

THE DESERVING ONES

On June 25 Yale university conferred upon John Pierpont Morgan the degree of Doctor of Laws, the dispatches containing the interesting information that the degree was awarded "with special reference to Mr. Morgan's public service to the nation in mitigating the panic last fall."

Without venturing to say that the award was not merited, we will venture the statement that Yale should now follow up the precedent thus established of honoring those who helped to mitigate the panic last fall, and confer similar degrees upon the millions of wage earners whose loyalty and patriotism came to the rescue during those perilous times. The wage earners who accepted "cashiers' checks" in lieu of "money as good as gold;" the depositors in saving banks who cheerfully accepted these same bits of illegal paper instead of pressing their demand for "money as good as gold"—like the money they had deposited—and thus forcing the banks to the wall; the trades union leaders who stepped into the breach and advised all skilled mechanics—to stand by the financial institutions and avert a greater panic—these are just as much entitled to a degree from Yale as is Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan. Mr. Morgan with all of his wealth and influence could not have stemmed that panic if the workers and savers of the country had undertaken to enforce a demand for the kind of money that Mr. Morgan and his fellow financiers told us was so necessary in 1896 and 1900. Yale should start the printing presses to running night and day printing degrees. It will have to print several millions if it follows its precedent in the Morgan case and confers degrees upon all who deserve the honor fully as much as J. Pierpont Morgan.



CAN IT BE POSSIBLE?

In an editorial printed in the Brooklyn Eagle the good Doctor St. Clair McKelway says: "For Mr. Bryan on no platform whatever will the Eagle be."

"For Mr. Bryan under no circumstances whatever will the Eagle be."

"For no platform and for no candidate whatever of Mr. Bryan's making or prescription will the Eagle be."

"The Eagle neither waited for Chicago to say the foregoing, nor is it waiting for Denver to qualify the foregoing."

"The Eagle is historically and logically democratic, wholly anti-Bryan and wholly anti-populist."

Dr. McKelway has never before laid himself open to the charge of plagiarism. But the sentiment: "For Mr. Bryan on no platform whatever; for Mr. Bryan under no circumstances whatever; for no platform and for no candidate whatever of Mr. Bryan's making," is not original with the eminent editorial writer of the Brooklyn Eagle. The Rockefellers and the Morgans, who own the patent on this sentiment will, however, consent to the use of it by the talented editor of the Brooklyn Eagle, or by any one else, who will, during this campaign of 1908, aid in the pulling of the corporation chestnuts out of the flame.

But does the good doctor really imagine that any one expected the Brooklyn Eagle to give its support to a candidate who wages war upon the system?



THE RADICAL VOTE

The republican papers are quick to assume that Mr. Hearst will oppose the democratic ticket. They ought to give Mr. Hearst credit for having made a fight for certain well-defined reforms; they ought to give him credit for sincerity in advocating those reforms; they ought to know that his strength, like the strength of others who are strong with the masses, is due to the strength of the reforms to which he has attached himself.

The convention of the independence party was called to meet after the other conventions in order that a better survey of the situation might be made, and since the republican convention has adjourned, the independence convention has been postponed for a month, which gives greater opportunity for deliberation. Mr. Hearst could hardly be expected to announce in advance of the other conventions what he thought ought to be done, but it will be remembered that in 1904 he was a candidate in the democratic convention after the adoption of the platform written that year. He was willing to make the fight for the reforms outlined in

that platform. There is no danger of the platform this year containing less of reform than the platform of 1904. There is every indication that it will go even farther in demanding remedial legislation. If the platform of 1904 was good enough for Mr. Hearst to run upon, may not the democratic platform of 1908 be good enough for Mr. Hearst to support? The candidates, too, may have some influence in determining Mr. Hearst's action, and the organization of the national committee is a factor to be considered; the general trend and spirit of the convention also ought to have weight in determining with what force the democratic party will be able to appeal to the men who are connected with the independence party.

The reformer is naturally anxious to get all that he can in the way of reforms, but he also knows that progress is by degrees and that each reform gives the reformer vantage ground upon which to stand while he fights for other reform.

There are some in all parties who vote the party ticket anyhow no matter what the platform is; no matter who the candidates are; no matter whether the party has any chance or not; these vote the ticket. There are others who use the party as a means to an end; they want to accomplish results. Plutocracy supports the party which leans most toward plutocracy and the radical element is likewise independent. Each supports the party that gives the best assurance of securing what that element desires. The advocacy of remedial measures is not the only thing required of a reform party; ability to secure remedial measures is as important as the advocacy of them, and the radical who wants something done is likely to ask himself two questions: First, what parties promise reform? Second, of the parties promising reform, which party can offer the best assurances of fulfilling the promise? The radical element of the country can well afford to wait until after the Denver convention has adjourned before it decides what to do.

