THE THEATER HAT.

Her hat she took within her hand, Just on the seat before me: Deliciously the act was planned So as to not ignore me.

I knew the girl who cares for those Who have a seat behind her Must have rare virtues to disclose-

So in my heart I twined her. I got what others lost that day. The stage's perfect vision: I saw the actors and the play,

And all the scenes elysian. I could have written in her praise A string of sugared sonnets: So few the girls at matinees.

Who dare take off their bonnets. At last I sought, with fancy free, My angel to discover; And made her give her heart to me-

And now I am her lover.

-Joel Benton, in Truth.

Thursday, July 80th.



Sincerely yours, REGINALD H. WESTON. August 6th.

MY DEAR MISS ELIZABETH: That sail yesterday was so awfully jolly. Can't we try another, day after

to-morrow? Do say yes! I trust you did not take cold Monday night -you wouldn't have anything around you. you know, so if you did take cold it was all your own fault.

remain.

Please don't any more about the flow-

ers they were not half as fine as I should like them to have been-not half worthy of the recipient! Begging you to agree to the sail, I Faithfully,

REGINALD H. W.

August 13th. DEAR BESSIE:

You don't mind, do you?) You made me too happy last evening! Did you really mean all you said out on the arch? went back to the hotel in a trance. dreamt all

night of a pair of soft brown eves and a beautiful flower-like face, and this morning the remembrance of them is still distinctly before me. You don't mind my saying all this? Surely

not, after the way you looked last May I come again to-night? Do, do. let me, for twenty-four hours will have elapsed since I have seen you.

Impatiently, REGINALD.

August 20th.

Dearest Bess: Do I love you? Of course I do. With all the strong love of a strong man's heart, and what is more, I do not believe that anyone else ever loved in quite the same way! You are never out of my mind an instant! If you knew how happy I was all morning out there on the rocks,

listening to your voice! Eight hours don't believe You ever did either." have elapsed since then and yet the Now, are you satisfied?

Devotedly yours. R. H. W.

August 27th.

MY DEAR MISS BROWNING: It was easy to see at the golf match yesterday afternoon that you and Tom

Barry found me in the way! 1 regret exceedinconvenienced again. I have too much at heart to be willing to give you any annoy-

ance. By the way. made moiselle. ciety.

"Sweet! Thou hast trod on a heart. Pass! There's a world full of men.

And women as fair as thou art Must do such things now and then!" Always your friend and well-wisher, brought about seventy-five cents a B. H. WESTON | cubic inch.

September 8. Forgive you my darling, little girl! Of course, I do, with all my heart! Your

about!

note makes me almost forget what it was all And so you hate poor Barry? Why, dearest, he's a very decent sort of chap, only it drove me mad to have you even look at another fellow! And I have made you suffer? Oh! my sweetheart, it cuts me to the heart to

think of it! But I was suffering so myself, that I really didn't know what I was doing. l am a brute! A perfect brute, and it is I who ask your pardon. I shall be around, darling, inside of an hour

and then I shall go down on my knees and humbly kiss the hem of your garment. With my heart's dear love and trusting that I may not sue in vain, I remain

Your contrite, adoring REGGIE.

September 10th.

BELOVED OF MY HEART! To say that I am the happiest man in the world is drawing it mildly! I am lifted from



All mine! That you wear on your dear finger the golden circlet and transparen t gem which bind you to me with the most sacred ties! Oh, my angel! I can scarcely realize my joy! Words are a poor me-

dium to express such feelings as mine. Darling, how easy it will be for me to promise to love and to cherish, in sickness and in health! What a blessed privilege! And what a life ours will be! A honeymoon from beginning to end, with never a prosaic thought, for, as you say, dear one, we are both so replete with romance, and so affectionate. The only thing, sweetheart, I shall never suffer you out of my sight for a moment, once you are mine! Here, I have not seen you for twenty minutes! It is an eternity and I cannot stand it! The messenger is awaiting this note; I

shall follow immediately. I kiss you fondly, my own, and with the most rapturous devotion, I am,

Yours, until death do us part, REGGIE

> A YEAR LATER. August 15th.

