

# THE Popular Pulpit

## SINS OF OMISSION.

By Rev. Adam Reock.

Therefore do him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin.—James 4:17.

In the presence of such a text all sins separate themselves into two classes, like the sheep and the goats in the judgment, and sins of omission take the left hand, for they are worse. Few people realize the gravity of these sins. "See," said the young man who came running to Christ, "all these commandments have I kept from my youth up; what lack I yet?" He never dreamed there were sins of omission.

It is not impossible to keep the ten commandments, at least in the letter. Thousands there are who do not worship false gods, who do not swear or break the Sabbath, who honor their parents and hold sacred the family relations, who would scorn to steal or lie, and if possessed of good health are not tempted to covet. But, having done this, have they fulfilled all righteousness?

When Jesus had a great truth to utter He made a parable and at the same time poured it full of vital truth, so that the truth would keep the parable alive and the parable embody truth for ages; just as the soul vitalizes the body and the body contains the soul. We have some of these parables as fresh and pertinent as if uttered for the hour. If we balance the emphasis of all the parables of Jesus the overwhelming weight rests on this very point—the seriousness and danger of sins of omission.

Everyone knows well the poor fellow with the one talent. His sin was a sin of omission. He neglected to improve his talent. Five expectant virgins were shut out from the wedding. What was their mistake? They took no oil with them. It was a sin of omission. In that scene of the judgment those who condemned were turned away because they failed to help their unfortunate fellows. This also was a sin of omission.

While sins of commission have slain their thousands, sins of omission reveal the sin of omission as the underlying cause. If events could be reversed as easily as moving pictures may be we would in every case discover the place where an ounce of prevention would have outweighed a ton of cure.

We can measure the results of sins of omission, and we often are greatly impressed, but the sins of omission will not plead their case until we all stand before the Judge. There is no premonitory intimation, and the disclosures will be astounding. These seem one discoverable reason why the attainments of present civilization should not have been reached a thousand years sooner. We say "It takes time" to do things. In nine cases out of ten it is simply an excuse for our unwillingness to act promptly at the call of duty and according to the light we have.

There is nothing the matter with this world, except that it "knows to do good," but hesitates, deliberates and arrives too late by some circuitous route. We must teach our youth to harness knowledge, and doing the marvels of the present will be eclipsed by greater. We must swing the whole fabric of modern life from the negative basis in action, ethics and religion—the "Thou shalt not" regime of the past to the positive basis of life suggested in one text: "To him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

Certainly no man or institution can achieve greatness or endure for any length of time who knoweth to do good and doeth it not.

## PIETY IN ACTION.

By Henry F. Cope.

"By their fruits ye shall know them."—Matt. 7: 16.

Fruit bearing is a vital process. We are learning to-day to express religion in terms of life, to measure it not by its power to repress but by its power to develop and express the best in man. The test of any creed is not the antiquity of its authorities, but the vitality of its ideals, its power over the hearts and lives of men to make a new heaven and a new earth wherein dwell righteousness.

This is the reason the old creeds pass away, because each new day sees a higher vision, catches larger glimpses of what man must be. Religion becomes democratic, it is the voice of the people crying out for the highest good. The spiritual in this world is the soul of humanity seeking after truth and fullness of life.

In our day religion passes from philosophy to practice. Once when religion was regarded as a package of truth contained in a special casket, the all important thing was to preserve that package unbroken. When we see religion as the soul of humanity seeking the eternally good that search forces us beyond old truths, beyond tracks made on yesterday's road, forces us to drop the garments of the past, the packages of ancient philosophies and press into to-day's truth.

Every true search for truth demands

self-expression. If our vision is that of a new heaven and a new earth, we, if we are sincere, seek to have that new heaven and new earth at once, right here. No man possesses any ideal he does not seek to express and realize. No man has any religion he does not use.