GROVER CLEVELAND

The death of Ex-President Cleveland brings to a sudden end the phenomenal career of one of the strongest characters known to the political world during the present generation. Like every commanding figure he had zealous supporters and earnest opponents, but those who differed from him were as ready as his warmest friends to concede to him the possession of elements of leadership to an extraordinary degree. He was deliberate in action, firm in conviction and ever ready to accept responsibility for what he did. Few men have exerted a more positive influence upon those associated with them.

We are not far enough from the period during which his work was done to measure accurately his place in history, but the qualities which made him great are a part of the nation's heritage and universal sorrow is felt at his death.

INTERESTING

The Wall Street Journal says: "It is understood that Taft had originally no special ambition to be president. His thoughts were in the direction of the chief justiceship of the supreme court. On the other hand, Elihu Root would undoubtedly have liked to have been president. It would be an interesting development of politics if Taft, becoming president, should make Root chief justice of the supreme court."

The appointment of Elihu Root to be chief justice of the United States supreme court would indeed be interesting, and perhaps the logical development of the politics played by the republican party.



NUMEROUS AND FORMIDABLE

The Indianapolis News, republican, describes the situation in this way: "We think that Mr. Taft has both the ability and the disposition to serve the country well. The sole question is as to the limitations to which he has voluntarily submitted himself. The refusal of the convention to adopt the publicity plank will tend to create the impression that those limitations may be numerous and formidable."

OULD BARNEY TO THE BOY

Arrah! Barney ma bouchal, 'tis courtin' ye are, An' you but just out o' your dresses! 'Tis the light in your eye, like a new-risen star, That this news to your father confessed, Now ye're off to the town, For the sun has gone down, An' the spell o' the gloamin' is o'er ye. Faith, ye're started like me, But it's lucky ye'll be If ye end like yer father before ye.

Oh, the glamour o' night Breeds a passion too light For a dancit long lifetime's adornin', But the blessin' that cheers All the slow-wheelin' years Is the love that blooms warm in the mornin'.

Arrah! Barney ma bouchal, when I was a lad I courted one lass an' anothe', But the sorra bit comfort from anny I had Till I came on the heart o' your mother. Oh, her charms they were rare In the dusk, at the fair, At the dance, in the house she was born in, But her heart, it was found When I happened around Where she sang at her work in the mornin'.

Oh, the glamour o' night Breeds a passion too light For a dancit long lifetime's adornin', But the blessin' that cheers All the slow-wheelin' years Is the love that blooms warm in the mornin'. —T. A. Daly in the Catholic Standard and Times.

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HOW LONG IS ETERNITY?

In 1905 the United States government issued a document known as "Committee Reports, Hearings and Acts of Congress Corresponding Thereto." It included the hearings before the committee of the house of representatives on insular affairs in the Fifty-eighth congress. Secretary Taft was a witness before the committee and on page 103 will be found the language hereinafter quoted. There was in the charter of the Manila railway a provision that at the end of one hundred years the railway should revert to the Spanish government. The company had claims against the United States for occupation of the railroad for nine months. Mr. Taft explains that he attempted to settle this claim by giving to the railroad a perpetual franchise. He says: "When I was out there as governor, I talked with the manager of the company and suggested a compromise by which we should give them a perpetual franchise like the franchise already granted for the construction of railways without guarantees, and that we should agree to allow them on the franchise already granted the duties on the materials put into the new franchises on the one hand, and that they should release all claims against the United States on the other hand."

In another part of his testimony he stated that the railroad paid three or four hundred thousand dollars a year net. This would make the rental of the railroad for nine months worth from \$225,000 to \$300,000. Now, in order to secure a release of the claim against the government, Mr. Taft was willing to convert a hundred year charter into a perpetual franchise. There was a provision in the original charter in regard to guarantees, and Secretary Taft says that the Philippine Islands have always repudiated this obligation, so that it can not be considered as a compensation. The point we desire to make is this, that Secretary Taft was willing to fasten upon the Filipino people a perpetual franchise, and give to a railroad company the power to hold this franchise forever.

On page eighty-three of the same report, it is disclosed that Mr. Taft, in discussing the bill under consideration by the committee, favored a provision that would give the Philippine commission the power to give a perpetual guarantee of income to a railroad. Mr. Jones asked him: "That leaves it to the commission to say whether it (the railroad) shall pay anything (of the guarantee) back or not?" And Sec-