Stay as long as you like-don't be in any hurry to get home. I like the quiet. It's a great relief from Reggie's

The butcher's bill came in to-dayit's forty-five for one month; do you think I am made of money?

No: I didn't match the worsteds and don't intend to. What does a man free-sugar bill. know about such things? Have sent the crimpers.



Extemporaneous Prayer. that it may degenerate into the lu- twenty-three votes to strike out the dicrous. Take, for example, the differential duty in favor of the sugar congregation here to-night, and that ing out, twenty-four were republicans Thou, too, oh, Lord, art here, not and populists. weather."

holding your dear little hand and such a day as it was yesterday, and I discrimination in favor of the sugar

music of that voice is still in my ears, Thee, oh Lord, for Thy great bounty; to abolish it entirely received only one And you ask if I love you! Dearest | we thank Thee for the fine weather; republican vote. yes, I love you, love you, love you! we thank Thee for the beautiful harvest and that Thou hast enabled us to ten million dollarsa year by its privigather in the wheat throughout this lege of laying a tax on the people of a district-with the exception of Farmer fraction of a cent on every pound of Mills' little three-cornered patch down | sugar they consume. in the hollow, not worth mentioning." -Texas Siftings.

Steb Ends of Thought.

One drop of scandal will spread over a whole lifetime. It is not hard to forgive a lie told ingly to have with good intent.

It is said the good die young. It is ence, and shall still with us. known that a great many adults are take care that If we did as much good as we want

the thing does other people to do, the millennium not happen would be next door. It makes an honest property holder

your welfare nervous to hear a fire bell ring. A full jail is a better sign than ar empty one.

Don't-strike a man when he is down; and don't laugh when somebody else strikes him. An old bachelor is the tramp of so-

did you ever happen to hear the little A man's will is a woman's won't -Detroit Free Press.

-The first bits of India rubber that were sold in London for erasers

FOLLY OF THE SUGAR TRUST. The Rash Bluff of a Protection-Fostered

Monopoly. The threat of the sugar trust to close its eastern refineries was characteristic of the methods of that monopoly. It was made by Mr. fl. O. Havemeyer, the president of the trust, within a few days of the meeting of congress, and Mr. Havemeyer based the pretended necessity for closing the refineries and turning thousands of men out of employment on the probability of the passage of the freesugar bill, which, having gone through the house of representatives at the last session of congress, is pending in the senate. At the time when this threat was uttered there was small probability that the free-sugar bill would be passed by the senate. There was then no evidence, so far as the public knew, that the hold of the trust on the senators who compelled the surrender to its demands was weakened. But Mr. Havemeyer's interview has evidently greatly discredited the trust in Washington. It has aroused a widespread indignation against the trust, which, coupled with the popular verdict in the country, and especially in his own state, has compelled even the obstinate and cynical Senator Smith to denounce the friends by adhering to whom last summer he

incurred much deserved odium. The threat was clearly ill-timed, and otherwise indicative that to Mr. Havemeyer, as to other men who have been cleverly and astutely defiant of the public sentiment in favor of morality, of sublunary and whose success in corruption or selfish greed has seemed unbounded. there has come a time when folly has taken possession of him. So cruel and unnecessary was his threat that the president felt constrained to mention it in his message, and to express a willingness, in view of it, that the especial protection enjoyed by the

trust should be repealed. Mr. Havemeyer apparently thought that he had only to drive his workingmen into the streets to stay the hand of the advocates of free sugar. But he forgot, or never realized, the almost nniversal hatred which his own and his associates' conduct in Washington had inspired. He and they were among the most potent factors of democratic defeat. The country believes the trust purchased protection from the senate, and that Gorman, Brice, Smith and some others were practically its agents. It knows from the testimony of the two Havemeyers and Searles that the trust habitually corrupted both political parties. It has reason to know that the trust is amply protected, and that if it has lost money or failed to make it in the last three months it is because it was too coufident in its power to postpone the operation of the act until the 1st of January. More important than all else is the knowledge that the business of refining sugar is conducted in this country more cheaply than anywhere else in the world, and that the trust cau actually pay some duty on its raw material and still compete with the German and English refineries in the markets of the world. It knows from Henry O. Havemeyer's own testimony, given in 1880, that American refiners do not need protection.