Putting religion into practice becomes at once a much broader matter than doing things at a church, passing the plate or serving in the choir; it means bringing to prevail in human relations, in society, every principle, ideal, and hope that we cherish religiously; it means helping men to the perfections we may dream of the deity possessing, causing our dull earth to bloom with the glory of a long ago Eden and making the streets of our city to ring with the songs of children and shine with the glory of the new Jerusalem.

Religion is becoming intensely practical; it means brooms, bricks, asphalt, votes, primaries; it means honesty, square dealing; it means plain, clear, simple justice instead of maudlin charity; it means a fair wage instead of robbery condoned or palliated by the sop to Cerberus, the library or the hospital; it means that a man cannot express his religion in singing psalms on Sunday, then pack it away in cotton in the pious pigeonhole late on Sunday evening embalming it for a week so that he may, conscience free, go on his selfish way.

Modern religion will not lift up its voice in pious phrases while it grinds down the face of the poor, pays to shop-girl a wage that forces them to vice and to men such a pittance as prohibits their rising even in ambition above dull content with being parts of the money machine. In simplest terms possible, it means that a man will express his religion through his thorough going morality.

We greatly need to moralize our religion, to make it stand for the working out of right and right relations in every detail of life, for teaching us to live together, for bringing us all to social service and social efficiency.

Not less do we need to spiritualize our morality. We need that men shall be good not because they have been told it pays, not because fashion prescribes certain forms of conduct, not because ancient laws mark out the paths of moral rectitude, but because high ideals point out these paths with their clear shining, because one seeks goodness for the good of all.

Morality because "it pays" is immorality; it is refined, civilized selfishness. Morality with the spiritual ideal, the morality that somehow compels a man to lose in the great battle, if but the cause he loves may win, the passion that makes us give up our individual rights and likes for the right, the eternal right of all; this is what morality means when it is lighted with religion, with devotion to an ideal.

The morality becomes simply the expression of religion, religion simply the inspiration of morality; both are seeking truth in life, the true life for all mankind.

## SHORT METER SERMONS.

Every life is determined by its loves. You cannot hold down the man who looks up.

The golden heart does not have the brass face.

There is no gaining without some foregoing.

An absentee God accounts for a prodigal world.

Work is always weariness when its goal is only wages.

It takes more than a home-made halo to make a hero.

Wisdom is in aging the head and keeping the heart youthful.

The best of all the churches is the temple in your own breast.

It's no use believing in angels in heaven if you cannot discover any here.

It often takes the barrenness of the desert to teach us to look up to the stars.

Morality because it pays to be moral is simply the immorality of civilized selfishness.

Every time you beat your neighbor you may be sure your adversary has beaten you.

The pessimist is the man who always goes straight for the chair with a pin on it.

It is a good deal easier to know the lives of all the saints than it is to show the life of one.

A man has no greater capacity of heaven than he has power to create heaven about him.

## DON'TS FOR CHURCHMEN.

Don't expect too much of God.

Don't discount what is due from yourself.

Don't allow the rule of gold to displace the golden rule.

Don't resolve to go to heaven and then take the wrong train.

Don't think so much of yourself that you have no time to think of others.

Don't live that double life wherein the little good is killed by the little evil.

Don't try to find a way to men's hearts other than through your own heart.

Don't pride yourself on being a law-abiding citizen until you obey the laws of love.

Don't concern yourself with trivial things lest you miss your greatest opportunity.

Don't try to satisfy your conscience with the thought that an evil deed concerns only yourself.

## SOMETHING FOR EVERYBODY

Some of the great Atlantic liners employ 150 firemen.

American automobiles sold in 1907 brought \$105,000,000.

Glass telephone poles, reinforced by wire, are being used in some parts of Germany.

Mukden, Manchuria, has forty tanneries and a large fur trade, both local and export. Prices are 15 to 20 per cent lower than a year ago.

A color resembling pewter may be given to rocks by boiling the casting in a cream of tartar solution containing a small amount of chloride of tin.

The average cost of supplying 1,000,000 gallons of water, based on the report of twenty-two cities, is \$92. This sum includes operating expenses and interest on bonds.

