SPOKEN TO THE EAR.

Broken to the Heart-While Enacting Laws, Law. Makers Break Them.

It is clearly the duty of every cititen to uphold and obey the law. It is absolutely obligatory upon law framers to do so. Every congressman and senator, taking oath of office solemnly before the people, calling God to witness at the bar of his country. pledges his sacred honor and his manhood's intelligence to support the constitution of the United States, and fulfill those obligations which he has voluntarily assumed, and which constitute the highest calling and dignity the noblest office within the gift of the nation. The ·late unpleasantness" resulting from a clean cut violation of decency, and all the rules governing the abuse of liquor in congress, brings prominently forward some extraordinary facts. Feeling confident that much "was rotten in the state of Denmark." some inquiries were addressed to Hon. John G. Otis of Kansas, an ardent prohibitionist, who has taken a more than superficial interest in the recent Watson investigation. His reply runs:

"In response to yours, 5th inst. will say, our investigation into the law and rules governing the sale of intoxicating liquo s in the national capitol, satisfied us that it was not law or rule against the sale of spiritous liquors in either wing of the basement that was so much needed as a public sentiment that would enforce the laws and rules now governing the

subject.

"The written contract of the committee on public buildings and grounds in the house of representatives, with the present keeper of the house restaurant, in express terms forbids the sale of spirituous liquors' upon the premises, but, as I understand, no one has made any objection or called the attention of the committee to the matter, so the traffic has proceeded without interruption and unchallenged until the late investigation was commenced. If you will call at the committee room of public buildings and grounds,' the clerk will furnish you access to the contract with the restaurant keeper. Every member of congress would seem to be responsible in some measure for the liquor traffic carried on at the capitol. In the house wing the rooms and restaurant are especially under the charge of the speaker and the committee on public buildings and grounds. But this fact would not prevent any member from entering protest against the traffic who might feel so inclined." JOHN G. OTIS.

Acting upon the suggestion con-

tained in the foregoing, an Economist representative called at the committee rooms mentioned, with the result of finding the doors locked and the clerks 'gone away for the rest of the summer." An affable janitor further remarked. . that even when they were on duty they did not come down more than once a week." So the clause of the lease governing the house restaurant cannot now be cited verbatim, but it does exist, and it is hourly violated. In the senate a positive rule exists [No. 10] which runs: "No spirituous liquors shall be sold, furnished or kept in the restaurant," which is hourly violated. From 1837 to 1870, a joint rule providing that 'no spirituous liquors shall be offered for sale or exhibited within the capitol, or on the public grounds adjacent thereto' prevailed, and has become a dead letter through violation. The speaker of the house is directly responsible for the existing order of affairs, as he directly controls all such matters in his province -the vice president in the senate, and, as Mr. Otis sa s. "every member of congress." It is not the purpose of this paper to invade the realm of men's private affairs, nor to preach personal salvation. It strikes at the root of the evil—the cause, not the nize as just and noble. —Toiler, Tenn.

effect. Let the law-makers either abolish their own rules, and openly and frankly affront temperance, good conduct and morals, clothed in the courage of open viciousness, or let them cease to parade a . virtue when they have it not" This is the chargethey have continuously, knowingly and wilfully broken the law while enacting law. It is true and it canno' be disproven.

Good Government

Is what we all want. It should be the object of all political agitation, and the end of all political action. But we do not always get it from these sources; for politics are, many times, anything else but models of propriety and masculine virtue. When this is so the people suffer, and public interests are neglected, save as they are appropriated to vile uses and nefarious ends. To correct all this, integrity, determination and courage are necessary: professions and promises are plenty-they are cheap motors of influence, and too often correct nothing-and do not satisfy the public demand. for a virtuous, intelligent patriotic people prefer substance to shadow, they want performance as well as promise. This is a simple and just conclusion, which appeals to every truthful conception and honest conviction. Who will not respond-let us have it with the least possible delay. Begin now by making good the popular demand for reform, without pretense and without equivocation. There is work for all who share in the responsibilities and obligations of the government under which we live - National View.

Can't Ignore It.

One of the leading financial papers makes this statement: . The average price of products and agricultural property has fallen fully 7 per cent during the past year." This declaration should fill ever thinking person with alarm since it points to either universal or repudiation or general bankruptcy. In assuming that all the products of labor are 7 per cent cheaper it can not be denied that money in such a case would be 7 per cent dearer. That is, if a man was in debt \$100 one year ago his debt has increased 7 per cent, and his means of payment decreased 7 per cent, making a difference against him of 7 per cent in one year. If this propertion be true the natural increase of wealth in the country has been fully mortgaged for two years to come by the decrease in the value of labor products. Where labor and its products decrease in price there can be no prosperity for the common peo-

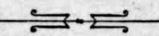
Murmurings in the Air.

In North Carolina, Georgia and Mississippi, Alliancemen by the thousands are speaking out boldly that they will vote the People's party ticket if the Democratic party don't embody their demands in the national platform. They say that the day and hour has come when principle and not blind partisan prejudice shall control their votes. The same kind of rumbling muffled thunder tones are heard all over Tennessee. When it is too late the machine bosses in Tennessee will see that they can't whip us irto line with the party lash. Its power will be gone forever. Abuse and slander never wins, and independent American citizens will not submit to it. - Weekly Toller.

Will Not Be Imposed Upon.

The intelligence of the people will not allow them to be kept in the old boodle parties by the cry of .You will surely turn the state over to the Republicans if you vote with the People's party." Neither can the sophistry of the politicians of the two old parties in regard to the force bill and negro domination prevent them from espousing a cause which they recog-

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