

# The Plattsmouth Journal

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### THOUGHT FOR TODAY.

There are few wild beasts more to be dreaded than the talking man who has nothing to say.—Selected.

Forest Cunningham of Nebraska is talked of for sheriff. Very good man.

With a tombstone dealer running for mayor of Kansas City on the republican ticket, the grave of the g. o. p. in that city may be properly marked after the election.

If free government was born in England, as Mr. Page says, the Pilgrims must have been very cranky to leave there and go to Holland.

The man who curses the farmer, damns the town, bawls at the wealthy, exhibits a case of wind colic every time you meet him ought to drown himself and make room for some good man.

Fashionable women in Paris, we gather from the dispatches, are now wearing painted bugs on their cheeks. To complete the scenario, they might also lithograph walnuts on their foreheads or bats on their bulging brows.

The resignation of British officers ordered to proceed to Ulster is not unprecedented. Barr, Eflingham and other officers resigned their commissions rather than fight the American colonists.

The supreme court has decided that where a man gets injured in a dog fight that he cannot recover for any damages received. That is, the fellow who needlessly runs into other people's trouble and gets bumped, the debt is paid.

Following the submission of evidence of "extenuation circumstances" the president has commuted to fifteen years the sentence of life imprisonment on a man who killed his wife in the Indian Territory. This should be a warning to wives.

Service in Huerta's army is a severe tax upon his followers, but it does not compare in hardship to the task imposed upon the Mexican minister of Finance. Raising money on a forlorn hope requires not only great strength, but great skill and prodigious ingenuity.

If one reads the editorials in the Omaha Bee to find out the views of Victor Rosewater, they could hardly find out where the former republican boss is at. He has evidently gotten a hard jolt from some quarter, that has made Victor quite "mum." His editorials are not written in that same vicious spirit as in former years.

"All democrats in Nebraska are interested in knowing what President Wilson will do with Chris Greunther," says the Hastings Republican (democratic.) "And a very large number of the republican newspaper boys who know Chris will hope that he lands the plum and believe that it would make President Wilson even stronger in Nebraska than he is today," adds the Grand Island Independent.

While we are strong for the parcel post, no enthusiastic patriot should send his bombs that way, thus endangering the mail carriers, who have troubles enough of their own.

There is a time when a man who cannot get credit and the man who pays cash are on an equal footing. Neither are compelled to dodge the bill collector the first of the month.

There is considerable work ahead for the leaders of both the republican and democratic party to get their parties lined up in Nebraska. And the one that comes the nearest doing it will "sweep the platter."

The Hastings Tribune calls upon the bar association of Adams county to have a grand jury sit in Hastings and clean up the crooked lawyers, the same as in Omaha. Good Lord, is the disease going to become prevalent? Wonder if it will afflict Plattsmouth?

This is the opening inning of the swat-the-fly campaign. One professor has figured it out that a timely swat right now means millions and quadrillions of swats by the first of July. But let the professor chase himself. No one but Rockefeller can count in such figures, and there are no dies on John D.

One rarely hears of the Industrial Workers of the World except in connection with some disturbance, frequently violent. And in times of peace and plenty not much good, but harm may come from violence. From which it must be inferred that the I. W. W. serves no useful purpose. Its name is a misnomer, and except that its leaders work their followers, who provide employment for the police and the corner, it has little enough to do with work. On the contrary its aim seems to be to discourage those who might otherwise do well by their own efforts, and to encourage those disposed to sit around the poor man's celebrated club, and tell their troubles and try to drown them. There must always be shiftlessness and viciousness, but the organized efforts of such elements are unlikely to be helpful.

Henpecked men of the western world will find it hard to believe that the British authorities in India have labored for a century to suppress the rite of "sati," or self-immolation of Brahman and other high caste widows at the cremation of their deceased husbands. Hereabouts the average man has a notion that his life insurance is likely to be invested in another man, if he is first to go to that undiscovered country. If she'll take care of the children, and live happily ever afterward, he is content to let it go at that. Which is probably a safe and sane system. Yet man is a conceited cuss, and probably thinks he is entitled to such wifely devotion as prevails in yonder shining orient. Understanding at the same time that he wouldn't get it if he asked it, and that there is no use asking for too much. And it is safe to assume that the spread of woman's rights will accomplish in India what the British government has failed to do; when women learn they are men's equals, they are fairly sure of outgrowing them at the funeral pyre or other final fireworks.

