

and disastrously. The professor I am talking about reads of real life and takes as much personal interest in commercial catastrophes as he does in the defeat and retreat of the 10,000 Greeks under Xenophon about 400 B. C. His income is fixed and he is freer than a farmer, doctor, lawyer or Indian chief. His absolute freedom from any hampering considerations in regard to the frank expression of opinion is illustrated by the impertinent lectures to the undergraduates of Professor Ross at Leland Stanford Jr. university. Although the university was built and supported by the Southern Pacific Railroad, Ross made frequent occasion to express his disapproval of that road as a monopoly. The natural inference is from Professor Ross' lectures on the Southern Pacific that the least vice of the owners of the road was robbery.

Now the founder of Stanford university was an old man very confident of certain doctrines, among which was the benefits of the gold standard. He was war governor of California and one of the men who insisted upon keeping a gold standard in California during the inflation of the currency in the Civil War stress.

He saw great possibilities for California, if it were connected with the rest of the world, and was one of the four to build the first railroad connecting the East with the West. As labor was very scarce and very dear, he believed that California supremacy needed laborers to carry on the industries of the state, and was one of the first to introduce the Chinese coolie into California. When he founded the University he put very few restrictions upon it in any way, but he did insist that the university never should throw its influence in favor of any one church or creed, or in favor of any one political party. Mrs. Stanford idolizes her husband, and believes that all he did was wise and right, and she has been most heroic and self-sacrificing in carrying out his wishes concerning the University.

"Mr. Ross began his career," says a friend, "as a teacher at Cornell. He is a pleasant, kindly, loveable fellow, very brilliant, very young, and with very little judgment, and not too much common sense. His lack of judgment alienated from him, while he was at Cornell, the best element in the faculty, although almost everybody liked him personally. There was much relief expressed here when he went from there to Stanford.

"The next thing that Professor Ross did was to declare in favor of free silver at 16-to-1, when Bryan was nominated for the first time. He did this, as he did everything else, with the blare of trumpets and wide publicity. Last year he made an attack upon the Chinese laborer in California, as a great danger to our economic conditions. He did all these things from the eminence given him by his position as Professor of Sociology in the University. Mrs. Stanford naturally concluded that his teachings were undermining all stability, financial and social, but I still think she would not have insisted upon his removal had it not been for his boyish way of giving to the world his half-thought-out opinions as the final result of research. She felt he was too erratic and too full of vagaries to hold so important a position in the University."

—(Taken from a letter to the St. Louis Mirror.)

It is admirable that only the exceptional professor is emancipated from propriety and from the consciousness of the stress and struggle as well as the man-making advantages of the com-

petitive struggle for existence, carried on by their fellow men. The atmosphere of veneration which surrounds a popular lecturer is as difficult to resist as that which makes a monarch dizzy. So far as I know this flagrant breach of manners and propriety by Professor Ross is an unique example of bravado.

His dismissal from Stanford is not a blow to *Lehrfreiheit* but to *Rossfreiheit*. Stanford university is a monument to the humanity of Leland Stanford. To allow a man to stand on that monument and denounce everything her husband believed in and wrought was more than we can yet expect of Mrs. Stanford or of any other woman.

#### A Parallel.

On the first day of January 1901 the Delaware legislature will assemble. Like Nebraska the Delaware legislature will attempt to elect two senators. One is to succeed Senator Kenney and the other is to serve four years of the term which was left unprovided for by the last legislature. It is not certain, any more than it is in Nebraska, that a senator will be elected, the opposition is so determined and one candidate for the place so opposed to all patriotic, party or ethical considerations, which might induce a better man to step aside for another. The Delaware legislature will consist in joint session of twenty-nine republicans and twenty-three democrats. Twenty-seven votes will be necessary to a choice. Prophets, heretofore reliable, claim to know that there are from six to eleven republicans who will not, under any circumstances, vote for Addicks, one of the senatorial candidates. Just as there are said to be in Nebraska a certain, safe number of republican legislators who are pledged not to go into a caucus with Thompson as the possible choice of it.

Mr. Addicks, the Delaware candidate, made a fortune in gas and real estate in Philadelphia, Boston and New York. Like Mr. Thompson of Lincoln, after he had accumulated a little money, and influence in ward politics, the effect of the elation, historically experienced by the nouveau riche, stirred Addicks to induce men to put a public seal on his self-approval. He wanted to sit in the hall where Webster, Clay, Sumner and where all the greatest Americans have sat and spoken to an attentive nation. Addicks looked over Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New York and Delaware and decided to select the smallest and poorest state, for reasons not hard to surmise.

After hanging about Dover for awhile and discussing his chances with the politicians and offering money to accomplish a republican victory, Gas Addicks induced a few men who needed money badly to take him and his ambition seriously. In the campaign of 1896, six of the nineteen republicans admitted that he helped them get elected and through their assistance he was able to prevent the election of any other man to the United States senate from Delaware.

Two years ago Addicks controlled fifteen votes, and he needed twenty-six. There was a dead-lock, but on the last day of the session the "Addicks or nothing men" appeared with a victorious expression prepared to elect their man with the aid of the democrats. After three democrats had voted for Addicks the crowd on the floor showed such destructive wrath that the other democrats were driven back from their flop and there was no senatorial election in Delaware.

