

ple, when they went to America, divided themselves among the various parties, yet when, if I find good people in the party opposed to me, instead of discouraging me, it encourages because it gives us much to fight for in getting them out of the other party into our own (laughter). For if we had all the good people in our party, and all the bad people in the other party, it might be bad for our country.

Mr. O'Connor has mentioned our country and its position in the world. I am glad that the people of Ireland feel as they do towards America, and I may say to you that in an absence of now a little more than ten months, it has done my heart good to find a friendly feeling towards the United States in all the countries I have been in. Nowhere did I find people expressing anything but interest in the United States, and I want to say this to you—that it has strengthened me in the conviction that the ambition of my nation should be not to make people fear it, but to make people love it (applause). If there be any who take pride in the fact that people outside of their land bow in fear before their flag, I take pride in the fact that we have a flag which makes them turn their eyes towards Heaven and thank God there is such a flag (applause).

I have been in attendance on the session of the Inter-parliamentary Union; I have been interested in its work, and I have taken great satisfaction in the evident progress of the peace sentiment throughout the world. I am not an old man, though much older than when I labored under the disadvantage of being a boy orator (laughter). I am still a young man, so young that I hope that in the course of nature I may live to see the time when nations, instead of training people to kill each other, will recognize that justice, and justice only, can furnish an enduring foundation for a nation, and will be willing that every question in dispute shall be presented for investigation and deliberation, with the idea of settling all questions by reason and not force (loud applause). I have such faith in this sense of justice that I believe in the course of time every question will be settled right. If I did not have faith in that sense of justice I could not advocate any reform, for it is only to the sense of justice that God placed in the human heart that we can appeal (applause), and it is because I believe that that sense of justice is to be found everywhere I have hope that Ireland's appeal for justice will be a successful appeal, and in the triumph of justice you will be brought nearer and nearer together, not only with those who live in other parts of these islands, but with the people who live in all parts of the world. I believe what a great French writer said, and what Tolstoy repeated, that the world is to enter upon an era in which love and good will will take the place of avarice and greed and violence (applause). When that time comes and we begin to examine and see to whom the credit belongs, I believe you will find that credit must be divided, and that some credit must be given to the people of America, who have been pleading for justice, that some credit must be given to the great leaders of Ireland who have been pleading for justice, and that some credit—yes, some credit must be given to the great English and great Scotch statesmen who have been pleading for justice (applause).

I am not here to make you a speech. I am simply here to acknowledge the courtesy that you have shown to Mrs. Bryan and myself, and I thank my friend, Mr. O'Connor, for having included Mrs. Bryan in his words of welcome (applause), for she has been my companion in all my labors, and has not only shared all my joys with me, and by sharing multiplied them, but has robbed all my disappointments and all my sorrows of their sting (loud applause). It is fit that the kind words spoken of her should be spoken by an Irishman, for I know no country where woman is held in higher esteem, or shares more fully in all the affairs of the family, than in Ireland (loud applause).

Mr. John Redmond, M. P., who was received with prolonged applause, said: Ladies and Gentlemen, I rise with some reluctance to address you, because after the two speeches to which we have listened any words are superfluous, and yet I am not sorry to have an opportunity, in two or three simple words, to bear acknowledgment here, in Mr. Bryan's hearing, to the debt of gratitude that my colleagues of the Irish party, and I myself, owe to men of all parties and constantly gone to America for material aid in our struggles and for sympathy, and the greater the sufferings which we were enduring at home the greater the sympathy that we have inevitably received in America (applause). I myself have had the honor of visiting America within the last few years. Since I have had the honor of being chairman of the Irish

parliamentary party in the house of commons I have gone as Ireland's ambassador to America four or five times, and I have found fervent sympathy and assistance from all classes of the American people (applause). It is true, as Mr. Bryan has told you, that the majority of our countrymen in America belong to the great political party of which he is the honored chief, but it is true also that sympathy with our country is not confined to that party (applause). I have to say for myself that when I have gone to America as the representative of Ireland I have been received with equal generosity and sympathy by the chiefs of the democratic party and those of the republican party, and from no man have I received greater sympathy and kindness than from that great man who, at the head of a different party from Mr. Bryan, presides over the destinies of America today (loud applause). The strength of the Irish cause in America lies in the fact that that cause is not linked to any political party, but that it appeals to the broad sympathy of humanity and justice which guides all political parties in the United States (applause). As in the past, so it will be in the future, I have never in America met a single individual American who was the enemy of Irish aspirations (hear, hear). I have never in America come across any man of public opinion, any newspaper of any political creed that was the enemy of Irish aspirations, and I am perfectly convinced that when the moment comes when our aspirations shall triumph, and when Irish prosperity and Irish liberty will exist on Irish soil in its full measure as completely as they have been enjoyed by individual Irishmen wherever they have gone throughout the world, that there will be no quarter of the civilized globe where that result will be received with greater acclamation and universal rejoicing than in that great land (applause). Aye, that great land which has been to us something more than a friend and a sympathizer, that great land which in the words of one of her own poets:

"Whose free larch string was never yet drawn in
Against the meanest child of Adam's kin"
(cheers); that great land which has been our refuge and our hope, that great land to which we have looked in our sorrows and our triumphs; that great land which we honor today by honoring Mr. Bryan (applause). America is in the minds and hearts of Irishmen at home all the time. There is not a day the sun sets in the western ocean that our people don't bless the name of America (applause). We look upon her as our friend in the west; we look upon her as our great source of strength in our contest for justice today (applause); and all of us Irishmen in this room are proud to have the opportunity of doing honor to this great American citizen who is amongst us (applause). Speaking in the name of all my colleagues, the freely-elected representatives of five-sixths of the Irish people at home, I tender to Mr. Bryan, and through him to the American people, the expression of our deep gratitude and of our love and veneration (loud applause).

