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SATURDAY APRIL 16, 1898.

McSHANE.

When big and prominent white men, supported as earnestly as was Dr. McShane, the late Health Officer, by the daily papers, are caught stealing, then it is time to ask our white friends to be fair, and measure their estimate of racial equality by the environments of the rascal caught, whether it be McShane or some poor unfortunate Negro. We believe in punishing all rascals, whether white or colored, but the man who enjoys the most culture, education, and largely the confidence of the people, and who in the presence of such deliberately uses all this advantage for a nefarious and wicked purpose, ought to be punished accordingly. The word justice means what?

HONESTY IS THE BEST POLICY.

Mr. E. J. Waring, the president of the late Lexington Savings Bank, who was on trial, in Howard county, last week, and who was acquitted, while on the stand, made a straightforward and most reasonable statement with respect to the cause of the sad calamity which overtook that institution. Were we to admit as substantially true and correct the statements of Mr. Waring, still we fail to see how that Mr. Waring started out, in the Lexington Bank venture, with an honest and uncorrupt purpose. From his own statement given some time ago, there never was more than \$10,000 in the bank at any time.

By what honest methods did he purpose investing \$10,000 so as to yield an annual interest of \$2,000, the amount required to pay the expenses of operating the bank? When we come to the moral view of the matter Mr. Waring must satisfactorily answer this question in his failure so to do convict himself of being a grand rascal. Mr. Waring has been acquitted after a fair trial in Howard county last week. We never had one single doubt, from the very beginning, respecting his acquittal, for we failed to understand how it was possible to convict him under the circumstances. The point of moral guilt, above noted by us, is one with which the law has nothing to do. It is simply a question of personal honor and integrity of heart.

Mr. Waring, leaving aside the point already noted, so we believe, having full power and authority in the premises used the funds to secure the best results but failed of accomplishment. Whatever we may think of Mr. Waring we do not believe that he at any time deliberately planned to break up the institution or to ruin his future and the property of others. The simple

fact is, he was unduly and extraordinarily covetous, and in his anxiety to become rich in a bound, he started off in the banking business with no other basis than that of visionary schemes and speculative possibilities. So far from cherishing hate, we have for the poor man, with such brilliant faculties and more than ordinary executive powers, the profoundest pity.

THE COMING STRUGGLE.

All through these tedious days of suspense and trouble the brave and sanctified heart and the well balanced intellect of our great President have abundantly vindicated the wisdom of the nation's choice. Another Abraham Lincoln we have. At present it looks as if there is no escape from war, but it does come, it will be a down-right necessity, and because there was no possible way, consistent with the honor of our country, to prevent it. The President in his noble message to Congress has placed upon that body the grave responsibility of action. Our President is neither a hot-head or a radical. The President recommends "the forcible intervention of the United States as a neutral to stop the war," and he asks Congress to empower him to take this step and to "use the military and naval forces of the United States as may be necessary for these purposes." But while we prepare for war, it is entirely consistent that we continue to pray, "Give peace in our time, O Lord For it is thou Lord only that makest us dwell in safety."

THE EMPTINESS OF REPUBLICAN PROFESSIONS.

The transfer of white teachers from colored schools goes merrily on at nearly every meeting of the Board, and forthwith these vacancies are filled by putting other white teachers in the colored schools in the places thus vacated. And all of this by a Republican School Board who profess one thing and do another. Who profess to be friendly towards putting colored teachers in colored schools, and at the same time continue to put back white ones in these schools just as fast as vacancies occur. The Brennan-Cargill law passed several years ago and voted for by President New of the School Board when he was a member of the city council has been audaciously and defiantly ignored. Still Mr. Malster claims to be a friend of the race, and although his attention has been called to the matter, cares such a little about Negroes that he will not inquire or the Board why the law has been violated.

PREACHERS' WIVES.