### A PLEA FOR THE BIRDS.

Spring will soon be here. The robins will come, and the blue-birds, and the swallows, and the little house martens—all the feathered tribes of the field and the woods. We want to make a plea for them. They are the farmer's best friends. Barring the English sparrow, which has at least one thing to commend him—that he is a good fighter—and whose main faults are that he will chase away song birds and eat the farmer's grain before it is ripe, and barring an occasional sharp-shinned hawk, we have not any bird of the field or of the woods that is not a friend to the farmer. This is equally true of the migratory birds that pass over us on their way from winter quarters and from summer quarters.

One of the best friends is little "Bob White," a cheery little chap, a born optimist, who in the summertime sends out glad tidings from the fence post or fence rail, apparently feeling that he is safe. The thrush sings his song to us from the hedge, and the meadow lark from the field. They are all our friends.

Our plea is that every boy who undertakes to take the life of one of these birds be remonstrated with at once; and then if he persists, that he be taken out behind the barn and dealt with summarily in a way that he will remember. Instead of making war upon these friends who are doing their best to protect us from the insect pests which have become the bane of the farmer's life, give them encouragement. Fix up boxes for the martens; set them on a pole in the yard or on the lawn. Hide boxes in a quiet place for the little house sparrows. They will come if you give them a place to live. They are not particular about the paint or the shape of the box. What they want is comfort, and in this they are wiser than most people. Every one of our readers who has a flock of quail on his premises and has thrown out grain to them near the house, has been rewarded by their cheerful company. This is a Christian act. We cannot conceive that the Lord looks with any pleasure on the boy or man who harms these friends of his father and himself, who, according to Jesus, are under the care of the great Father of us all.

Why should anyone make war upon them? If we have not the finer feelings of a gentleman, we should at least listen to the plea of our pocketbooks, which, if they could speak intelligibly, would tell us that they are more or less swindled because of the brutal warfare upon the birds.

Another thing: Don't let any pot-hunter or any sportsman murder your friends, the birds. As these are now under federal protection, no man has a right to shoot ducks or geese or brant on their way northward in the spring. They are going there to rear their young, for the mating instinct has overtaken them, just as it overtook you, old man, long ago, and as it is overtaking you, young man, just now. Have a fellow feeling for these mating birds, and let them pass north to fulfill their mission.

Every farm ought to have posted up on a fence post, "No hunting allowed on these premises." Then don't let your boys hunt birds. Let them shoot rabbits all they like; the more the better; because they are not your friends—but spare the birds. If an occasional hawk makes an attack on your chickens, shoot him if you can; but let the song birds alone. Don't be so brutal and unfeeling as to interfere with them in any way, and don't let anyone else do it on your premises. Let them know you are their friend, and your life will be happier and your pocketbook fuller next fall. When it comes to birds, be a gentleman.—Wallace's Farmer.

Can Nebraska raise \$400,000 for an exhibit at the Panama exposition by private subscription? That's what a committee for that purpose are going to try to do.

Every man on the democratic ticket was put there on account of his excellency, of his qualifications. That should suffice that he is the right man for the right place.

W. H. Thompson, according to reports from Lincoln, will be a candidate for governor on the democratic ticket. As between Thompson and Berge, we are for Berge.

You know where John P. Sattler stands on every question of vital interest to the city. He has made a most excellent official. You know this as well as we do. Don't let any little personal matter deter you from voting for him. We here put a flea in the ear of some who are opposing him on purely personal matters.

The Tecumseh Journal-Tribune, the democratic organ of Johnson county, contains five announcements of democrats for sheriff and one for treasurer. It is about time some are proclaiming their intentions in Cass county. It costs no more to announce now than it will within two weeks of the primary.

Hon. R. D. Sutherland, of Nelson, is really too modest for a successful politician. He is one of the ablest men in Nebraska, and the reason why he is not better known throughout the state is that he is not given to pushing himself to the front like many other public men. The Journal thinks that Mr. Sutherland would prove just the man for the democrats to place to the fore front as a candidate for governor. Being a clean, able gentleman, a fine talker, and would make a great run for governor. He is one of the best campaigners in the state.

