America; most of which is exempt from all taxes. Let them pay the same rate of taxes that we pay on our homes and it will swell our treasury by \$22,500,000. Then let the government cut off all public moneys for religious purposes which will be another saving of millions annually. As hospitals, charity and ed-

ucation all belong to the state, let it take them over; the Y. M. C. A. property, along with the eight or ten billion dollars' worth of private and parochial schools, convents, hospitals and like institutions.

In doing so the government will no doubt get from them a supply of arms and munitions sufficient to equip a fair-sized army. With this eight or ten billion dollars' worth of property in the hands of Uncle Sam he could then issue greenbacks direct, without bonds and without interest. By this method we could carry on war indefinitely. Churches, capitalists and philosophers have been so patriotic in times of peace, now let them, like the workmen, remain loyal in time of war.—Lee Green, 1416 Masonic Temple.

**A YOUNG MOTHER.**—I don't believe that any man has a right to condemn a girl for having had a misfortune when she was young. In most cases girls come out of homes unprepared for a battle with the evil things in the world.

I think a girl's parents and the community are more to blame for the girls' fall than the girls. If girls were taught a few lessons about real life before they leave their homes they wouldn't be such easy victims to white slavery agents as they generally are.

If a girl is not too far gone, so everybody knows her business, she might have a good chance to make herself respectable, if she really tries. It seems rather curious to me that the church people, instead of helping a girl to begin a new life and forget her misstep, in most cases are the first ones to turn her down and do everything to get her "marked."

Yes, I have heard of cases where young men have overlooked certain girls' pasts; helped them along on the straight road, and after a while got married and lived in happiness.

I don't think any man has any right to despise or remind a girl of her