Orders have been posted in the shops of the Pennsylvania railroad system prohibiting swearing among the men while at work. The penalty will be an enforced vacation.

It is said that the method of producing anaesthesia by means of electricity, discovered by Professor Le Duc of Nantes, France, is applicable to the painless execution of criminals.

The aluminum books for the blind now being printed in Edinburgh are of thin sheets embossed in the usual way. They are easier to read than paper books, do not soil and are practically indestructible. Their expensiveness is their drawback.

Representative Burleigh of Maine is one of the few members of the House whose biography omits the familiar sentence: "Studied law at the University." He is a real newspaper man, the publisher of the Kennebec Journal, and has been governor and state treasurer of his state.

Father Ehrle, the director of the Vatican library, has been appointed a member of the Academic des Inscriptions, which is one of the five academies that make up the famous Institut de France, and the one that presides over history, archaeology and ancient Oriental languages. Father Ehrle is a German and a Jesuit. He is said to be the living authority on the care of books and on the preservation and restoration of old manuscripts.

Mrs. Boorman Wells, the "suffragette," said at a women's luncheon in New York: "You may ridicule us as you please, but when we get the suffrage in London we shan't abuse it as some of your Colorado women do. I heard two Denver men talking at dinner the other night. 'Hello,' said the first, 'there's a Philadelphia genius who has invented buttonless underwear.' 'Oh, that's nothing,' said the second, 'I've worn it ever since my wife got a vote.'"

For centuries Europe has enjoyed a monopoly on cathedrals, the highest exponents of Christian architecture. During the last few years, however, nearly a dozen beautiful structures have been in course of erection or have been completed in the United States, and the time may come when the whole land will be dotted with these masterpieces of art. One of these, now building at St. Paul, under the direction of Archbishop Ireland, will be one of the finest in this country.

Aerial letter boxes have been placed in all large tenement houses and apartment buildings in Budapest, Hungary. When the postman enters the hall on the first floor of a building he places the letters in the boxes allotted to the different families. A spring is then pressed and electricity does the rest. The boxes are shot up to the floor required, where they remain until emptied, or until the postman comes again and brings them down by touching another spring.

Before leaving Christchurch for the Antarctic regions, says the Westminster Gazette, Captain Shackleton, the commander of the last British south polar expedition, was duly sworn in as postmaster of King Edward the Seventh Land. He has been authorized by the postmaster general of New Zealand to open an office in that most southerly of the King's dominions, to issue stamps and transmit mails as opportunity offers. These south polar stamps will doubtless be prized by philatelists and other lovers of curios.

Investigating the effect of compressed air on health, two British engineers have shown that a pressure of ninety-two pounds a square inch—more than six atmospheres—may be endured without unpleasant results. The pressure must be taken off at a uniform rate, however, at least twenty minutes being allowed for each fifteen pounds of reduction, and capillary circulation in the body must be kept up by muscular exercise during compression. Slight temporary neuralgic pain in the arms was the only ill effect of the great pressure.

The Rev. Dr. R. S. MacArthur of Calvary Baptist Church, New York, said at a dinner, apropos of international marriages: "Some of these marriages are, from every point of view, desirable. Some again are—but a dialogue will illustrate my meaning. 'Oh, Helen,' cried a girl worth \$18,000,000, 'do you think the duke is sincere?' 'Sincere?' was the reply. 'Why, of course he's sincere. He hasn't got a dollar to his name.'" Dr. MacArthur paused. "Or this," he added: "A young marquis rushed upon his American fiancée and shouted bitterly: 'Cruel, heartless girl! You swore you loved me, and now I discover that your father is a bankrupt.'"

## THE WEEKLY HISTORIAN



1388—Earl of Douglas killed at the battle of Otterbourne, Northumberland.

1460—Edward IV. defeated the Lancastrians at Barnbury.

1554—Queen Mary of England married to Philip of Spain.