Preachers do not always have such an abundance of money that they find it convenient to give their wives all the spending money they may desire. Hence many a clergyman's wife finds it very difficult to get a few pennies for "Mite Societies" and the many charitable institutions with which nearly every preacher's wife is connected. The LEDGER sympathizes very much with these dear sisters in their praiseworthy ambition of having a little money to put in all these places. We think we can help our good friends out of the dilemma. It makes no difference whether in the city or in the country, generally, the wives of the clergy have very many friends among the membership of the church. In a few hours, one of these devoted creatures can easily come into possession of five or ten dollars, money all her own, most easily earned, and then she can divide it up to suit herself. Here is the way that it all can be accomplished. Take a copy of the LEDGER in hand and make about a hundred visits, matters not if it takes you a whole week to get around, and at each place secure a subscriber to the LEDGER for 6 months, in advance, 25c, and out of every 25c you will allow you a commission of 5 cents.

See! It is very easy for a minister's wife, for all of them know how to use the tongue to a decided advantage.

One of the most cultured and refined ladies, the wife of a prominent minister in this city, in less time than a week had gotten together fifty subscribers for the LEDGER, and handed us the actual cash. A young clergyman who lives in a Maryland town, in about the same time also sent the cash for more than fifty subscribers to the LEDGER. Here is an opportunity for the wives of preachers, by a little light and most pleasant work, to add a little change to their almost empty pocket books. Go to work at once and let us hear from you.

PAPAL MEDITATION.

The fact that the Pope is much interested in preventing war is very significant. The after results of war in Cuba might prove disastrous to the present domination of the Roman Church in that land. War might, incidentally, mean a throwing off of the Papal yoke. Papal supremacy itself among those who have never questioned the supposed fact might not be helped by a new political arrangement and government in Cuba, largely influenced by events in the United States.

THE MINISTERIAL UNION.

The Ministerial Union which met on Thursday last week at Sharp Street church was permeated with a spirit of fraternal unity, warmth and cordiality which was simply admirable. Rev. W. M. Alexander presided over the meeting. Causes of the high death-rate among our people were considered at length. A committee was appointed to arrange in succinct form, in an address, the various items contributing towards such an excessive and abnormal percentage of deaths among our people. The committee consists of Rev. Messrs. Alexander, Lyon, John Hurst, Eccleston and Bragg. The Union meets once each month and is composed of all the city pastors identified with our race variety. The next meeting will be at Trinity church.

Reisterstown and Fair View.

Mrs. Priscilla McCormick, aged 68, a lady of very high standing in this community departed this life on the 6th, Rev. J. T. Moten officiated at the funeral, and the interment was in Pool's M. E. Church grave-yard. She was greatly honored and esteemed by all. Mrs. Lulu Wing, the teacher of Piney Grove school, with her pupils, gave a very successful concert at Piney M. E. church for the benefit of the same. The children acted their parts most creditably. The ladies of the church served refreshments, and the affair was a grand success, \$23.00 being the amount turned over to the Trustees.

Piney Grove church was well attended last Sunday, morning and evening. Mr. J. F. Nelson, president of the Epworth League held a very interesting service. The following gentlemen made addresses: Mr. Richard Frey, Mr. H. Williams and Rev. J. Tozgin. Selections were rendered by Miss Cora Frey and Mrs. Lulu Wing. Miss Lulu Nelson presided at the organ.

The New Brass Band turned out in full uniform last Monday evening, despite the unfavorable weather. They had a good crowd at the Town Hall.

The Douglass Literary.

The Douglass Literary held its regular weekly meeting at Grace Presbyterian church, Tuesday evening. A large number was in attendance. Mr. W. T. McGuinn, read a paper subject: "Postal Depositories." The paper was discussed by Rev. W. M. Alexander, A. B. Lowe, W. G. Tyler, J. E. Board and Dr. H. J. Brown. Mr. Revel H. Fooks is the essayist for next Tuesday evening. A fine program will be presented.

Zenith Hand Laundry.

The Zenith Hand Laundry has been opened at 707 Druid Hill ave, by Mr. Irving Smith, and it is a new venture among our people. It ought to succeed, and the men should see to it that they receive a portion or all of their work.

LOCAL NOTES.

Mr. Hermon Literary held a very profitable meeting last Sunday. Rev. J. J. Jones preached the Easter sermon. Mr. J. A. Pinckney spoke of the origin of Easter. Miss Cora Savage gave a paper on the good of Libraries, Mr. Benson, of Towson made a very eloquent address, Mr. G. M. Daudin spoke of the Resurrection. Among other present and who made short addresses were, Rev. Philip Johnson, Madam Ayers and Mr. Weston. Madam Smith presided at the organ. Many asked for the LEDGER but for some cause it failed to reach us.