The indignant outery with which Mr. Havemeyer's threat was greeted was followed by the return to the refineries of the few workingmen who were discharged. This was a confession that, instead of being under a stress of civil circumstances, the trust could not afford to stop production even for a few days, and for the purpose of preventing the passage of the

The result of all this ought to inspire the senate to do something towards curing one of the grossest scandals that ever tainted it. The differential duty at least should be abolished. If this much is accomplished the country will be grateful for Mr. Havemeyer's folly .-Harper's Weekly.

SUGAR TRUST SENATORS. A Monopoly Created and Supported by Republicans.

By a vote of twenty-three to twentyseven, the United States senate refused to strike out the discriminating duties in favor of the sugar trust. The vote showed clearly the friends and The danger of extempore prayer is the enemies of the trust. Of the preacher who said in his prayer: "We trust, twenty-two were democrats. Of thank Thee, oh, Lord, for the goodly | the twenty-seven votes against strik-

withstanding the inclemency of the Tne monopoly of the sugar trust was begun by republican legislation. A Texas minister once prayed as It was one of the essential features of follows: "Oh, Lord, I never did see the McKinley bill, which made a high trust. That discrimination was re-Still another prayed: "We thank duced by a hard fight, and the effort

The sugar trust makes a profit of

The United States government authorizes the sugar trust to collect from the people an annual income ten times as large as that which it costs to run the whole government of this city. While on one hand the United States favors the sugar trust by its protecting tariff, on the other hand it permits the sugar trust to oppress its laborers and to close its refineries and still more to raise its profits from the

The test vote of the senate shows who the friends of the sugar trust are. -Albany Argus.

not diminished efficiency." - Kansas Free Press. City Times.

POLITICAL HERESY.

What a Republican Journal Says of Mc-Kinleyism.

The defeat which prohibitory protection has just sustained in the republican congressional campaign committee is significant. It came on the question of continuing the committee neadquarters and the maintenance of its literary bureau until March 15 next. This was the proposition of Chairman Babcock and the other leaders of the moderate wing of the party and it was opposed by the high protectionists under the direction of Boutelle of Maine. The moderates were successful by a large majority. For three months more the headquarters will be kept open, and during this time literature on the tariff question will be sent out to republicans or others who ask for it and the campaign of education be continued.

Just what happened in the congres- Oh! "Merry Merry Christman, sional committee would happen in caucus if the matter were brought before the entire republican delegation of both branches. High protection, the protection which is understood by term McKinleyism, would be beaten four or five to one on a vote of the whole body of republican members of congress. McKinleyism denotes high protection-protection in some places very close to the prohibitory point, and in many places much nearer that point than is necessary for the producer, fair for the government, or just to the consumer. The term is concrete and specific, and the wayfaring man, though a fool, will know precisely what it means.

McKinleyism is not republican doctrine and never was. Undoubtedly if the republican masses of the country were permitted to vote on the McKinley bill just after it was put into shape they would have rejected and condemned it by a vote of at least three to one.

A man can be a sound and consistent protectionist without believing that the highest duties are always the best duties. All the protection which the really representative men of the party ever wanted was that which would offset the lower wages paid abroad. There are, it is true, in the republican party, as there were in the whig party, men who think that nothing whatever should be admitted to the country which can be made or raised here, no matter what the price here is, but in the whig days those men were never allowed to dictate tariffs. The republicans, too, kept them in the background until recently. They had no hand in the framing of the Morrill bill which passed the house in 1800 and the senate in February, 1861. The duties in that act, of course, were subsequently increased, but that was during the war, when an impost was put on everything that a tax-gatherer could reach. After the war the duties started downward, and they kept on going down until 1890. Then the import exclusionists and abolitionists got control of the ways and means committee, framed the Mckinley tariff, and the party was overwhelmingly and deservedly beaten in that year and in 1890 as a consequence. No tariff will ever again be framed on the 1890 lines. There is an irrepressible conflict between McKinleyism and republicanism. McKinleyism is a relic of barbarism, a survival of the dark ages. It is political heresy, economic lunney, Chinese statesmanship. The republican party will see to it that the McKinleyism resurrectionists be sent to the rear and kept there. - St. Louis Globe-Democrat