Between the character of Mr. Ad-

dicks and Mr. Thompson there is a striking parallelism. The phrenological aspect of both men exhibits an abnormal development of vanity and an absence of those indications which phrenologists ascribe to well filled depots of integrity and morality. Mr. Addick's methods of securing an election to the United States senate are exactly like Mr. Thompson's. Both men are sure that the place can be bought if haggled for long enough. The reasons urged by his followers why Mr. Thompson should be elected to the senate are peculiarly irrelevant. Did he not advance twenty thousand dollars to bring the volunteers from the Pacific coast? Did he not take a hundred or more tired mothers on a picnic? His supporters do not claim that he is honest, or disinterested, a patriot or a statesman. They assert that in spite of his record, in spite of his auction sale of himself to the fusionists, he is a suitable representative of Nebraska in the senate, and if he goes there, he is. Men who can be bought deserve to be sold.

Delaware on the Atlantic coast and Nebraska fifteen hundred miles inland, will enter almost simultaneously on a trial of the fibre of each state. Mr. Thompson's election means, for at least four years the domination of a boss of the same culture, character ideals and methods as Croker. But in spite of the foreign population in New York Croker could not be elected to the senate in a New York legislature. They know the animal and his disposition diet, and cruel instincts better there, than in Nebraska.

Mr. Thompson's crude energy, egotism, undiluted by ethics, and unscrupulous use of what powers he has, has secured him a certain noisy following. The hope of citizens who object to the peculiar kind of politics necessary to elect Mr. Thompson is in the legislator, not from this district, who is not accustomed to respond to a machinist.

#### The Hazing of Booz.

Investigation into the death of Booz, the West Point cadet has not discovered anything new about the treatment of plebes or freshmen by upper classmen at the institution supported by the national government which means the people of the United States.

West Point is the most aristocratic school in this country. This is curious because the undergraduates are charity scholars, that is their clothes, their books, their accoutrements, etc., are furnished them by the government. The mothers and fathers of the cadets come from all ranks of life, but few rich men's sons enter West Point. In general the cadets come from the lower middle rank, taking wealth as the basis of classification. Yet the tendency of this school supported by the people is aristocratic. There are more rich men's sons in Harvard than in any other school in the country, yet the well-bred, modest Harvard man is but as a digger and ditcher in the eyes of a West Point cadet, whose very clothes are presented to him by the people. It has been very difficult to secure appropriations from congress for the national academy. The effect of the West Point regime upon the cadets is so obvious that committees made up of plain congressional representatives of the people after visiting West Point have been struck by the haughty bearing of their proteges and have failed to be convinced that further luxuries would develop better manners.

In no other school in the country is hazing so cruel and so long persisted in. It has been repeatedly asserted that

hazing is good for pampered boys and it may be that it is. But it is not good for the hazers. Hazing may not hurt the hazed but it increases the naturally cruel and bullying tendencies of youth. And healthy young animals might as well be fed something to increase their appetite as allowed to haze weaker and younger lads. That so many gentle and fine men and officers are graduated from West Point is due to the discipline and in spite of this abandonment of the frightened, unused freshmen to the torture of sophomore bullies.

Cowardice is intolerable at West Point but some of the bravest officers have gone into battle with quivering limbs and stayed by the flag until it was captured or planted on the enemy's ground. Cowardice is constitutional. The testimony shows that Booz was a coward and a tale-bearer, neither one manly attributes. He was detested by his classmates, who subjected him to contumely as well as to torture. He inherited cowardice, it may be from a remote ancestor, as well as his tuberculous tendency. The tabasco sauce, the fieriest condiment manufactured, was forced down his throat, skinned it, and tuberculosis developed there. As analyzers of character, as judges of those who are fit to live, eighteen-year-old boys are disqualified. They worship force and force alone. They have reached the stage of development of the American Indian. Such boys nearly killed Coteridge, Chas. Lamb, Keats, Shelley and hundreds of other writers whose school life is recorded. If this boy Booz had been more kindly entreated, emulation and imitation might have developed manlier qualities. Anyway we are all afraid of something. A few are afraid of ghosts. Millions more are afraid to invariably tell the truth, and other millions are afraid to admit what they really think, about people who may or may not vote for them. Several other millions are afraid to sign their names to newspaper articles or to letters. No vice is so universal as cowardice and if the West Point cadets justify killing Booz because he was a coward, it is fortunate for growing boys in America that not many of them can get into West Point, and that other people are debarred because of sex or age.

#### Mr. Thompson and the Arrow-Head.

The originality, power and truth, as well as the sincerity and strength of character of the cartoonist, Herbert Johnson have given the Arrow-Head where his cartoons are printed a distinction never before attained by a university periodical. It is characteristic of the bowstring methods of the Thompson people that when they found out that the publication was really attracting attention to Mr. Thompson's history, features, expression and plans they should threaten the head of the state educational institution with the loss of the biennial appropriation unless the Arrow-Head was throttled.

A member of the delegation from this county made the same sort of threat to the editor of The Courier shortly before election. He said: Lincoln would better look out. All these state institutions want appropriations and if the delegation is elected in spite of the opposition in Lincoln, the delegates will remember it when the institutions apply for their regular biennial grant." In other words, if this man represents his colleagues, the delegation from Lancaster is willing to cripple state institutions, which educate the young, treat and harbor the insane,