In the good old days of our fathers liver was given away by the butchers as a thing of no value. It was a great favorite with keepers of boarding houses. Finally liver and bacon became a standard dish, a delicacy, and the wholesalers charged 25 cents for a liver and got it. Latterly the packers put the price up to 45 cents a pound. This had led to a riot in San Francisco. The retail butchers of the association met and swore they would not pay it. It was an extortion, and so liver and bacon and onions disappeared from the tables of all households and restaurants in the metropolis of El Dorado. Thus does the iron heel of extortion invade the tables, both of the rich and the poor. When the packing business became a monopoly the price of meats went up. It is likely to stay up as long as the present system continues.

The fight against Roger Sullivan seems to be petering out. The other night the German-American club gave Roger a dinner at the Hotel Sherman in Chicago. At the close of it Roger said: "We have now experienced one year with Woodrow Wilson as president of the United States, and he has made good. No person can point to one single act of dishonor in his official record or his character. His promises have been carried out and the people are content. All business interests can sleep soundly and without fear with President Wilson at the helm. Some are bold enough to call Roger C. Sullivan a political boss, but I am willing to go before the people as a plain business man. The country should be run by business men, not the idle rich, neither the idle poor. I had hoped to close my career without having been a candidate for office, but now that I am one I intend doing my best to win."

## GOD'S STANDARD IS PERFECTION

### Christian Must Develop Character-Likeness to Christ.

### CREATED IN IMAGE OF GOD.

The Desire For Harmony With God a Part of Man's Original Perfection. Some Naturally Drawn to God—Faith the First Step—Conservation the Second Step—Then Growth in Grace and Knowledge—Lessons in the School of Christ—Justice the Foundation of Character—Love the Superstructure—The Great Test of Character.



PASTOR RUSSELL

March 29.—Pastor Russell preached a very interesting discourse to-day on Holiness. His text was: "As He which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation." (1 Peter 1:15.) He said in part:

The Scriptures explicitly declare that our great Creator made man in His own image and likeness, and pronounced His creature very good. But when sin entered the world, through the disobedience of Father Adam, he was cut off from fellowship with his Creator—as a part of the penalty of sin. This alienation from God must have been one of man's most grievous trials. He must have hungered and thirsted to draw near to God once more, to have the Divine protection, the Divine love; otherwise he could not have been created in the perfect image of God.

But as centuries rolled on Adam's posterity became more and more depraved and demoralized; the original character-likeness to God became blurred, faint, indistinct. So while the desire for God still remains, in some it is more pronounced than in others. In some it is so feeble that they care little for their Creator and are easily satisfied by the pleasures of the world or by the sensualities of life. Many are separated from God through ignorance, superstition and the doctrines of demons, as the Bible declares. Misunderstanding our glorious Creator, they are thus driven away from Him. Whatever of natural inclination they have had the Adversary seeks to thwart. As St. Paul declares, "The god of this world hath blinded the minds of them that believe not, lest the light of the glorious Gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." (2 Corinthians 4:4.) Should scatter the darkness and make known to them the true character of God; and thus they should be drawn to Him.

But with some of the race desire for God and righteousness has prevailed above the stupefying influence of the world, the flesh and the Devil. This class are drawn by the natural inclination of their minds Godward—desiring to be in harmony with their Creator. While those who were not born of religious parents have had a large experience with sin and alienation from God, others, born in a measure of justification, have had a measure of fellowship with God always, as children of believers. This class are in a favorable condition to be drawn of God, and to hear His voice speaking peace to them and pointing them to Jesus Christ as the Way, the Truth, the Life.

"Lord, Show Us the Father!"

"As these come to appreciate our Lord's beautiful character and His loyalty to the Father, and to understand that He came into the world to die for Adam's sin, their hearts respond with increasing gratitude to the Redeemer and to the Heavenly Father, whose Plan our Lord was carrying out. More and more do they long to draw closer to God, and to be recognized of Him as members of His family. Through the Word the Master instructs them that whoever will walk in His steps shall eventually see God in the fulness of Heavenly glory.

Still further study of the Scriptures informs this class that the first step to be taken is one of faith. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Those who take this step must recognize that they are sinners, under the Adamic sentence, from which no one can be freed except in God's appointed way—Jesus. Then by faith they must accept Jesus as the Redeemer of Adam and his posterity. They must perceive that His death on Calvary was a sacrificial one; and that the grand outcome of this Ransom sacrifice will be that the Kingdom of God will be established in the earth for the purpose of uplifting mankind out of sin and death conditions—back to the full image of God in the flesh.