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

-- Every dollar that Steve Elkins will spend in buying the West Virginia senatorship represents honest American sweat, not a drop of which has been sweated by Elkins himself. How -N. Y. World.

-Ex-President Benjamin Harrison has permitted it to transpire through a friend that he has not authorized anybody to say that he is not a candidate for the republican nomination for president in 1896, nor that he is a candidate. But he says for himself (through his friend) that he does not desire the nomination and would accept it only "under extreme pressure." It is easy to see, however, that he confidently expects to feel the "pressure." -Chicago Herald.

-- "No tariff will ever again be framed on the 1890 lines," says that outspoken republican journal, the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. "There is an irrepressible conflict between McKinleyism and republicanism. McKinleyism is a relie of barbarism, a survival of the dark ages. It is political heresy, economic lunacy, Chinese statesmanship. The republican party will see to it that the McKinleyism resurrectionists be sent to the rear and kept there."-Louisville Courier-Journal.

-A four-dollar rise in one day in the price of sugar trust stock! This is to be traced as directly to the fact that every republican voting in the senate voted against taking steps to remove the duty from which the sugar trust benefits as effect was ever to be traced to cause in any quarter. The democrats contributed a mite to aid it also, but it is only fair to them to say that the greatest bulk of their senators went the other way. The republican leaders easily control their party and make it a unit in the interest of monopoly, while the democrats are helpless for efficiency in the other di-

rection.-Boston Herald. -McKinleyism is thoroughly discredited even in his own party. The high priest of the faith will have to modify his views or cease to be a pres--No more interesting paper has idential possibility. As speaker of been issued from the government at the house Reed will concentrate the Washington during recent years than | public gaze and attention. He will be the annual report of the secretary of a much more conspicuous figure than agriculture, Hon. J. Sterling Morton. the governor of Ohio or the distin-Not the least interesting feature of guished citizen of Indianapolis who this valuable paper is the statement at delivers lectures and practices law. the outset that six hundred thousand | The czar's way to the nomination dollars of the appropriation for the de- | seems an easy one, but the antagonism partment for the last fiscal year have | which he has created and which he been covered back into the treasury, will create when again he is speaker being twenty-three per cent. of the en- makes the question of his selection tire amount, and that "economy has entirely a different matter. - Detroit

RELIGIOUS MATTERS.

MERRY, MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Oh! "Merry Merry Christmas," Blithely let us sing. And "Merry, Merry Christmas," Let the church bells ring: Lo! the little stranger, Smiling in the manger, Is the King of Kings. Oh! "Merry Merry Christmas,"

Weave in fragrant green. And "Merry Merry Christmas," In holly-berries sheen. Opened Heaven's portais. That by favored mortais Angels might be seen.

Oh! "Merry, Merry Christmas,"

Carol bright and gay. For "Merry Merry Christmas" Is the Children's Day: Morning stars revealing Shepherds sumbly kneeling Where the Christ Child iny.

Day of sacred mirth: Oh! "Merry Merry Christmas," Sing the Saviour's birth. Christ, the high and holy, Once so meek and lowly. Came from Heaven to earth.

Oh! "Merry, Merry Christmas!" Shout the happy sound. Till "Merry, Merry Christmas," Spreads the world around: Wonderful the story. Unto God may glory Evermore abound -Carine L. Rose, in Good Housekeeping

isting.

