

lost forever, and for neither of whom is there any longer a future of innocence or of much usefulness. By mutual consent they have destroyed almost everything worth living for, but they ask Judge Holmes to release them from their decent bonds that they may be free to make some other man and some other woman miserable, who, if Judge Holmes refuses may still pursue a peaceful life, unweighted by the society of another human being whose life is a failure and who has repudiated his duty towards childhood—the sin that cannot be pardoned.

Perhaps for the first time since they came of age silly women and selfish men are obliged to listen and heed a sermon on the rights of children and their own trespasses on those rights. After forty years there are no more than twenty years of active life and the Judge rightly concludes that the child's future of fifty years shall not be sacrificed to pleas of incompatibility or unconfessed plans of espousing some one else.

It is fortunate for the children whose brutal, unworthy parents have come to words, blows and hatred, that their cause is tried before a judge who remembers their immaturity and their rights, who is disgusted by the spectacle, which he has seen for years, of vulgar, unregenerate adults, ignoring the pleasures, duties and opportunities of parents for the gratification of spite, ambition or sensuality. It is fortunate for the children that the Judge carries ever in his heart the vision of heaven which is only in a child's untroubled eyes. Not to disturb the vision until the season of awakening, Judge Holmes would sacrifice any number of the blundering, spoiled men and women who cry to him for release from the bonds whose snapping will hang a mill stone around the neck of one of these little ones.

General Roberts' Advance.

The speedy end to the war in the Transvaal is indicated, but, for that matter, from the time the overwhelming English forces arrived in Africa, the end of the war was predicted. The small numbers of the Boers, brave and cunning as they are make victory on their side impossible, or since nothing is impossible, incredible.

Those Americans who are fond of attitudes, poses and sentimental phrases might exercise their eccentric imaginations and sympathies in conceiving the state of the Boers with the foreigners excluded, in case of a Boer victory. There is no middle ground, the foreigners could not endure the intensified tyranny which would be established in the Transvaal, should the English be defeated. Before the English came the President of the Transvaal republic said he would rather be a policeman under a strong government than president of a bankrupt government. When the English came, developed the mines, built railroads, and paid nine-tenths of the taxes the term of naturalization was immediately extended, although they made the cunning, miserly, hypocritical Kruger, a very rich man. The Boer republic is an autocracy less lenient and flexible, less representative than Russia, which has a form of local self government, including a town meeting or Mir very democratic indeed. But the Czar is man enough to correctly designate and classify the kind of government in Russia. By calling it a republic and without changing a feature of the administrative system, he might gain the sympathy of the numerous class who wear it on their

sleeves, but the Russians have the virtue of frankness and their land is big enough to afford it. The Boers welcomed the English when they first came. It was only when the tremendous contrast between Anglo Saxon enterprise, energy and invention was contrasted and side-by-side with Dutch conservatism and phlegm that the latter began to be afraid that the English fashion of thoroughness and promptness would creep into their institutions which they clung to as being the real old thing in Dutch fifteenth century transportation, agriculture and family customs. It is the boast of the Dutch that they do not take hints and are not influenced by the progress of the world. This is why they have no literature, little art and few inventors.

Whatever importance the Transvaal has it has been developed there by the English. Their withdrawal would be a thousand times more disastrous now and eventually to the Boers than their own defeat in this war. The quicker the English triumph, the quicker will the country go back to business and the sooner will it be converted into a genuine republic where all settlers who pay taxes can have a vote. The settlement of the whole world has made it impossible for one nation to live to itself and keep every other out.

Trusts.

Comptroller Charles G. Dawes in his speech before the state convention of Illinois held at Peoria made a distinction between trusts that oppress, and trusts that serve the people. While not advocating a wholesale destruction of all combinations Mr. Dawes believes in their control so that they shall no longer be oppressive:

Trusts have their origin in industrial conditions, for which neither political party are responsible. It is likewise true that the great masses of both political parties believe that some legislation is necessary in order to protect the public from the evils which must result from the monopolistic control of the production and distribution of some of the necessities and comforts of life. I believe that people are willing to recognize the benefits which may come in the way of cheaper prices to a community through a limited and proper combination of capital and effort, and they are not opposed to any corporation simply because it is large. But when by combination competition is suppressed and the saving, which combination makes possible, is not only appropriated by the corporation but in addition an unreasonable level of prices is maintained the people demand and shall secure governmental interference and regulation.

Mind Reading.

When her husband placed the sheet over Anna Eva Fay's slender shoulders he explained the singular arrangement by saying that Miss Fay needed all the magnetism she had and the sheet kept it from being dissipated among an audience who had no mind reading to do and therefore did not need it. Without a pause, as soon as the sheet was adjusted Miss Fay began to read minds although the sheet being just draped about her there was little time for the accumulation of electricity inside the sheet. The unpaid member of the company, who was left behind says that a speaking tube was pushed up through the stage and the receiver was just at Miss Fay's ear. The notes that were written on carbon paper were put through a crack in the stage and read to Miss Fay through the tube. It was all very cleverly and smoothly done so much so that there were a number of the incredulous convinced that the lady who looked like a tent

could read minds as we read the printed page.

