

WOMAN'S WORK.

An Interesting Paper by Miss Julia Weston.

The following extracts are taken from a paper entitled "Woman's Work in the A. P. A.," which was prepared for an open meeting of Council No. 1 W. A. P. A., Kansas City, Mo., to which all the A. P. A. councils of the city had been invited, and is printed by request of the Woman's Council by Julia Weston:

It is in the name of the patriotic sentiment of the noble friends and sisters of Council No. 1, that I speak to you tonight, and in their behalf extend to you a hearty greeting and a cordial welcome to our open council.

The questions are frequently asked: "What is the purpose of your organization?" "What are you doing?" "What are you capable of doing?" "Woman who have ever assisted in reform work of any kind know all about these questions; know how difficult it is sometimes to answer them, I will take them one at a time and try to answer them:

First—What is the purpose of your organization? Our purpose in organizing and your purpose is the same, not less significant and imperative is the purpose for which we are organized. Upon the wives, mothers and sisters no less than upon our brethren rests the responsibility of placing upon a higher plane our American institutions, of inculcating into the minds of the rising generation a love and reverence for our country and her flag, and a desire for the purity of the ballot. As I have before said, patriotism is a great factor in our organization.

"And this patriotism shall shine more and more, Till its glory like noontide shall be; It shall shine more and more, till our land from priestcraft is free; Till our nation Christ's glory shall see."

Second—What are you doing or what have you been able to do?

If one should paint a picture with only trees and smoking chimney tops, we would see only a beginning, nothing pleasing to the eye at all, but if the picture is painted high enough to take in the beautiful blue sky with here and there a floating cloud, we would see something to admire, because the artist has reached the beautiful sunlight and all that goes to make a pleasing picture.

We smile at the little boy just learning to fish who takes for the first time a string and a stick and a bent pin and goes to a shallow stream near home where he can catch nothing but minnows, but after all the boy is learning to fish, preparing himself to go to larger streams and catch big fish along with the men. So it seems to me the Woman's American Protective Association is like the first picture I have described, and like the boy learning to fish. We have only reached the trees and smoking chimneys so far, but after a while we expect to attain to the beautiful sunlight and do better work. We are fishing now with strings and bent pins, but after awhile we expect to catch big fish along with the men. We are not yet one year old, but we are the mother council of both Kansas Cities.

A few months ago we helped our respected friend and now highly esteemed supreme president, Mrs. Carrie Osdyke to organize Council No. 2 and several councils in Kansas City, Kans. Council No. 2, was a weakling, and gradually decreased, I was going to say to almost a shadow, but in looking at my left hand I am confronted by its former president, who is now our efficient and honored president, and you can see she is anything but a "shadow" in any way you may wish to estimate her. I know from experience that when we happen to talk too much, (which women sometimes do, you know,) she can bring the gavel down upon us with such a rap as reminds us of the coming of a Kansas cyclone. But may her shadow never grow less; the remnant of Council No. 2, we hold harmoniously with us today.

We have had reason to believe that the donations of the public school children have heretofore been given out indiscriminately, and some deserving, worthy poor were left without a share of the contributions. A committee from our council was appointed to look into the matter. The committee succeeded in having the pupils take their Christmas donations for the poor to their respective churches and Sunday schools. The result was so far as we could learn, that the poor of every church was graciously remembered. We feel that we have been a small factor in a great way of helping to attain our late successful municipal election. And although we cannot vote, I believe you would make it possible for us if you could, we intend to use our influence for the election of better men in our municipal and county offices than we have heretofore had. So although we haven't been able to do much we "keep pegging away." We have made mistakes! What organization has not? We have had more than the usual share of discouragements, bluffs and buffetings, but we are here and here we will stand. "For right is might, since God is God, and right the

day must win. To doubt would be dishonour; To falter would be sin."

But I pass on to the last question: What are women capable of doing? I am most tempted to say everything, but I may be talking to some of that class of people who think there is but one sphere for women and that sphere is bounded by the four square walls we call home. Home is one of the noblest of women's spheres but there are others.

You have but to read the history of Woman's Work at the World's Fair and the history of Woman's Congress at the World's Fair, to be convinced that woman's spheres are boundless.