The Call of the Gospel Age.

Those who take this first step may know what is the second step; and if they have sufficient faith to take this step, their sins will be forgiven and they will be granted a new nature. This second step is to accept God's invitation to "present their bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, their reasonable service." Those who accept this invitation are thus

privileged to sacrifice their all of earthly time, talent, wealth, etc. When they have so done, our Lord imputes to them individually His merit, and thus makes them holy and acceptable unto God, who immediately accepts them and bestows them of His Holy Spirit.

Thenceforth they are New Creatures—"old things have passed away and all things become new." They are now counted as members of His glorious Church. Their sins that are past are all cleansed; and the New Creature has no defilement of itself. But attaching to the flesh are certain imperfections, which from time to time crop out. The New Creature is to be prompt to notice these; for the New Creature is the new will, which henceforth regulates the mortal body.

Apparently some of God's dear people have not realized what a contract they have on hand. Some are inclined to be careless about watching the very things which they have been told to watch. It is for all the consecrated to remember that their first obligation is in respect to their own flesh, not that of others. We may give each other valuable suggestions, but the responsibility for the body rests with each as a New Creature. And here we have the task of our lives; for in our flesh, as the Apostle says, dwells no perfection. Some have one degree of imperfection and some another; some are more imperfect and blemished in one way and others in another. But as the Scriptures continually assure us, there is none righteous, none perfect, no, not one. We all come short and need to recognize our shortcomings; and we are to fight the good fight against them.

The New Creature in School.

Whoever would be of the class to which God has called us must of necessity be developed; therefore whoever God has called, accepted and begotten of the Holy Spirit are in the School of Christ. Then begin the lessons which they must learn—they must grow in grace, in knowledge and in love. As the Apostle explains, they must be transformed—be formed over. If they are not thus transformed, they will not be ready for the Kingdom to which they are called. This transforming is not a work in the flesh, although it will affect the flesh to some extent. It is the renewing of the mind—their minds must become new. Thenceforth matters are to be decided, not according to their preferences, but according to certain principles—justice and love. The New Creatures in Christ have a set of new rules, altogether different from what they had before they became New Creatures.

The world has no such rules and regulations as those which are applicable to the New Creatures in Christ. Everything done by those who are in the School of Christ must be squared by the Rule of Justice. They dare not do anything that would be unjust to a neighbor, to a brother or to anybody. To the full extent of their ability the New Creatures must render justice. Many of the Lord's people apparently have not fully realized this fact—that obedience to the rules governing the new nature means absolutely the Golden Rule on their part toward all others. They must not do to others what they would not have others do to them.

Because of failure on the part of some to recognize this principle, the way of the Lord is spoken evil of sometimes. If a Christian fails to pay his debts, or if he is careless as to how he involves himself in debt, it is because this principle of justice does not stand out prominently enough before his mind. As an old creature he has perhaps been in the habit of ignoring the lines of justice and of sliding along as he may be able and of leaving others in the lurch. This will not do for the New Creature; for he has come under a set of new rules, and no matter how much the old creature may seek to shirk, the New Creature's duty is to bring the body into subjection and to see that justice rules in every act and word, and so far as possible in every thought.

"They Shall All Be Taught of God."

To whatever extent the principles of justice control our minds, to that extent we have character-likeness to God. The cultivation of these principles in all our actions and dealings, in all our words and thoughts, must be our daily concern. It may be comparatively easy to be just so far as money is concerned, to say, I would pay to the very last penny, and would live on the plainest of food, rather than be in debt; but it is not so easy to be thoroughly just in our words and thoughts. The New Creature is to sit in judgment on every word which his mouth may utter. It is no wonder that St. James says that if any man sin not with his tongue the same is a perfect man. The New Creature is to be on guard that he may be developed along this line, and must thoroughly show the Lord that he has no sympathy with injustice.

One must be just in his thoughts before he can be properly just in his dealings. The man who thinks unjustly will act unjustly, in spite of himself; therefore the New Creature must be disciplined even to the control of his thoughts. He must never think of any one except with an unprejudiced mind, a calm judgment, seeking to give others the benefit of the doubt, if there is any doubt whatever. Additionally, he must heed the Lord's counsel that we should exercise great mercy, and that He would rather have us err in the sense of being too lenient than have us be merely just.