Since she was sixteen this woman has been earning her living in this way. She was married at that age and her husband is her manager, in the professional sense. She acknowledged that she was very sorry she had to support the family. "Just let a woman begin," she said, "and she will always have to." With a weary expression, she said she was not a good guesser. If circumstances would let her she would prefer frankness to deception. Having been so important a part of a sham for so long she is impatient of the pretensions and affectations of other people. She has had to take care of herself and of two able-bodied men. In condemning the deceit she practised on us, it is as well to remember that we might not have done any better, if fortune had not selected us for favors and her for buffets. At any rate she has retained a respect for the genuine and a scorn for her own ignoble part in life consumes her. To the people she meets privately she will not claim any special gift.

The committee of three well known citizens who are invited to take the stage at such performances, is more mystified than the audience. Not used to the foot lights, conscious of awkwardness and of the critical gaze of their fellow citizens they do not see the machinery and the trap doors in the middle of the stage where there is a rug and where the occult sits. If the committee has suspicions it is too embarrassed to investigate. The stage manager counts upon the dazed condition of the committee. The audience feels that the committee will not discover anything crooked and only the committee knows how helpless and dazed it really is.

The Washington Elm.

The professors of Harvard college cannot be accused of a sentimental patriotism. The Washington Elm, so called, under which George Washington, it is said, took command of the first continental army is attacked by Professor Channing who says there is no proof only tradition that Washington was sheltered by an elm tree when he assumed command of the first American army. Tradition is not altogether trustworthy but until disproved it is better than Justin Winsor's history, a book so winnowed of all human feeling, tradition, and of everything but documents, it is dry as dust. There is something un-American about the president and faculty of Harvard college. The professors advise the removal of the wooden keepsakes that the American people idolize and visit and reverence. They have no respects at all for an elm that cast its shadow on a real man who was able to ride a horse without falling off, a man that was six feet tall and every inch an American. The de-Americanized dons of Harvard get their inspiration from some other nation. They dispise our gods. Professor Channing of Harvard does not like the tree. He has to pass by it daily on his route to and from his class. He has instructed the undergraduates that the tree is unsightly. The professor said: "Trees are a good thing to attach sentiment to and I suppose one tree is as good as another." Only this tree stands of all those on Cambridge common of all those that were there when Washington took command of the army on July 2nd, 1775. The shadows of its quivering leaves fell upon the little heroic army in blue and yellow armed with flintlocks and sabres. If Washington only stood under one of its contemporaries, still it deserves to live for being one

of a glorious company at the first indication of the nation that was born in another year. The asphalt company can afford to wait till the elm falls of old age. If it will not, there is the city council of Cambridge, which if it contains only half as good Americans as the council of this small western city will protect the noble tree.

Bible Questions.

The Reverend Charles F. Thwing, President of the Western Reserve University, in the Century Magazine for May, in an article entitled "Significant Ignorance About the Bible," draws some startling conclusions in regard to the ignorance concerning the Bible.

Doctor Thwing selected from Tenneyson's poems a number of passages containing simple Biblical allusions. These he asked a freshman class of thirty-four men at his university to explain in an examination, and some years later he asked the same questions of a freshman class of fifty-one at a woman's college in the east. The men came from northern Ohio, central New York, western Pennsylvania, the women largely from New England communities. Their fathers were lawyers, doctors, preachers, business men, farmers. The young men were twenty years old on the average and the women must have been of nearly the same age. With one exception they all had ecclesiastical affiliations of some sort. Yet, though one young woman answered every question correctly while another made only one mistake and a third but two mistakes, the percentage of correct answers was less than forty-three for the men and a little more than forty-nine for the women.

1. My sin was as a thorn
Among the thorns that girt Thy brow.
2. As manna on my wilderness.
3. That God would move
And strike the hard, hard rock, and thence
Sweet in their utmost bitterness,
Would issue tears of penitence.
4. Like that strange angel which of old,
Until the breaking of the light,
Wrestled with wandering Israel.
5. Like Hezekiah's backward runs
The shadow of my days.
6. Joshua's moon in Ajalon.
7. A heart as rough as Esau's hand,
8. Gash thyself, priest, and honour
thy brute Baal.
9. Ruth among the fields of corn.
10. Pharaoh's darkness.
11. A Jonah's gourd,
Up in one night and due to sudden sun.
12. Stiff as Lot's wife.
13. Arimathean Joseph.
- 14 a. For I have flung thee pearls
and find thy swine.
- 14 b. Not red like Iscariot's.
15. Perhaps, like him of Cana in Holy Writ.
Our Arthur kept his best until the last.
16. And marked me even as Cain
17. The Church on Peter's rock.
18. Let her eat it like the serpent,
and be driven out of her paradise.
19. A whole Peter's sheet.
20. The godless Jephtha vows his child
To one cast of the dice.
21. A Jacob's ladder falls.
22. Till you find the deathless angel
seated in the vacant tomb.

The east has a greater reputation for learning than the west but, it has never been verified. Doctor Thwing's conclusion that if the east could not explain these allusions no young people anywhere could answer them is unsound. Of all the western people