

tion of your progress, but of your aim. It is a question of whether you are going towards the right or towards the wrong.

There is a story which a witty man in New York once told that illustrates that idea. His story takes us back to the time when Darwinism was being discussed a great deal, because it was supposed that Darwinism meant that man comes from the monkey. A young English student who believed this went to a German university. There he found a professor who believed it, too. But the professor had a further theory. He believed that man's evolution from the monkey had been caused by the revolutions of the earth upon its axis. He thought he could prove this if he could only discover how to reduce a man to a very small size and then bring him back again. "For," said he, "if one could reduce a man to a mere microscopic speck, and place him on a miniature earth of the right proportions, and revolve that earth again and again, and then bring the man back to his normal size, I believe he would be as far in advance of the man of today as the man of today is in advance of the monkey, and for the same reason. It's these diurnal revolutions that do it." That is what the professor told the boy. One day when the boy called on the professor, the professor exclaimed with delight: "I have it; I know how to do it; I can reduce a man to a speck and bring him back again; and I want you to help me try the experiment." Now, this frightened

the boy; for he thought the professor wanted to try the experiment on him. But the professor reassured him. He explained that he didn't want to try the experiment upon the boy, but wanted the boy to try it on the professor. So the boy volunteered. He didn't think that experiment would be as dangerous as the other. When the professor had explained the processes of the experiment the boy went to work at it. Sure enough, the professor began to shrink; and he shrank and shrank until he was a mere speck under the microscope. Then the boy hunted up the place on the miniature earth which the professor had prepared, the place somewhere in Asia where man was supposed to have sprung from the monkey, and he put the professor there with great care. Now he took hold of the crank and turned the miniature earth around and around, again and again, until his back ached and he wished himself well out of the job. But he had promised to keep faith with the professor, and so he turned and turned until the miniature earth had made the requisite number of revolutions. After that the boy hunted for the professor with his microscope, and when he had found him he gently lifted him to the table. Of course the professor was so small that the boy couldn't tell what he looked like; but he knew that he had the professor, and so he reversed the shrinking process, and the professor began to expand. The experiment was working all right. But when the professor was big enough to be recognized, the boy was horrified. For the professor hadn't gone forward at all. He had gone backward. He had become a monkey. You see the boy had turned the earth the wrong way. (Laughter.)

There is a lesson in that story, my friends, for the common people. The inspiration of the common people can be trusted. They sometimes make mistakes, and they cannot think of too many things at once. They are often shoved back and they often fall back. But if they only keep their faces in the right direction, human progress is assured. Try to turn the earth the right way; don't try to turn it the wrong way because that may happen to seem easier. Keep on in the right direction, with your face toward the right and the light, and whether you reach your goal or not, you will be better men and your country will be a better country. (Great applause.)

On a Barren Shore. In bygone times it was the practice of the Newfoundland coast folk to appropriate everything they secured, but this lawlessness had to be sternly repressed. Now the unwritten rule is that they get "half their haul," or 50 per cent as salvage. In portable and valuable articles such as silverware, there is still a strong temptation to keep the whole, but the punishment is severe. Champagne, liquors, cabin stores and the like have also a trick of disappearing, and in the poorest fisher's cottage you will come upon rare china, dainty napery, silverware of price, and wines that tempt an epicure. The salvagers are reckless and unthinking, and as they gather in hundreds every man pre-empt what he can. In the rush there is much destroyed. When the Hurder was lost, in 1882, they burned whalebone worth \$15,000 a ton to save leather worth 20 cents a pound. In the Emmeline wreck of 1900 they trampled crates of costly glassware to get at four cases of French prayerbooks valued at 25 cents apiece. On one occasion two sailors had got ashore a piano, and were adopting the Solomon-like expedient of sawing it in half when a shrewder chum bought it from them for a bottle of whisky purloined from the captain's cabin. When the Grubbrook went ashore in 1890 every man on the shore provided himself

with a German concertina, of which instruments of torture she had a large consignment, and to secure them packages of much more costly freight were thrown overboard. When the Orion, from Baltimore for Copenhagen, struck the back of Cape Race, and went to pieces, she had a large consignment of bicycles on board, and they were auctioned in St. Johns and disposed of all over the island. The Abeymore's lading, in 1898, included some cases of splendid English rifles, for Canada, and these are now to be seen adorning every fisher's cottage along the shore.—McClure's Magazine.

A Paradise for Wives.

The Louisiana supreme court has affirmed the constitutionality of an act passed by the legislature at its last session which provides for the punishment with imprisonment at hard labor of men who desert their wives and children. A number of arrests were made shortly after the law went into effect, but punishment of the culprits was suspended, as the act was supposed to be unconstitutional. The supreme court's decision now settles the matter, and in future the Louisiana man who gets married must expect to bear the consequences.

It is to be hoped that the law will not have a tendency to discourage matrimony, and there is no likelihood that it will. If it does, the ones who permit themselves to be frightened away from marriage by it will be better single anyway. Louisiana has made a good start in this matter and should now provide for the imprisonment at hard labor of wife beaters. That done, the state will have a clear lead in at least one important respect.—Chicago Record-Herald.

The Retort Discourteous.

In a suit relating to brewery property, reported in "Case and Comment," an eminent and very dignified counselor was one day reading to the court some manuscript affidavits which were not over legible, and by mistake read the word "mash" as "wash." Counsel on the other side, who was small of stature and polite in manner, but keen in intellect and frequently sarcastic, was immediately on his feet, and with a somewhat irritating deference of manner, begging his opponent's pardon, etc., asked liberty to suggest that the word which the eminent counselor read "wash" was really "mash." Somewhat nettled, the counselor thus corrected thanked him for the information, and added that he was not himself very familiar with terms used in the brewery business, as he had never spent much of his time in a place of that kind. "Are we to understand, then," said his opponent in his suavest manner, "that the eminent counselor wishes us to infer that his early days were spent in a laundry?"—New York Tribune.

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