At the M. E. Preachers meeting at Sharp street church on last Wednesday, the topic discussed was the "Relation of the Negro to the Spain war affair." Prof. T. D. Atkins of Charlotte, N. C., was present in the interest of his institution the Wharton Industrial School. The topic for next week will be a discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of "Camp Meetings."

The Y. M. C. A. Current Topic Debating Society met at the Rooms of the Association on west Biddle street last Saturday evening. A paper was read by Mr. James Barbour, Topic "The Present Needs of Man." The paper was discussed at length by those present. The attendance was large. The ladies present seemed to enjoy the discussion very much. This evening Mr. Frank Johnson of the High School will read a paper, Topic "Should Capital Punishment be Abolished." All are welcomed to these meetings. The men's meeting will be addressed by Mr. J. H. Burnett next Sunday at 5 p. m. Subject: Work for the Battle is at Hand."

PERSONALS.

Mrs. Corbin of Royal Oak Talbot county, was in the city this week.

Miss Hattie Howard one of the popular rural school mistresses spent the holidays in the city.

Mr. Davis of 912 N. Eutaw St., is slowly improving.

Rev. J. N. Deaver of Charles-town, W. Va., was in the city on Thursday.

Miss Lena Murray, of Port Deposit, spent the holidays in this city with friends.

MADAME SELIKA.

At John Wesley N. E. Church, corne Sharp and Montgomery streets, on Monday night the 18th inst., at 8 o'clock, Madame Selika and Seror Veleoco. Assisted by local talent will appear in concert. The following well known Local Talent will assist: Messdames Lizzie Ward, Annie Robinson, Ella Davis, Misses Carrie White, Julia Lyon with Messrs. Richard Johnson and J. Brown. W. have lowered the price of Admission to 15 cents General Admission, and 25 cents for Reserved Seats. Geo. Johnson, Sec. John Toadvin, Gen'l Mgr. adv. Rev. E. Lyon, Pastor.

Bryant's Marjoram Cream.

The Greatest Botanical Discovery of the present Century. It cures numerous ailments. It acts like magic to relieve and cures rheumatism, sore feet, chapped skin, back ache and most every ailment brought on by cold or irritation. Agents wanted to sell this wonderful remedy. 25 cents or 5 bottles for \$1.00. Apply to P. D. Blackwell, 203 Richmond Street, Baltimore, Md.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

Israel Baptist Church, Mullikin near An street. Preaching 11 a. m. by Rev. John T. Murray, and at night by the Pastor. Sunday School at 9:30 and 2:30 p. m. Christian Union at 4 o'clock. Subject: "What is most needed for the Race?" A paper will be read by Mr. Cathlin and a recitation given by Mr. Robert H. Waters.

J. H. Reid, Pastor.
Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Waverly. Preaching 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. by the pastor. Rev. Reuben Parker, Pastor.

Ebenezer Baptist Church, 23 street. Morning service 11 a. m. Sunday school 2 p. m. Young People's Union 4 p. m. Preaching at 8 p. m. by the Rev. John H. Ballou.

Rev. J. W. Jones, Pastor.

Sharon Baptist Church, Carey and Pressman street.—Grand Rally 4th Sunday all day, April 24th. Every member and friend is cordially invited and urged to help just a little. Distinguished ministers of national reputation have been invited and are expected to be present. Special services at 3 p. m. Rev. W. M. Alexander, Pastor. James E. Johnson, Clerk.

Special Service at Wayman Memorial Church, corner Tessler and Orchard Streets.—Dr. J. A. Johnson, pastor of the Metropolitan Church in Washington, will preach to the Ladies Mite Missionary Society, Sunday April 17th at 2:30 p. m. Come early and secure seats. Rev. Jas. G. Martin, Pastor.

Waters A. M. E. Church, Spring St. near Jefferson. 11 a. m., 7:30 p. m. Sunday school 2:30 p. m.; O. E. 7 p. m. W. H. Bevans, supt. Rev. JOHN HURST, Pastor.

Centennial M. E. Church, preaching at the regular hours 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. by the pastor. Rev. W. M. Moorman, Pastor.