1603—Coronation of James I. of England.

1600—Battle between Champlain and the Indians in Essex county, New York.

1657—The first Sulpicians arrived in Canada.

1661—Schenectady purchased from the Indians.

1689—Forces of William III. defeated by adherents of James II. of Killecrankie.

1766—Treaty of Oswego, making peace with Pontiac.

1711—A British and Colonial fleet sailed from Boston for the conquest of Canada.

1722—New England colonies declared war against the Indians.

1758—Amherst and Wolfe captured Louisbourg.

1753—Crown Point abandoned by the French on the approach of the British. English took Ticonderoga from the French.

1762—Moro fort, at the entrance to Havana harbor, stormed by the English under Admiral Pococke.

1773—The city of Guatemala laid in ruin by an earthquake and the eruption of a volcano.

1780—Rocky Mount, a British post on the Catawba, taken by the Americans under Gen. Sumter.

1789—The department and secretary of "Foreign Affairs" created by act of Congress, but changed to the department and secretary of state soon after.

1804—The American squadron began the siege of Tripoli. The New York State Society of the Cincinnati decided to erect a monument to Alexander Hamilton.

1806—Buenos Ayres taken by the British.

1818—Duke of Richmond became Governor of Canada.

1821—San Martin proclaimed the independence of Peru.

1828—Gilbert Stuart, American portrait painter, died in Boston. Born in Narragansett, R. I. Dec. 3, 1755.

1830—Charles X. of France suspended the liberty of the press.

1833—Lisbon surrendered to Dom Pedro.

1838—Bolivian troops entered Lima.

1852—Hudson river steamer Henry Clay burned near Yonkers, with loss of 52 lives.

1854—The cholera made its appearance in the Massachusetts State prison at Charlestown.

1856—Robert Alexander Schumann, composer, died. Born June 8, 1810.

1868—Territory of Alaska organized. Military government ceased in Arkansas, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia and Florida.

1870—Benjamin Nathan, a wealthy Hebrew citizen of New York, found murdered in his home; the mystery of the crime never solved.

1877—Statue of Richard Cobden unveiled in Bradford, England.

1883—Capt. Matthew Webb drowned in attempt to swim the Niagara whirlpool rapids.

1884—The Imperial Federation of Great Britain and Her Colonies formed in London.

1889—Insurrection in Honolulu.

1897—United States Congress passed the Dingley tariff act.

1898—City of Ponce, Porto Rico, surrendered to the Americans. The American troops advanced on Ynaco, Porto Rico. Prince Karl Otto von Bismarck, German statesman, died. Born April 1, 1815. Pugwash, Nova Scotia, totally destroyed by fire.

1899—Gen. Heunreux, ex-president of Hayti, assassinated by Ramon Caceres. Final sitting of the Peace Conference of The Hague. Reciprocity treaty between France and the United States signed.

1900—Russians captured the forts at Newchwang.

1901—Free trade between the United States and Porto Rico proclaimed.

1907—The foundation stone laid for the Carnegie Palace of Peace at The Hague. Edmund W. Pettus, United States Senator from Alabama, died. Born July 6, 1821. Japn assumed control of Korea.

Other Harmful Food Adulterants.

Dr. Wiley, the government chemist, says that the poison squad experiments have shown that both benzoic acid and benzoate of soda should be excluded from foods as being injurious to digestion and to general health.

Miners Uphold Unionism.

The convention of the Western Federation of Miners at Denver reaffirmed its allegiance to the principles of industrial unionism and to aid in the solidifying of the working class.

## POLITICS OF THE DAY

### Tariff and Trust Issue.

Is the Republican party responsible for the trusts and combines that are sheltered by the tariff? As every trust or combine will be found to have some monopoly behind it, the party that has fostered this monopoly, principally by enacting high and in some cases prohibitive tariff rates, which prevent competition from abroad, must be held responsible. How is it possible to separate the two questions of tariff reform and control of the trusts which are so blended with each other?

