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GOOD CITIZENSHIP.

Pastor of Newman M. E. Church Talks.

Rev. G. A. Maston, pastor of Newman M. E. Church, preached yesterday on "Good Citizenship."

He said in substance: In these perilous times when the majority of men are selfish and covetous, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God, it behoves the pulpit to give no uncertain sound concerning not only churchmanship, but citizenship. To be a good citizen is a thing to be desired, and implies more than life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. A good citizen, says David is a man that walks uprightly; that works righteousness; that speaks the truth, and put not out his money to usury, and doeth not ill to his neighbor.

Saul of Tarsus, when being persecuted, was proud to claim Roman citizenship. Rome at that time was in the height of her glory and no man dared lay violent hands on one of her citizens, except through a due process of law. Thus Saul escaped death at the hands of a mob.

Yet Rome once the "Mistress of the world," continued to grow in power and to extend its borders until every road of the ancient world was to lead but to Rome. At this crucial period Rome became proud and haughty; and her leaders became corrupt, seducers and worshipers of the God of Mammon. In the senate chamber were to be found the libertine and the political juggler. Among the leaders of the common people were men who cared not for God, nor regarded man's rights.

Following soon in the wake of these things, imperial Rome began to lose her prestige and continue to go from bad to worse, until she fell and fell like Lucifer to rise no more, to her once proud station in life.

To-day the United States is at the height of its glory and prosperity, and as greatly enlarged the borders of its territory. The United States is today freely acknowledged by all to be one of the great powers, great numbers great in wealth and great in commercial standing. Today we have a right to sing, "My Country, 'Tis of Thee Sweet Land of Liberty."

Judging from the signs of the time, we have reached a pivotal period in American history. Infidelity, crime and debauchery are on every hand. Is it not time to call a halt? The government has the money shark to contend with. The powerful corporations and labor organizations are impeding its progress. Had we not better stop pointing the finger of scorn at the "Sick Man of Europe," and turn our attention to the "Sick Man of America?" who is dying fast from an overdose of enterpris and to the want of proper nourishment.

The principles recently set forth by President Roosevelt are worthy of support by all good citizens.

"Let us vote as we pray, against all manner of evil, in high and low places." —Ex.

PUTTING OUR HANDS INTO THE RIGHT HANDS

CHOOSING VALUABLE FRIENDS, ETC.

We do not know what we lose when we keep our lives out of the hands of God. No one can make us as he. No one can bring out the powers and possibilities of our lives as he. It is said that one day, about seventy years ago, there was an auction in London which was attended by many distinguished people. Among other things offered for sale was a violin, more than a hundred years old. The auctioneer raised the violin and held it gently, almost reverently, as he told its history and spoke of its wonderful qualities. Then he gave it to a musician who was present, asking him to play upon it. The man played as well as he could, but the violin in his hands failed to enthuse the audience. Then the auctioneer began to call for bids, but the responses came slowly. Then there came into the auction room a stranger, an Italian. He pressed his way to the side of the auctioneer too see the violin. He took it into his hands and examined it very carefully, held it to his ear as if it had some secret to whisper to him; then thrummed its strings with a touch that seemed almost reverent. He then laid the violin on his breast and began to play upon it, and marvelous music at once filled the room. The people were strangely affected some smiled, some wept; every heart was stirred. It was Paganini, the great master, whose fingers were upon the strings. When he laid the instrument down, the bidding began anew, and there was no trouble now in selling it. In the hands of the first player, the qualities of the violin were not shown, and men did not know what a treasure was offered them. But in the hands of the great master its wonderful powers were discovered and brought out.

Our lives are like violins. In the right hands they will give forth marvelous music. But in unskillful hands their wonderful powers are not brought out. It is strange for the want of thought and care many people in rust their lives in the hands of those who do not bring out the best there is in them. This is seen in the recklessness which many young people show in choosing their friends. Indeed they do not choose their friends at all, but let themselves drift into association with any who come their way. The influence of friendship is almost irresistible. The admission of a new companion into our life is the beginning of a new epoch in our course. If the friendship is pure, inspiring, and elevating, if the friend is one who in his own character will set before us new visions of a beautiful life, and in all his influence over us will prove stimulating, the day of his coming into our hands will ever be a day to be remembered. But if the friend is unworthy, nothing good can come from the friendship. Young people should seek association with those who are wiser and more experienced than themselves;

those who can teach them lessons they have not yet learned; lead them in paths they have not yet walked, and help them to find their own powers and possibilities. It is a great mistake merely to choose a friend with which to have a social time, one who will make us feel satisfied with ourselves, one with whom we may agree pleasantly. We should have friends who, like Paganini with the violin, can find and call out the best that is in us. "Our best friend," says one, "is he who makes us do our best." The same is true of books, there are books which we may enjoy reading, and which may give us entertainment and pleasure. But which leave behind no new knowledge, no stimulated thought, and no strengthened character. On the other hand, there are books which stir our hearts, which kindle in us upward aspirations, and which incite us to the attainment of better things. These are the books we should read, for they will give us the help we most need in growing into fullness of life and power.

