

# Goodwin's Weekly.

Theo. Schroeder,  
63 E. 50th St.,  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Vol XIII.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, MAY 16, 1908.

No. 2

## When Conservatism Is a Crime.

Emerson asks: "Is not every man sometimes a radical in politics? Men are conservative when they are least vigorous, or when they are most luxurious. They are conservatives after dinner, or before taking their rest; when they are sick or aged; in the morning; or when their intellect or their conscience has been aroused, when they hear music, or when they read poetry, they are radicals."

That expresses, dimly, perhaps, the great weakness of the American people. They have grown to be proud of their conservatism. The merchant and the banker say: "Our business is good, ours is a good country; if there are wrongs, they will right themselves after awhile. Why disturb things? There is nothing so lovely as peace." That idea, if permissible in some countries, is almost criminal in ours, for the reason that as the fathers planned our country, it was not for a King and Parliament to plan for the people and to correct abuses; rather, every man was made a tenant in common with every other man, the ballot was made the instrument through which all men should express their wills, and when five men or a million of men see this ballot prostituted and do not cry out against it and demand a change, as many as fall are in that measure casting reproach upon the fathers, and degrading themselves. It is so easy to let things drift, to say "It will be better by and by," but the American who is not every day a vigilant watchman for the rights of native land, and who does not cry out when he sees those rights degraded, is not a good American.

When a man in this country votes as he is bidden, he is like the soldier who in battle shoots at his own flag. Those who have seen the fleet in San Francisco Bay will recall to the end of their days the thrill they felt, the thrill at the thought of the majesty of their country as represented by those fighting ships; but really the power of this country lies in the units of the whole American people. When left to themselves they go to vote, though they may differ radically among themselves, their aggregated votes represent the voice of God, for God watches over an honest people and guides their hands aright when they cast their ballots. And so sure as the world, when a system is upreared in the midst of this Republic which subscribes to the claim that one man has a right divine to instruct his neighbor how to vote, then that is an alien and treasonable system, and must either be amended or destroyed. Moreover, it is the enemy to free thought, to the free exercise of men's opinions—it is the beginning of slavery. And when men in the presence of this system do not cry out against its oppressions and its disloyalty, then they are alike unfaithful to their country and themselves.

## Guardians of the Fleet.

The San Francisco Examiner says John Paul Jones' ships were tubs beside the fleet now in San Francisco Bay. We suspect that is true. But did the Examiner make a note of what Admiral Evans said when he bade the fleet good-bye, that it did not matter whether the armor was a few inches higher or lower, or whether there was any armor at all; that it was the spirit that trained the guns that counted?

Measured by that standard, are all the men on the fleet worthy descendants of Paul Jones? If they are, then it is well for the world's navies to stand at attention. When Paul Jones' ship was rent fore and aft, when the rigging was well-nigh shot away, when the dead and the dying cumbered the deck, and the wreck of the ship seemed to be sinking, to a summons to surrender, Jones answered back: "I have not begun to fight yet," and went on and won the battle. The world has much changed since Paul Jones' day. Steam and electricity have been harnessed and are now men's slaves; the beams and plating of ships are no longer oak; the vagrant winds have been discarded as a motive power; the terrible shell has been put in use; ships have increased from a few hundred tons burden to many thousands; but the hope is that the spirit of Paul Jones still with noiseless step walks those decks of steel and that his invincible spirit is the secret of the exultation those grim gunners feel when any foe is near. We believe it came down to Farragut; we are sure it was transmitted from Farragut to Dewey; we believe that, like "the Great Twin Brethren," it "sat shining on the sails" off Santiago; and that with it were the others, Hull, and Lawrence, and Perry, and Decatur, and Ingerham, and Winslow, and Morris, and Smith, and Foote—all the grand array that have made American fighting ships a synonym of victory on the deep sea.

In a few weeks the fleet will sail away; they will be met in a great harbor of Japan, met in their shining whiteness and received by the dusky ships of Japan; all their strength and apparent destructive power will be measured by that acute people, but still they will not correctly estimate them, for their eyes will be darkened to the invisible one that, like "the Great Twin Brethren," will "sit shining on the sails," for,

"Safe comes the ship to haven  
Through billows and through gales,  
If once the Great Twin Brethren  
Sit shining on the sails."

## Rev. Goshen's Arraignment.

We suspect that Rev. Goshen has received many compliments over his effort of Sunday last. But if his only purpose was to render justice in the hope that he might be the instrument through which justice might be wrought, we rather think that down deep in his soul he has doubts and misgivings over the wisdom of the course he pursued on Sunday last, for to begin with he did not make out even a prima facie case; and then what he did, no matter how pure was his motive, was to say words which were to be immediately converted into an assault upon the party in power. He is an impulsive man, but he could not have failed to note that there was a direct conspiracy here between certain officers backed by certain men high in the dominant church and supported by the church organ, and some thieves and hold-ups and bunco steerers, to convict a faithful officer of crime, when really none of the interested cared about the officer, but to manufacture material against the American party.

We do not charge anything of that kind against Rev. Goshen, but he is too bright a man not to see that the rejoicing over his course has been used for that specific purpose. He finally picked out two men whom he directly or indi-

rectly charged with dishonesty. He failed to back his charges with any tangible evidence, but had it been otherwise, what of it? Does he imagine that if given the authority that he could pick out of both the old parties the officers to fill all the offices of this city without having at least two in the list who would not ring true? And if he found that out, would he hold it as fair to arraign all his appointees because of suspicions against two?

Then he spoke from the pulpit of an orthodox church. Did it exalt his church in the eyes of either his near friends or that great host outside who loves to cast reproach upon the Christian faith? He may cite the fact that the Savior arraigned the money changers in the temple, but the circumstances were quite different. There were no daily nor weekly papers in Jerusalem. Save a few priests few people could read. There was no city government. All the change that had come to the people for a thousand years was the change from the Jewish despotism to the Roman iron rule. There were no free schools, there was no free ballot, there were no means to plead for reforms except orally, speaking direct to the people. Then the Master had the direct evidence before him, and did not rely upon a hear-say statement from a chronic belly-acher.

Our judgment is that the reverend gentleman made several mistakes. He made his arraignment on imperfect testimony. He made it in the wrong place, and our belief is that if Rev. Goshen wants to be a political reformer in Salt Lake City he should resign his office as a clergyman and get out among the people at primaries and in conventions, and if he plans to take the rostrum or edit a political newspaper, we think there is a large party here that would back him, especially if all his onslaughts were to be directed against the American party.

## The Effect Not the Cause.

Mr. Herbert N. Casson, who writes so enthusiastically about the "New American Farmer," says many interesting things, but he makes some wild breaks, all the same. For instance, in his last article he declares that "it is machinery that has so vastly increased the size of the average American farm." He then states that the average farm in India is half an acre, in France and Germany it is five acres, in England it is nine, while in the United States it is one hundred and fifty. He does not stop to explain how the farming population of the states he described has increased 500 per cent in the last few years, but that machinery has increased the average size of the farms to 150 acres. We suspect that the average size has been reduced 50 per cent in fifty years. In India the land has been cultivated for thousands of years, more than 4,000 that we know of, and the people have increased until on one-half our territory five times the number of people in our country struggle to live. Could the people of Iowa be multiplied to five times the present number, would the farms average 150 acres each? Again he says:

"Very little has been written about this stupendous prosperity of the American farmer. Why? Because it is so recent. The era of his profits began barely ten years ago." And he ascribes the change to diversified farming. In his narrow reasoning he confuses an effect with a cause. He admits that in 1892 prices were so