

gard the gradual success of these as indicating an increase in the civil welfare of the individual, and a blow at the illegal power wielded by millionaires and corporations.

The mission of government is to combine the welfare of the individual with that of the state. Our government has established political equality; much remains to be done in the way of securing greater social equality even though it can only exist in a comparative degree.

CAIUS.

STRAY THOUGHTS.

After searching in vain, Webster's Unabridged, for knowledge on a zoological term, I sought solace in translating a few French sentences; completing an assigned task I allowed my mind free transit for sometime. Suddenly in its travels it resurrected a few stray thoughts and I here jot them down as they were paraded before me. Not long since I noticed a paragraph in one of our daily papers, that lecturers were not remunerated so highly for their services as in previous times, and also that they were greeted by smaller audiences. The perusal of these few lines led me to ask the reason of this lack of interest on the part of the lecture going people. Stringency in money matters or lack of literary appreciation may have been the prime cause, but in order to see if such is the true reason, let us for a moment consider the merits, or rather demerits, of Beecher, Tilton, Woodhull! *et al* of similar notoriety. What brought them so suddenly into such publicity? Certainly not their intrinsic worth alone, for have we not learned from history and bitter experience that "Rome was not built in a day?" Again, their productions could not have been exceptional or rare literary treats, for upon appearance before a public audience a second time, prices for admission declined, and the number of intelligent

listeners diminished. Also the leading critics of Europe severely condemned both the style and subject matter, as well as the lecturers themselves. No, these are not the reasons for their sudden and seemingly everlasting popularity. Their connection with a scandal that would put to shame even barbaric Turkey, is the pedestal that raised them, not into eminence but into stark notoriety. Had they not figured so extensively in this disgrace, their audiences would be a corporal's guard instead of a nation's *elite*. In fact, this will surely be their desert when the novelty of the thing wears off.

We learn that H. W. Beecher has been engaged to lecture for fifty nights in England at \$500.00 per night. From the numerous articles written against him by the London Press we opine that his business manager will be more bankrupt than was the Missouri Bank, and that his appearance before an Oxford audience will be made apparent by the many hisses he will surely receive.

Beecher's lectures are advising, instructive and ennobling so long as the reader or listener repels from his mind a single recollection of his doubtful deeds. "Chastity begins at home," hence we would advise Mr. Beecher to thoroughly reform himself before undertaking the task of remedying the evils of his brethren.

Wendell Phillips, the great anti-slavery man and acknowledged orator, during appropriate seasons, ornaments the lecture stage. Many a time has he faced death while boldly fighting the colored man's battle. He even dared to raise his arm against accursed slavery when the air was filled with threatenings of death against him. This is the pedestal on which his everlasting fame is firmly set. Phillips raised himself into popular favor; Beecher excited public curiosity. Phillips' manhood commands the respect of millions, while Beecher's depravity demands their condemnation and merited disgust. In history, Beecher will be a spec: Phillips, a star.