Mr. and Mrs. Bryan left shortly afterwards for the continent.

"SAVING THE YEARS"

Norbert Weiner, at eleven years a freshman in Tufts college, is called the youngest college student in America. He is the son of Prof. Weiner, of Harvard, a Russian, and of an American-born mother. When he was eight years old he was reading Darwin, Huxley and Haeckel. Referring to this incident, the New York World says: "Precocity is common in the childhood of eminent men. Alexander Hamilton at twelve was left in charge of a colonial counting-house and at nineteen was a revolutionary leader. John Stuart Mill read Greek at four. A remarkable case of early development was that of the son of John Evelyn, the diarist, who did not live to fulfill his promise. At two and a half years this child 'pronounced English, Latin and French exactly and could perfectly read in those three languages.' Before he died, at five, he 'got by heart almost the entire vocabulary of Latin and French primitives and words * * * and had a strong passion for Greek.' The early development of musical talent is a common phenomenon among eminent composers. It is not difficult to 'prepare' for college at eleven a precocious child. There are thousands of children who with private teaching could accomplish the feat. As children are commonly trained the forward ones are retarded by the average intelligence of large classes. They lose little by the experience if the leisure from their light tasks is devoted to exercise and good reading. Most educators agree that boys

generally graduate from our colleges at too advanced an age."

It seems to be the opinion of many that it is important to save some years in the college training of a man, and so these would begin to "cram" the lad at a very early age. But is there not, in truth, plenty of margin at the other end? Those who advocate pushing the lad into life at an early age, seem not disposed to raise a protest against the tendency to push the man into the grave when he should be in the very midst of active, useful life. We need not worry about "saving the years" while the lad is in his teens. There is a better field for the activities of intelligent and humane thinkers in the vicinity of that system now being rapidly built up in this country—a system which seeks to place the age of thirty-five or forty as a limit to a man's power and usefulness. Let us have a little less of the abominable doctrine fostered by the trust system and a little more of the fine sentiment put into verse by Longfellow when he wrote:

"It is too late! Ah! nothing is too late
Till the tired heart shall cease to palpitate,
Cato learned Greek at eighty; Sophocles
Wrote his grand Oedipus, and Simonides
Bore off the prize of verse from his compeers
When each had numbered more than fourscore
years;
And Theophrastus at fourscore and ten
Had but begun his 'Characters of Men.'
Chaucer, at Woodstock with the nightingales,
At sixty wrote the 'Canterbury Tales.'
Goethe, at Weimer, toiling to the last,
Completed 'Faust' when eighty years were past,
What then! Shall we sit idly down and say
The night hath come; it is no longer day?
The night hath not yet come; we are not quite
Cut off from labor by the failing light;
Something remains for us to do or dare,
Even the oldest trees some fruit may bear.
For age is opportunity no less
Than youth itself, though in another dress;
And as the evening twilight fades away
The sky is filled with stars, invisible by day."

JEFFERSON AND LINCOLN

The Milwaukee Sentinel, a republican organ that may always be depended upon to support republican candidates and republican policies, no matter how bad, makes the following reference to Mr. Bryan's repeated quotations from the writings of Thomas Jefferson.

"Mr. Bryan somehow identifies the democratic party with 'the people,' or with democracy in the broader or philosophic sense. Then how about the affinity for that party of the old planting, slaveholding, aristocratic south, and of the 'solid south' today where social equality is abhorrent? For his ideal of a real statesman of the people Mr. Bryan should have turned, not to the greatest democrat, the 'well born' Jefferson, but to the greatest republican, a man cradled in the log cabin of a wandering settler, bred in toll and poverty, self-educated, self-made, a marvel of history, a ruler whose like America only has produced—Abraham Lincoln."

The Commoner feels entirely safe in saying that in the less than six years of its existence it has quoted more from the speeches and writings of Abraham Lincoln than the Milwaukee Sentinel has in the last twenty years.

During the last ten years Mr. Bryan, in his public speeches and in his editorial writings, has referred to and quoted more from Abraham Lincoln than the Milwaukee Sentinel has in the same length of time.

The circulation of The Commoner is easily four times larger than that of the Milwaukee Sentinel. But despite this disparity in circulation The Commoner makes the Sentinel the following proposition: For every inch, column measurement, that the Sentinel will devote to reprinting quotations from Abraham Lincoln furnished by The Commoner, The Commoner will devote an inch to reprinting quotations from Abraham Lincoln furnished by the Milwaukee Sentinel, the quotations submitted by either party to be properly authenticated by reference to standard works on Lincoln, and limited to not more than twenty-four inches, column measurement, in any one week. Both The Commoner and the Sentinel are to give equal prominence on their editorial pages to the quotations submitted.

If the Milwaukee Sentinel wants to circulate among the people the views of Abraham Lincoln on questions that are as pertinent today as they were when Abraham Lincoln was alive, the opportunity is at hand.