History of our late war records the names of many noble women who served their country with untiring devotion and self-sacrifice with their gentle ministrations of mercy for the wounded and dying.

Women who denied themselves comforts to which they had been accustomed, went thinly clad, took the extra blanket from their bed, went without tea and sugar that they might wind on another bandage around some soldier's wound, or give some parched lips in the hospital some delicacy otherwise denied him. If it is true, "The world knows nothing of its greatest men," it is still more true of its noblest women. God himself keeps this record, but I have in my mind's eye another picture. I see before me a procession of women, a little band, from twelve to twenty, coming from a church where they have been united in a prayer-meeting, dear mothers in Israel, grandmas whose hair is silvered, and young and comely maidens see them passing down the street, silent, expressive, yet cheerful, determined, and they stop at a drinking saloon to kneel on the dirty floor, or if driven from there, out on the frosty pavement, there to plead for the souls of the men behind the counter and for their victims. The women often become tired and discouraged but they go day after day, after awhile the saloons are closed with their mighty pleadings. But they did not remain closed. Was the woman's temperance crusade a failure? No, a thousand times no. Out from that little band there went forth an inspiration, a mighty influence extending from town to town and from state to state. The inspiration couldn't be defined. Men stood back and listened with awe, and said "Let them alone, it is of God."

Singing and praying at the saloons was given up, but the woman's praying crusade for the annihilation of this accursed traffic will never be given up. It has endeared and expanded from this little praying band into the great Woman's Temperance Union, whose followers are legion and whose bands of ribbon white, now encircle the whole penetrable globe. Of this organization Rev. Josiah Strong has said: "At no time in all the year, and at no place in all the land, is there so much of the saving power of the nation gathered together as at the Annual Convention of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union."

I have mentioned three of the noblest spheres of women. There are many others. But my friends, are there less noble, self-sacrificing and brave women in our land today? I tell you nay. But we must band together, we must stand together. In conclusion, I say again we welcome you to this, our first open meeting. We again thank you all for all the help you have so kindly given us, and we again say that we have a purpose, to work for whatever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, and whatsoever are of good repute until we are called from here to the Supreme Council up there where one is our Supreme Head, even God the Lord.

Losing its Prey.
In these days, when the A. P. A. and other similar organizations are cutting so wide a swath through Roman schemes and hopes, we opine that the Roman schemers who supposed their plans were all working nicely for "the church," must now feel like quoting sadly Bobby Burn's lines:
"The best-laid plans of nice and men Gang aft' aglee."

Dared Them to Remove His Button.
MANDAN, N. D., April 14, 1894.—Editor THE AMERICAN: Yesterday, while I was in a barber shop, a gentleman came in, followed shortly after by two Roman thugs of this little town who commenced to talk about the first gentleman to one another loud enough to make themselves heard to all. The conversation between these two thugs kept getting hotter and hotter all the time. They used all the profane language possible until at last it got so

disgusting that our FRIENDS, who were a button, which was the cause of the abuse, could not stand it any longer, and he turned to the thug who had been doing the talking, and said, "Perhaps you don't like that button; if you do not, let's see you take it off." Whereupon a gentleman who was in the barber's chair, with lather all over one side of his face, jumped out of the chair and taking his coat off, said, "Yes, perhaps you men would like to take that button off that gentleman's coat; now go ahead." By this time a third gentleman, who also happened to be in the shop, just placed both his hands in his hip pockets and drawing two revolvers, said, "If either of you men, or anyone else in this town, dares to lay his hand on this gentleman, I will bore him or them so full of holes they will never be heard of again." This, right there, ended the affair, but the mayor and chief of police, both Roman Catholics, sided in with the Protestant boys and told the Romans to cease their quarrelling, as they had been the instigators. Of course this was the only thing for them to do, as our boys had the dead drop on them. Truly yours,
A RESIDENT.

A. P. A. POINTERS.

It is the duty of every member of the A. P. A. who is a sincere patriot to aid in spreading the good word.

When one loud-mouthed dog bays at the A. P. A., all the little fellows echo the cry.

What the A. P. A. has to do is not to waste time trying to convert Catholics, but to transform so called Americans into Americans of the stalwart sort.