NEGROES IN FEDERAL OFFICES.

More of Them Under the Present Republican Administration Than Ever.

The First President to Give a Commission to a Negro Was Abraham Lincoln.

The status of the American Negro as a Federal office holder seems to have been more firmly and satisfactorily established under the present administration than under any of its predecessors. The first President to give a commission to a Negro was Abraham Lincoln. From Andrew Jackson the colored man received no recognition of this sort. President Grant, during the days of the reconstruction, gave colored men many important places in the Southern States, and some few in the diplomatic service. President Hayes did likewise. Grant had promised some places, but his untimely end left to Arthur their distribution. Cleveland had some followers to reward, the most notable being C. H. J. Taylor, of Kansas, who was appointed as minister resident and consul general to the republic of Liberia and later on as recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia. General Harrison appointed colored men to a number of good posts, some of which had never been given to Negroes. It has been left to President McKinley, however, to bestow a larger number of places of consequence upon colored officeholders than any preceding president.

The highest diplomatic place given to a colored man under this administration is that held by William H. Crowl, of New Jersey, who, as minister resident and consul general to the republic of Haiti and charge d'affaires to the republic of San Domingo, has already played an important part in the recent trouble between Haiti and the German government. This place pays \$5,000 a year, and has been held by E. D. Bassett, John Mercer Langston, John E. W. Thompson, John S. Durham and Frederick Douglass.

The next highest office, that of minister resident and consul general to the republic of Liberia, was recently filled by the appointment of Owen L. W. Smith, of North Carolina, at an annual salary of \$4,000. Among those who have held this place are John Milton Turner, Henry Highland Garnet, one of the early leaders of his race; John H. Smythe, E. E. Smith and William H. Heard.

America's commercial interests in Cognac, the great brandy center of France, are to be cared for the next four years by George H. Jackson, a young colored man from Connecticut, who will receive a salary of \$1,500 per annum and fees amounting to about the same figure.

Madam Van Horn will represent the United States at St. Thomas, at a compensation amounting to about \$2,500 per annum.

Judge M. V. Gibbs, of Arkansas, has been sent as a consul to Madagascar at \$2,000 a year. This place was once held by John L. Waller, of Kansas.

Professor R. T. Greener will be stationed at Bombay, and will draw \$2,000 a year as the result of recent Congressional legislation, in addition to fees amounting to about \$500 a year.

Dr. H. W. Furniss, of Indiana, is a consul at Bahai, Brazil, receiving \$2,000 as salary and fees aggregating \$1,000 more.

John L. Williams, of North Carolina, will draw \$1,100 a year at Sierra Leone; L. W. Livingston, of Florida, will get

\$1,500 at Cape Haytien, and

Dr. of Tennessee, will receive \$1,000 as consul to Ansonia, Pa.

James R. Shurgeon, of the first colored citizen to receive a Presidential appointment, he enjoys the distinction of only colored secretary of that of the legation of Mexico, which he receives a compensation of \$1,500 annually.

Under the treasury department, important offices are held by Rucker, who is the collector of revenue for the State of Georgia. Rucker receives an annual salary of \$3,875. He has a force of whose salaries aggregate \$25,000. As custodian of the Federal Atlanta he has a force of employes whose salaries amount to \$100,000 a year.

An collector of customs for Savannah, Ga., John C. gives bonds for \$30,000 for performance of his duty, vessels enter this port, receipts amount to about \$100,000 annually. He has a force of compensation amounts to \$100,000 per annum. He is the first to hold this place, and is representative of the custom Savannah.

Joseph E. Lee is collector of Jacksonville, Fla., receiving \$2,000 and having a force of employes.

Domingo N. Pappy is the St. Augustine, Fla., and receives \$2,000 per annum. As collector of Wilmington, N. C., John receives compensation amounting to \$2,400 per annum, and employes.

C. C. Wimbish as surveyor port of Atlanta receives about \$2,000 per annum.

The best paying customs by a colored man is that of Hines, naval officer at New Orleans the salary of which is \$5,000 per annum.

B. K. Bruce, a man of education, has just left vacant the office of register of the State He has represented the State of Mississippi in the United States for a period of six years, and had been register of the treasury recorder of deeds for the Columbia. Judson F. Lyons, another colored man, has been appointed as Mr. Bruce's successor.