But beyond justice comes love, the very highest of God's attributes. God is just; but He is Love, also, which is higher, in the sense that it implies something more than mere justice.

Not only will God do full justice to everybody, but He will do a little more—He will do something of love. This He shows us in His dealings with mankind. God was only just when He condemned the race of Adam as unfit for everlasting life; and He would still have been just if He had never provided redemption for the world whatever.

God is more than just, however, and so in due time He provided the Redeemer. This was Grace, this was Mercy, this was Love. And Love has been working all through His great Plan of the Ages, providing first the Savior, then making provision for the Church, that through His mercy we might come from the ranks of sinners up to the ranks of glory. To accomplish this, He has forgiven the sins of the Church, has encouraged them by assurances of His love and favor all the way and has made all things work together for their good.

"Be Ye Perfect."

This, then, is the Love of God; and the New Creatures in Christ must have this character-likeness to God. We must have love, sympathy, and not merely justice. There is nothing of grace in the giving of justice; anything less than justice is wrong. But the Lord's people must be more than just; they are to be kindly affectioned one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven them. Our Heavenly Father wishes His children to see that quality in His character and to copy it. This is what Jesus meant when He said, "Be ye perfect, even as your Father in Heaven is perfect." We cannot bring our mortal body to that degree of perfection where every act would be perfect, every word perfect, but the mind must be in full sympathy and accord with God and His arrangements, and each must strive to the best of his ability to bring the body into harmony with God.

As the Bible teaches, the Church class are in the School of Christ, being taught of God His workmanship. By His providence and His Word He has been working in us, by our experiences, which He has shaped for us, and by the opportunities which He gives us. All these things are designed by the Lord to bless us and to develop us in His own character-likeness, so that, as Jesus said, we may be like unto our Father in Heaven, so that we may be holy, even as He is holy—that our intentions, aims, desires, may be of exactly the same kind as His own.

If, therefore, any one who professes to be a New Creature in Christ has in his heart a feeling of bitterness, envy or strife, let him beware! Such a condition of heart is dangerous; it is not of the Holy Spirit at all. Those who have such elements of character are not holy as the Heavenly Father is holy. On the contrary, as the Apostle explains, these qualities of character are works of the flesh and of the Devil; and to whatever extent one possesses these, they are the result of the spirit of the flesh and of the Devil at work in the heart.

But if, on the contrary, one has holiness and a fulness of desire to know and to do God's will as an increasing power in his heart, then he is indeed being sealed of the Holy Spirit of God. The character-likeness of our Father in Heaven is being impressed upon him. He is more and more coming to see as God sees, to sympathize with the things with which God sympathizes, to be opposed to the things to which God is opposed.

The Grand Climax of Character.

Of our Lord Jesus it was written: "Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest iniquity; therefore God, Thy God, hath anointed Thee with the oil of joy above Thy fellows" (Psalm 45:7)—above the angels, above the Church, making Him to be Head over all things to the Church and decreeing that all the angels shall worship Him. (Hebrews 1:6-9.) In order to copy Him we must see to what extent He loved righteousness and hated iniquity. He so hated wickedness that in every way He avoided injustice, iniquity, unrighteousness, sin; and He so loved righteousness that He preferred to die even the death of the cross rather than to resist the will of God.

This, then, is the great test of character going on with the Lord's people, and according to these lines God is dealing with them. It is not merely that they are fighting the good fight and trying to accomplish something in their flesh; for the New Creature will never succeed in getting as good control of the flesh as he could wish. But what God wishes to see in His people is that their whole hearts are set for righteousness, that they love the right and hate the wrong, and that they are striving to the best of their ability to put down the wrong and to uphold the right, especially in themselves—in their own characters and in their own acts, words and thoughts.

So shall they be the children of the Highest; and when our great Redeemer shall examine them for graduation from the School of Christ, He shall be ready to say to each, "Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been these ruler over many things."

"My life flows on in endless song,  
I catch the sweet, not far-off hymn,  
That hails a New Creation,  
Through all the tumult and the strife,  
I hear the music ringing;  
It finds an echo in my soul,  
How can I keep from singing?  
"I lift mine eyes; the cloud grows thin;  
I see the blue above it;  
And day by day this pathway smooths,  
Since first I learned to love it,  
The Peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,  
A fountain ever springing;  
All things are mine since I am his—  
How can I keep from singing?"