To escape from this dilemma of the tariff that has fostered and protected the trusts, the Republicans declare that tariff revision and regulation of the trusts are absolutely separate and distinct questions. Thus President Roosevelt in 1903 declared in a speech to his fellow citizens:

"One point we must especially keep in mind. The question of tariff revision, speaking broadly, stands wholly apart from the question of dealing with the trusts. No change in tariff duties can have any substantial effect in solving the so-called trust problem."

With all due deference to President Roosevelt, we submit that he is in error. While it is true that no amount of tariff revising could effect a complete solution of "the so-called trust problem," it is and long has been notorious that a number of trusts are sheltered by schedules that enable them to practice an oppressive extortion.

Why have the Republicans refused to reform the tariff schedules that protect the trusts? If the Republican leaders are correct in saying that "no change in tariff duties can have any substantial effect in solving the trust problem," why keep these high schedules on the statute book? These tariff schedules do not produce revenue, because they are too high in most cases to permit the importation of foreign products. So why not abolish or reduce them as the people desire?

The much boasted trust-busting of President Roosevelt has never attacked those industrial combines that fatten by the tariff, but he has confined his efforts to another class of combinations of which the Northern Securities merger is the type. Results show that was a waste of effort, for the combination still exists between the Great Northern, the Northern Pacific and the Burlington railroads, and the rates they charge have not been reduced by the dissolution of the merger.

The prosecution of the Standard Oil Trust, with the resulting large fines, has not reduced the price of oil to consumers, nor have the fines been collected, and probably never will be. The Standard Oil Trust was fined for receiving rebates from the railroads and the trusts may still be secretly receiving rebates for aught any of us know. If the tariff law had not been adroitly changed by the proviso that protects the oil trust from competition the price of oil would undoubtedly have been 50 per cent less than it has been for the past ten years. Otherwise the fear of foreign oil being imported would have forced the trust to keep down the price of its products to prevent loss of trade.

If the steel trust and the sugar trust and all the other trusts were not likewise protected by the tariff the price of their products would be reduced for the same reason—to protect their trade from foreign competition.

It is only now just before election when the people have been aroused by the discovery of how greatly they have been plundered by the tariff protecting the trusts, that some of the Republican politicians are willing to declare for tariff revision "after election." If the dark political clouds should again roll by and the people again show their belief in Republican promises by electing a Republican administration and a Republican Congress, would not the Republican managers endorse the position of President Roosevelt quoted above and decline to reform the tariff?

### Sectionalism in 1908.

Probably there is less likelihood of control in the national election this year through merely sectional politics than in any Presidential year in which the majority of voters deciding the results were born since 1856. With thirty-three years as approximately a generation, a new generation born between 1856 and 1896 came into majority control between 1880 and 1890. The results showed in the sweep which followed the campaign of education in 1892. They have appeared since in ways which show that the sectionalism of 1890 will always have 1892 as its line of division from more modern politics. Still it would be rash to hope or expect that practical politicians will be wholly or immediately disappointed in calculations made in advance on sectional feeling as strong enough to swing half a dozen states by the sectional appeal, open or covert, which will control one of them.

Ideal conditions call for the support of principles, not men, with a sort of second best ideal calling for support of the best man, no matter what state he comes from. New York, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Mississippi, Kentucky and South Carolina could never be counted together

### PARTY LEADERS SEE BRYAN WINNER AT THE POLLS.

Leaders of the Democratic party—men who have been staunch supporters of Bryan in the past, as well as men who have been bitter political enemies of the Nebraska commoner—after Bryan's nomination gave out signed statements respecting his chances at the polls. These statements are printed herewith:

The industrial conditions will make Mr. Bryan a winner, independent of other things. What would a man think who had had his income reduced and his expenses immediately increased? The thought is going on over the country. It is all very well to say that the same depressed conditions would have taken place under any President. Perhaps so, but the party in power should have tried to meet conditions. Instead of that extravagance has increased in hard times. Conditions for business men and labor have been made harder. Many are discouraged. I really think that it will be better for the commercial interests of the country for Mr. Bryan to go to the White House. He and I have had our differences, but that trifling matter will not interfere with his being President.—Roger Sullivan, National Committeeman from Illinois.