Under the department of there are five colored Presidential commissioners. Chestnut, who has twice been the 2nd congressional district, Carolina in the national legislature now filling the post of a deeds of the District of Columbia of \$4,000 per annum. Bush is the receiver of public at Little Rock, Ark., at a salary of \$500. Jasper Hill, a member national committee for the Mississippi is register of the office at Jackson, Miss., at \$2,500. Herschell V. Goshen is receiving public moneys at Huntsville, Ala. 300 and John C. Lettwith is at Montgomery, Ala., at \$3,000 per annum.

The Postoffice department four Negroes holding commissions from the chief executive. Milton is postmaster at Annapolis, Md. 400 J. S. Hasfield, a 400 Robt. Small, is postmaster at fort, S. C., at \$1,600; Israel Rocky Mount, N. C., at \$1,100; S. Jackson at Darien, Ga., \$1,000 per annum.

Thus 30 appointments of colored men have been given to the country within the first year of McKinley's administration, and in connection with the placeability held by them, not of various executive departments, but in the several of the classified civil service of the United States, should be that the colored man has of representatives in the vice.—N. Y. Tribune.

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1605 McElderry

SERVICE

SUNDAY

7 a. m. Holy Communion

second and fourth

11 a. m. Service and

11.45 a. m. Holy Communion

first and third

3:00 p. m. Sunday school

8:00 p. m. Evensong

WEEKLY SERMONS.

AN IMPRESSIVE DISCOURSE BY REV. DR. TALMAGE.

The Rev. George H. Hayworth's Sunday Discourse in the New York Herald is entitled "Heresy"—Dr. T. DeWitt Talmage's on the Evil of Gambling.

Text: "My heart shall not reproach me so long as I live." Job, xxvii, 6. It is very important that your heart of conscience shall not accuse you. Your happiness does not depend on anybody else's conscience or heart, but on your own.

It is your conscience that makes you an individual, which spiritually isolates you; and its approval is worth more than the approval of all the world. You cannot go far wrong if you always do what you think is right. You may ask advice, but you should decide for yourself what it is best to do, and then do it, whether other people blame or praise.

Men may call you heretical, but what men say of you is of no importance in comparison with what God will say. Your business is to be on His side, and be sure in your heart that He is on your side. If after that, people agree with you, you may well rejoice, but if they do not, that is their affair and not yours.

This is a very queer world in one respect. We like to be sheep and follow a leader. Even in matters of dress we must needs do what to wear, and whether it is in color or in shape we wear it. In the matter of religion there is no such fashion as there is in dress.

Men may tell you to believe this or that—it is nothing. You may believe as others do, or you may not; but if you believe what God shall teach you when you and He are together, what God shall teach you, your days will be radiant, and you will be happy.

The only real heresy is the heresy of an evil life. Honest belief is never heresy, but dishonest living is always heresy. To be fast to a high ideal, to grovel when you ought to stand, to be content with the delusive ambitions of the world when you ought to keep your soul bright and clear and pure, to unmake yourself by immoralities when you should be building for eternity, to be mean when you should be great—these constitute a heresy which is abhorred in heaven.

I say, therefore, be yourself, and make yours all yours are ever of becoming. High living alone is orthodox, and high living is the result of pure feeling and lofty thinking. If your conscience tells you you are right, have nothing to fear, either here or hereafter.

DR. TALMAGE'S SERMON. Downward Path of the Gambler Sermon as a Subject.

"Accidans, that is to say, the field of blood."—Acts I, 18. The money that Judas gave for surrendering Christ was used to purchase a graveyard. As the money was blood money, the ground bought by it was called in the Bible tongue, "Accidans," meaning "the field of blood." Well, there is one word I want to write to-day every race course where wagers are staked, and every pool room and every gambling saloon and every table, public or private, where men and women bet for sums of money, large or small, and that is a word incoherently with the name of innumerable victims—Accidans.

The gambling spirit, which at times a stupendous evil, ever and anon sweeps over the country like an epidemic, prostrating uncounted thousands. There has never been a worse attack than that from which all the villages and towns and cities are now suffering.