No matter what may be said to the contrary, the A. P. A. is becoming a most important factor all over the country, and is working for the good of all.

By ballot the A. P. A. will arouse a slumbering people to a sense of the need of self-protection against a gigantic enemy.

Rev. Frank Dixon, of the Baptist denomination, advises all the people of Hartford, Conn., to join the A. P. A.

"The A. P. A. did it" is getting to be quite a common expression on the street now. Its power is being daily recognized.

The permanence of the A. P. A. depends more upon the wisdom of its friends than upon the attacks of its enemies.

In the A. P. A. the Jesuits have at last found their match.

Duluth Silhouettes.

Daniel Horgan is now ex-chief of police. He is a Roman Catholic, and Messrs Hart and Helinski are relieved as fire commissioners, and the world do move.

It is reported that the Duluth diocese is too poor for a separate bishop. Duluth and St. Cloud will be consolidated. All because Protestants do not appropriate money to Rome.

Liberty's editor has received a second letter threatening his life if he does not discontinue his paper. This time the threat comes from St. Paul.

Because the News-Tribune published an uncolored report of the Simons-Donnelly debate, the Northeastern (papal) Witness wants it boycotted.

President Grover Cleveland has appointed a new postmaster. He is Theodore Helinski, a Polish-Catholic American.

A Priest Forbids Children to Participate in a Public School Dedication.

The citizens of the town of Wabash, Indiana, are rightly indignant over the course pursued by the Roman Catholic priest forbidding all the children of that denomination from attending or participating in the ceremonies attendant on the recent laying of the corner stone of a new public school building in that city. The children were told by the priest that it would be a sin for them to participate in such proceedings

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Change of Time.

On and after Sunday, April 29th, the Missouri Pacific trains for Kansas City, St. Louis, etc., will leave depot at 15th and Webster streets at 9:00 a. m. and 9:30 p. m. Trains will arrive at 6:00 a. m. and 6:55 p. m. Nebraska Local leaves daily, except Sunday, at 5:10 p. m.; arrives 9:20 a. m.

J. O. PHILLIPS,
A. G. F. & P. A.
THOMAS F. GODFREY,
P. & T. A.

A Masquerading Priest.

One evening last week a well dressed individual, wearing a mustache, was observed by an officer trying to attract the attention of the inmates of a bawdy resort on Rayner street. The officer considered it to be his duty to arrest the strange acting individual, and the latter took a hurried ride to police headquarters, where it was discovered that the mustache was a false one, and the stranger turned out to be a masquerading priest. The latter explained that he was on his way to surprise his old friend, "Father" Friedlander, when he was himself surprised. When he discovered that his story would not wash, and that he was in danger of spending a night in a cell, he sent for one of Bishop Foley's priests to identify him and testify as to his purity and good intentions, after which the priest was permitted to go on his way rejoicing, minus his false mustache.—Detroit Patriotic American.

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Notice of Amended Articles of Incorporation.

Notice is hereby given that at the special meeting of THE AMERICAN PUBLISHING COMPANY, a corporation duly authorized under the laws of the State of Nebraska, and doing business at Omaha in Douglas county in said State, Article IV of Articles of Incorporation of said Company was amended to read as follows to-wit:

"Article IV. The capital stock of this corporation shall be fifteen thousand (\$15,000) dollars divided into one hundred and fifty shares of one hundred dollars each, which shall be fully paid when same is issued. Dated at Omaha, Nebraska, April 26th, 1894.

Directors: JOHN C. THOMPSON, President. W. C. KELLEY, Secretary. FRED A. THOMPSON, Treasurer. M. L. ZOOK.

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THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES.

Hoffmann's Catholic Directory, the official directory of the Catholic Church in the United States, published by Hoffmann Brothers Co., Milwaukee, Wis., gives the following statistics, showing the growth of the Catholic Church in the United States.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Table with columns: ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS, CLERGY, Secular, Regular, TOTAL, Churches, Stations and Chapels, Universities, Seminaries, Students, Seminarians, Students, High Schools for Boys, High Schools for Girls, Parochial Schools, Children At- tending, Orphan Asylums, Orphanages, Charitable Institutions, Total Children in Catholic Institutions, Catholic Population.

*Returns incomplete. *No chance from last year's report.

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