But whomsoever or whatsoever else we may take into our life God should always have the first place no other knows the powers that are in us and none but he can develop the powers and train them for highest service. Into God's hands therefore, we should commit our lives for teaching and for discipline. Then we can say as the poet:

"Come gracious Lord, and in love
Conduct us o'er life's stormy wave;
O guide us to the home above,
The blissful home beyond the grave;
There safe from rock, and storm, and flood,
Our song of praise shall never cease,
To Him who bought us with His blood,
And brought us to the port of peace."

Pearl C. Brown.

ROOSEVELT AND WALBRIDGE INDORSED.

The Republican state committee decided at its meeting Saturday to hold the first state convention at Kansas City on March 22nd to select delegates to the national convention in Chicago on June 21. The committee also indorsed Theodore Roosevelt for president and Cyrus P. Walbridge, of St. Louis, for Vice-President. —Ex.

The Latest Strike.

Aunt Jane—I suppose your young man will be calling to-night, as usual?

Edith—Oh, no, he won't be here this evening. The Lovers' union have declared a strike, and there will be no more courting until the girls concede longer hours. —Ex.

—Best vinegar 20 c per gal. at Kuhn & Co.

LOCAL MENTION

Beware of the dead beat. He usually comes to life.

Mrs. Anna Wright, of North Broadway, is reported to be very ill.

Read our "Pythian add" on second page.

It takes a clever woman to boss her husband without letting him know it.

—"Q" brand sorghum 10 cts. a can at Kuhn & Co.

Misses Lillian Martin at Smithton and Effie V. West, Dresden, were in our city Saturday and Sunday.

Yes indeed, Sweringen & Co. know their business when it comes to first class groceries and able delicacies.

Mr. David Harper, of Montgomery City, Mo. is visiting his wife and daughter in this city. We were pleased to greet him once more.

"Cigars & Tobacco at Kuhn & Co"

Mrs. Chas. Simpson, of Smithton and her cousin, Mr. Drafton of near Cotton Mo., came up from Baman, Sunday to attend the revival services at Taylor Chapel.

A letter from A. W. Lloyd of St. Louis, informs us that he has organized a K. of P. Lodge in St. Joseph, Mo. We hope soon to have him here.

The little daughter of Rev. A. M. Sommerville received a serious burn Friday evening. She was trying to get something from the top of the stove, and her apron took fire burning, her face and arm pit seriously.

Nelson Umbles, an aged citizen died Sunday of general debility. He had been for sometime a public charge. The old man was 93 years of age at his death. The body was taken to the undertaking rooms of Ludeman and Starr, and was buried Wednesday. The Sedalia Daily Capital, in speaking of Mr. Umbles, says, "he has a son, Thomas, who has made no provisions for his father," and so forth.

—Candies, Oranges and Bananas at Kuhn & Co

WANTED—Two young ladies or men above the age of 16, to learn the typo trade. Call at the conservator office 104 E. Main, upstairs. Sedalians preferred.

The citizens of Sedalia, expect soon to organize a K. of P. Lodge. Rev. P. M. Mack, Dr. J. M. Harris, Jerry Brown, Wm. Brashear, W. H. Hunter, W. H. Huston and others are laboring to that end.

TAKE NO BACK GROUND

This verse is from a young man who witnessed a two weeks session of a religious revival, over at Glasgow, Mo., in which seventy-five persons were converted into the M. E. church under Rev. Geo. Reeves.

The scene of the two week's battle is o'er;

Satan's driven from many a door; He lost many from both ends of town;

Still let us pursue and take no back ground.

Satan's a great warrior, strong and bold;

He'll cross o'er our threshold without being told.

We'll drive him away, but o'er one turn round.

He comes double forced to win back lost ground.

No mortal leads us victorious on; Christ, our leader, the holy one; He only we pray and follow Jesus, Even on to victory he'll lead us.

The way to Heaven is not always smooth,

But Christ, the Heavenly, always doth sooth.

Battle on for Jesus; take back no back ground.

And when Heaven we reach, receive our crown.

By Richard Jackson.

MISSOURI POULTRY WINS FIRST PRIZES.

At the Interstate Poultry Exhibit at Topeka, Kans. last week, Missouri poultry breeders and fanciers took a large share of the first prizes. The show was one of the largest ever held in the West and the blue ribbon carried off by Missouri stock, shows the growth of the industry in this state. First prizes were won as follows: Silver Wyandotte—Hickens, Mrs. E. A. Creel, Carrollton, and Henry Steinmesch, Kirkwood Gold Wyandotte, Mrs. E. A. Creel; Black Lang Shans, L. E. Myers, Bowling Green and H. H. Borgman, Kansas City; White Holland Turkeys, Miss Mary Schall, Lexington.

The exhibit of poultry at St. Louis this year will include stock from nearly every country. Henry Steinmesch, Superintendent of Poultry, of the Missouri Commission, is working to this end and asks the co-operation of Missouri fanciers. He desires the name and address of every Missourian interested in poultry in order that information may be sent from time to time. Mr. Steinmesch also invites inquiry concerning the State Exhibits, mode of obtaining best results in preparation of show stock and so forth. He may be reached in care of the Missouri World's Fair Commission.

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