Some years ago, when an association for the suppression of gambling was organized, an agent of the association came to a prominent citizen and asked him to patronize the society. He said: "No, I can have no interest in such an organization. I am in no wise affected by that which is very true, his son, who was his partner in business, was one of the heaviest players in a famous gambling establishment. Another refusal of his patronage on the same ground, not knowing that his first bookkeeping was losing from \$50 to \$100 a night. Directly or indirectly this evil strikes at the whole world.

Gambling is the risking of something more or less valuable in the hope of winning more than you hazard. The instrument of gambling may differ, but the principle is the same. The stumpling and the dealing of cards, however full of temptation, is not gambling unless stakes are put up; on the other hand, gambling may be carried on without cards, or dice, or billiards, or a fourth alley. The man who bets on horses, or elections, or a race, the man who deals in "fancy" stocks, or in "fancy" bonds, or in "fancy" real estate, or goes into transactions without foundation but dependent upon what men will "do," is a gambler.

Whatever you expect to get from your neighbor without offering an equivalent in money, or time, or skill, is either the product of theft or gaming. Lottery tickets and lottery policies come into the same category. Bazaars for the founding of hospitals, schools and churches, conducted on the raffish system, come under the same denomination. Do not, therefore, associate gambling necessarily with any instrument, or game, or time or place, or think the principle depends upon whether you pay for a glass of wine or one hundred dollars of railroad stock. Whether you patronize "saloon" pools, "Frensh" mutuels, or "book-making," whether you employ faro or billiards, rondo and keno, cards or bagatelle, the very idea of the thing is dishonest; for it professes to bestow upon you a good for which you give no equivalent.

Men wishing to gamble will find places just suited to their capacity, not only in the underground opium cellar, or at the table back of the curtain, covered with greasy cards, or in the steamboat smoking cabin, where the bloated wretch with rings in his ears deals out his pack, and stinks in the unsuspecting traveler, providing free drinks all around—but in gilded parlors and amid gorgeous surroundings. This in works as ruin, first, by providing an unhealthy stimulant. Excitement is pleasurable. Under every sky and in every age men have sought it. We must at times have excitement. A thousand voices in our nature demand it. It is right; it is healthful; it is inspiring; it is a desire God-given.

A young man having suddenly inherited a large property, sits at the hazard table, and takes up in a dice-box the estate won by a father's lifetime sweat, and shakes it and tosses it away. Intemperance soon stigmatises its victim, knocking him out, a slaving fool, into the ditch, or sending him, with the drunkard's bludgeon, staggering up the street, where his family lives. But gambling does not in that way expose its victims. The gambler may be eaten up by the gambler's passion, yet you only discover it by the greed in his eyes, the hardness of his features, the nervous restlessness, the threadbare coat, and his embarrassed business.

The infernal spell is on him; a giant is aroused within; and though you bid him with cables, they would part like thread, and though you fasten him seven times around with chains, they would snap like rusted wire; and though you piled up in his path heaven-high libels, tracts and sermons, and on the top should set the cross of the Son of God, over them all the gambler would leap like a roe over the rocks, on his way to perdition. "Accidans, the field of blood!"

Notice, also, the effect of this crime upon domestic happiness. It has sent its ruthless ploughshares through hundreds of families, until the wife sat in rags and the sons grew up to the same infamous practices, or took a short cut to destruction across the murderer's scaffold. Home has lost all charms for the gambler. How tame are the children's caresses and a wife's devotion to the gambler! How drearily the fire burns on the domestic hearth! There must be louder laughter, and something to win and something to lose; an excitement to drive the heart faster, flip the blood and fire the imagination. No home, however bright, can keep back the gambler. The sweet call of love bounds back from his iron soul, and all endearments are consumed in the fire of his passion. The family Bible will go after all other treasures are lost, and if his crown in heaven were put into his hands he would cry: "Here goes, on one more game, my boys. On this one throw I stake my crown of heaven."