THE HEART OF CHRISTMAS. What This Glad Season has Brought Into

the World and the Human Heart. Christmas is the great living, eternal protest against pessimism. The star of Bethlehem is a threefold star, the star | phers whom I before imagined had ediof faith, hope and charity, the triune light of all living that is not mere ex-

We of to-day can hardly imagine what a genuine civilization could be without Christmas. Its inspiration has so subtly permeated our life in all its various phases and activities that we are bafiled in trying to part its rightful claims from those of what we call in a general way "the progress of civilization." It is a task too delicate for the finest analysis. We only know that when, at the birth of Jesus, the three stars of faith. hope and charity were set in the dark sky of human destiny. to illumine with steadily growing beams a course before groping guesswork, theirs was a light which was to light every man who cometh into the world. No man is so wretched, so sick at heart, so filled with "faint perplexing dread," so pessimistic, so antagonistic even to the claims of Jesus and of the supernatural, that at the Christmastide he does not catch something of the Christmas inspiration, pluck up new courage, and take fresh heart. From the universal spirit of charity, of good will to men, can not but spring, by a natural reflex impulse. that personal hope which shades off imperceptibly into personal faith. There are many who would be the last to acknowledge the claims of Christmas who are indebted to it the most; for they need it the most. It is a practical, though uncounted, force in their lives, giving them an unconscious intellectual and moral vitality, like the ozone of a strong, clear air which, in the fretfulness of ill health, we may imagine to be filled with noxious germs.

This bracing tonic of Christmas, which comes to us so breezily and healthfully every year, not to leave us until the return of Christmas, is the special antidote of the morbid pessimism everywhere about us, in essays, novels and poetry, often where we least expect to meet it. In the absorption of our intensely practical and scietific life we do not always recognize it, but its secret influence does not abate for that. It is transmitted with all the noiselessness of the electric current, and circles our world with the same long will the people allow the plutoc- unbroken continuity. Its name now racy to fly its red flag over the senate? | most in vogue is "realism," professing to concern itself with minor adjustments of permanently unsatisfactory conditions as the chief end of a transitory being, or to devote itself to the elaboration of the disgusting and the sensual as the chief end of a disillusioned art. But whatever its name or professed purpose, it robs effort of nobility, achievement of satisfaction, and life of faith or hope, and in the end of charity. Taken makeshift, while the other is a misnomer. Taken at its worst, and both are a hell.

This is no exaggerated picture. Admit once a reasonable basis for pessimism, banish from the heart all the blessed inspirations of Chr.stmas hope and faith, and there remains for an mination to meet and defy Fate-Fate. so finely described by Swinburne: Fate is a sea without shore, and the soul is a

rock that abides: But her cars are vexed with the roar, and her face with the foam of the tides. Hang the two pictures side by side.

Let one be the soul possessed by pes-

simism, as depicted in that powerful, terrible poem of Henley: Out of the night that covers me. Black as the pit from pole to pole. I thank whatever gods may be

For my unconquerable soul. In the fell clutch of circumstance I have not winced nor cried aloud. Under the bludgeonings of chance My head is bloody but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears Looms but the horror of the shade. And yet the menace of the years Finds and shall find me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate, How charged with punishments the scroll. | tions. I am the master of my fate: I am the captain of my soul.

Let the other picture be the soul possessing faith and hope, as depicted in the familiar, beautiful lines from Whittier's "Eternal Goodness:" And so beside the silent sea

I wait the muffled oar; No harm from Him can come to me On ocean or on shore

I know not where His islands lift. Their fronded palms in air; I only know I can not drift Beyond His love and care.

And they O Lord! by whom are seen Thy crea-tres as they be. Forgive me if the close I lean This human heart on Thee.

other.-Arthur Reed Kimball, in Out-

THE SOUL'S IMMORTALITY.