Bryan will win this time. He will have the popular sympathy. There is something about the long and hard fight he has made which will command the respect of the country. By his own sheer force and ability he has kept himself in the front as a champion of the people. They believe in him and have confidence in him more than ever. This faith has extended to those who would have nothing to do with him in 1896 and 1900. I feel that he will be successful this time as a President who may have the satisfaction of knowing that he has received this high honor because he had a message to the American people that will cause them to respond with their highest award.—D. R. Francis, ex-Governor of Missouri.

It would not be worth while talking about electing Bryan President until we could feel sure of carrying Nebraska for him. I do not mean by carrying the vote of Nebraska is necessary, but that if we cannot swing our own State to our favorite it means that the Middle West is not giving him sufficient support to bring him under the wire a winner. I think that any honest investigation will show any observer that Nebraska is now for Bryan and will be for him in November. We believe we have a good chance of sweeping the Middle West. That is what we propose doing.—J. C. Dahlgren, Mayor of Omaha.

I sometimes regret that Bryan does not pay more attention to his political organization, but when I see the success I am ready to think that he is better off going ahead saying over and over again what he wants instead of playing politics. It is only necessary to travel through the Middle West to learn that he is growing stronger. It is remarkable that so much has been accomplished by one man. This genuine devotion to him, in my opinion, will have more to do with his campaign than any other feature. I think that he will be elected.—D. J. Campau, ex-National Committeeman from Michigan.

Don't overlook the fact that Roosevelt has been in a position to appropriate and to a degree carry out many of the Bryan ideas. The people have no confidence in his ability, and desire to confine his work aggressively. They will believe that Bryan will not fall them in this fight. He will get more votes than Taft in November and will be the next President.—Gray Woodson, Secretary National Committee.

Bryan is the strongest man who could be nominated for President. It is nonsense to say that the country would be better off with a reactionary candidate. The nominee is stronger in our State than any other Democrat. We have more than even chances in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.—John W. Kern of Indiana.

We could not do better in Indiana than to have Bryan as the candidate. I think he will get our electoral vote. If he does it means that the swing is with him and that he will get the votes of the Middle Western States and his election will be assured.—Thomas Tuggart, Chairman National Democratic Committee.

geographically on an approach to such a basis. We may approach it much more closely this year than it has been approached in living memory. When they have to understand the entire United States before they can begin to use a scratch block for tabulating probable results, there will be a great exodus of political experts from the profession and a very great increase in interstate travel and study for educational purposes. When Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee as the first far Western States took the lead in breaking down the early combinations based on Colonial history, that generation saw a closer approach to such conditions than there has been since the sectionalism which led up to and out of 1860 afterwards allowed. But if there will always be a political geography which every American who expects to understand national politics must know by heart, the vote for principles and the vote for the best men who represent them is the only reliable safeguard against the "delivery of the goods" on contract to those who "pay the freight" in advance for the votes of states in job lots at wholesale. So much voting for the best principles and the best men will be done this year that the results on the political geography of the future may surprise political experts whose education began with tables headed by 1860 in the political almanacs.—St. Louis Republic.

### A Too Busy Life.

The messenger from Mars surveyed the multitude which had gathered to meet him with undisguised interest. Nor did he hesitate to propound such inquiries as his curiosity prompted. "Where do you all live?" he asked, speaking generally.

"I live in the future," said a young man good humoredly.

"And I in the past," said an old man.

"How odd! And does none of you live in the present?"

"There was an awkward silence.

"Pardon me," said the Martian hastily; "perhaps I press my questions too closely."

At this a voice from the outskirts of the crowd spoke up, saying, "We have not yet learned to live in the present without interruption of business, don't you know."—Puck.