The Church of God has not seemed willing to allow the world to have all the advantage of these games of chance. A church bazaar opens, and toward the close of the afternoon, and toward the close of the articles, and under pretense of making some popular member of the church, fascinating person or dispatheer through the room, pencil in hand, to "collet shares," or perhaps each draws for his own advantage, and scores of people go home with their trophies, thinking that it is all right, for Christ's women did the raffish, and Christian men did the raffish, and the proceeds went toward a new communion set. But you may depend on it that as far as morality is concerned, you might as well have won by the crack of the billiard ball or the turn of the dice box. Do you wonder that churches are built, lighted, or polestered by such processes as that come to great financial and spiritual decrepitude? All this I style ecclesiastical gambling. More than one man who is destroyed and say that his first step on the wrong road was when he won something at a church fair.

Shall I sketch the history of the gambler? Lured by bad company, he finds his way into a place where honest men ought never to go. He sits down to his first game, but only for pastime and the desire of being thought sociable. The players deal out the cards. They unconsciously play into each other's hands, who takes all the tricks and both the sharper and the trumps—he being a sharper at any game. A slight stake is put up, just to add interest to the play. Game after game is played. Larger stakes and still larger. They begin to move nervously on their chairs. Their brows lower, and eyes flash, until as they who win and they who lose, are treated alike with scorn, and clenched fists, and eyes like fireballs that seem starting from their sockets, to see the final turn of the wheel, or the losing, pale with envy and tremulous with unuttered oaths cast back red-hot upon the heart—"Ha! ha! I have it!"

A few years have passed, and he is only the wreck of a man. Seating himself at the game, ere he throws the first card, he stakes the last relic of his wife—the marriage ring which sealed the solemn vows between them. The game is lost, and, staggering back in exhaustion, he dreams of the bright hours of the past, with its agony, and in his dreams flings with eyes blind and tongues of flames circles about him with jangling hands, and dance and sing their orgies with hellish chorus, chanting: "Hail, brother! kissing his clammy forehead until their loathsome looks, flowing with perspiration, crawled into his bosom, and sink their sharp fangs and suck up his life's blood, and, coiling around his head, pinch it with chill and shudders unutterable."

Take warning! You are no stronger than those of thousands who have by this price been overthrown. No young man in our cities can escape being tempted. Beware of the first beginning! This road is a downward grade and every instant increases the momentum. Launch not upon this treacherous set. Split hulks strew the beach, tossing up their storm howl up and down, and everlastingly craft into the Hell-gate. I speak of what I have seen with my own eyes. To a gambler's death-bed there comes no hope. He will probably die in his dwelling. When the hour comes, his miserable soul will go out of a miserable life into a miserable eternity. As his poor ruined, old companions first goes the old moment and say: "There, but they will not be raised from the dead, but they will not be raised from the dead. Let him down now into his grave. Plant no tree to cast its shade there, for the long, deep, eternal gloom that settles there is shadow enough. Plant no 'forget-me-nots' or eggplantines to grow on such a blasted health. Visit it not in the sunshine, for that work is mockery, but in the dismal night, when no stars were out, and the spirit of darkness comes down, borne on the wind, then visit the grave of the gambler."

The Boston Mechanics' Fair is announced for the month beginning on October 10. It will be open for the reception of all who wish to visit it, and will be held for four weeks prior to that date.

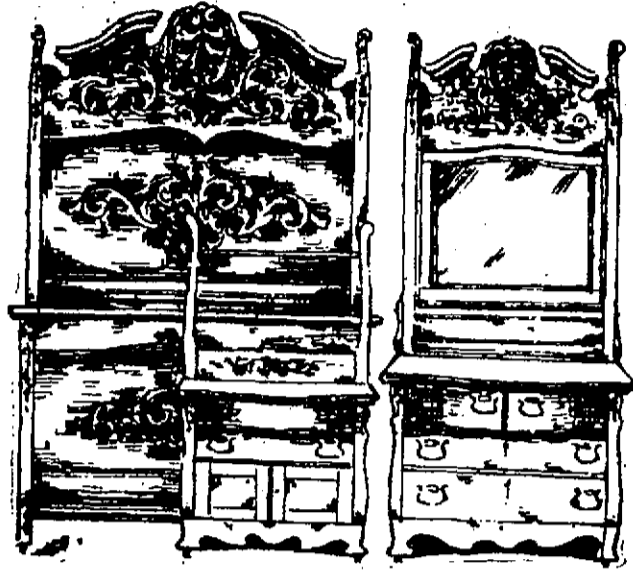
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