From Whence Sweet Assurance Came to

a Troubled Beart. I think there has been no book written on the immortality of the soul which I have not read. I have pursued them, bought them at great prices. studied them with great earnestness, seeking to construct a satisfactory theory to my own mind, seeking to master that great argument. I have spent thirty years at it, hoping some day that possibly, by diligent study and prayerful earnestness, I might be able to convey the argument, to present it with more force, and to make its impression stronger upon the mind and heart of the world. But when death came to my home and struck down my darlings; when I went and looked into their graves, I saw nothing but utter darkness; I looked up into Heaven with a hunger I can not describe, with an anguish I can not express; I went out on a dark night into the deep woods, and looked up into the great vault above, and beat upon my breast, and cried to my Father, and to the spirits which inhabit those distant and unseen realms, and prayed until my heart was crushed and broken; until my tears were exhausted, and my tongue almost clave to the roof of my mouth; and in speechless silence, with my face upon the earth, to see if I could not near them; but I found that it was dark and silent; not a ray, not a voice. I went and sat down by the philoso-

fied me, but now I found they gave me nothing but husks. I read their arguments which had cheered me, but now they broke my heart. They had nothing in them, not even enough for me to hang a conjecture upon. I was desolate with an utter desolation. I sat down and wrung my hands in an agony I could not describe. Nor did I ever find relief until I heard a voice coming through the gloom, and out of the darkness and silence, with more than heavenly music and sweetness in it, and it said: "I am Jesus, the resurrection and the life; thy dead shall live again;" and upon that single idea, that single thought, I found that I could rest my hope and my faith, and upon none other. He has brought life and immortality to light; he has revealed that great doctrine: He has established the truth which the world sighed and longed and wept and prayed for, but which ever eluded mankind till He came down out of Heaven, and told the story of the fatherhood of God, and the immortality of His human children. "Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end." Amen and amen!-Bishop R. S. Foster.

LASTING INFLUENCE.

Why We Should Be Careful That It Is Exerted for Good.

It was a striking remark of a dying man, whose life had been, alas! but poorly spent: "O that my influence could be gathered up and buried with me!" It could not be. That man's influence survives him; it still lives, is still working on, and will live and work for centuries to come. He could not, when he came to die and saw how sad and deleterious his influence had been, he could not put forth his dving hand and arrest that influence. It was too late; he had put in motion an agency which he was altogether poweress to arrest. His body could be shrouded, and coffined, and buried out of sight, but not his influence; for that, alas! corrupt and deadly as it is, there is no shroud, no burial. It walks the earth like a pestilence-like the angel of death, and will walk till the hand of God arrests and chains it.

Let us be careful what influence we leave behind us. For good or for evil we shall and must live and act, on the earth, after our bodies have returned to dust. The grave, even so far as this world is concerned, is not the end of us. In the nature of things it can not be. We are, every one of us, doing that every day, every hour, which will survive us, and which will affect, for good or for evil, those who come after us. There is nothing we are more prone to forget and disregard than our at its best, and this world is but a influence upon others; yet there is nothing we should more dread-there is nothing for which we must hereafter give a more solemn account. - Christian

Knowing When to Stop Speaking.

If preachers have the credit of never knowing when to stop speaking it is earnest human soul but a stoleal deter- probably because they speak more than other men, and not because they are indifferent to the rights of others or because they are lacking in judgment. And yet, it is a great thing to know just when to stop speaking. - United Presbyterian.

HIS SATANIC MAJESTY.

Points From the Ram's Horn Concerning This Well-Known Personage. You can disappoint the devil in one way by keeping out of debt.

The more polish you put on a mean man the better the devil is suited. It is hard to get the devil's slave to believe that God is his friend.

You need not be civil to the devil in order to show that you are no bigot. The devil wins many a battle by getting God's troops to fire into each other.

The devil has both hands on the man who will not follow his honest convic-If you say "good morning" to the

devil he will offer you his arm to take a walk.

The man who swears has something in his heart that the devil wants to stay there. The devil never gets a chance to rest

in the neighborhood of the man whom God pronounces perfect. The devil lays down his gun when-

ever he hears a preacher begin to apologize for preaching the truth. If you let the devil go home to dinner with you, you will have to take

him for a regular boarder. If the devil can persuade you to take

one step, he will make an unanswera-Christmas was given to us to save us ble argument as to why you should from the one, and to bless us with the take another