

INGERSOLL ON UNFITS.

"For thousands of years men and women have been trying to reform the world. Why have the reformers failed? I will tell them why.

"Ignorance, poverty and vice are populating the world. The gutter is a nursery. People unable even to support themselves fill the tenements, the huts and hovels with children. They depend on the Lord, on luck and charity. They are not intelligent enough to think about consequences, or to feel responsibility. At the same time they do not want children, because a child is a curse—a curse to them and to itself. The babe is not welcome, because it is a burden.

"These unwelcome children fill the jails and prisons, the asylums and hospitals, and they crowd the scaffolds. A few are rescued by chance or charity, but the great majority are failures. They become vicious, ferocious. They live by fraud and violence, and bequeath their vices to their children.

Against this inundation of vice the forces of reform are helpless, and charity itself becomes an unconscious promoter of crime.

"Nature produces without purpose, sustains without intention, and destroys without thought. Man has a little intelligence, and he should use it. Intelligence is the only lever capable of raising mankind. The real question is, can we prevent the ignorant, the poor, the vicious from filling the world with their children? Can we prevent this Missouri of ignorance and vice from emptying into the Mississippi of civilization?

State Control of Reproduction.

"Must the world forever remain the victim of ignorant passion? Can the world be civilized to that degree that consequences will be taken into consideration by all?

"Passion is, and always has been, deaf. These weapons of reform are substantially useless. Criminals, tramps and beggars and failures are increasing every day. The prisons, jails, poor-houses and asylums are crowded. Religion is helpless. Law can punish, but it can neither reform criminals nor prevent crime. The tide of vice is rising. The war that is now being waged against the forces of evil is as hopeless as the battle of the fireflies against the darkness of night.

"There is but one hope. Ignorance, poverty and vice must stop populating the world. This cannot be done by moral suasion. This cannot be done by talk or example. This cannot be done by religion or by law—by priest or by hangman. This cannot be done by force, physical or moral.

"To accomplish this there is but one way: Emancipate the women.

"Science must make woman the owner, the mistress of herself. Science,

the only possible saviour of mankind, must put it in the power of woman to decide for herself whether she will or will not become a mother.

"This is the solution of the whole question. This frees woman. The babes that are then born will be welcome. They will be clasped by glad hands to happy breasts. They will fill homes with light and joy.

"I look forward to the time when men and women by reason of their knowledge of consequences, of the morality born of intelligence, will refuse to perpetuate disease and pain—will refuse to fill the world with failures. When that time comes, the prison walls will fall, the dungeons will be flooded with light and the shadow of the scaffold will cease to curse the earth. Poverty and crime will be childless. The withered hands of want will not be stretched for alms. They will be dust. The whole world will be intelligent, virtuous and free."

SAVING TREES.

The Bohemian Club of San Francisco, which is in the habit of going off into the redwoods once a year to celebrate a jinks, has done a good thing in buying up a tract of beautiful forest land. It has agreed to pay \$27,500 for the property. Thus it is made certain that at least one fragment of redwood forest in California will be saved from the lumberman's ax.—Oakland (Calif.) Enquirer.

POLITICAL.

"At this rate the insurrection will drag along through the summer and autumn of 1900," warns the Chicago Tribune (Rep.), "and will soon begin to cut a figure in national politics as well as in international comment."

It is the belief of the New Orleans Picayune (Dem.) that "many thousands who oppose the republican party because of its expansion policy, and thousands more who would oppose its protective policy, will nevertheless vote the republican ticket if the national democratic convention in 1900 again adopts the silver plank upon which the party stood in 1896."

"The information now and then comes through authentic channels that certain common pleas judges of the state are actively interesting themselves in behalf of the Quay machine in the election of delegates to the republican state convention," says the Philadelphia Press (Rep.). "It would not be difficult to name some of these judges and to give the corrupt reasons why they are meddling in factional politics. The people have no security whatever when the courts have been debauched and dishonored by machine bribery. There is too much of that sort of thing in Pennsylvania at this time."

"THE WAR MAY LAST ANOTHER YEAR."

Exactly what the original plan of the expedition to Laguna de Bay was I am unable to say, but I have reason to believe that it was bound first for Santa Cruz, then along the lake west to Calamba, and finally it was intended closing in from the south to catch the insurgent general Pio del Pilar in Paranaque. As a matter of fact, a division general, at the head of fifteen hundred men, or about half a brigade, was sent out to capture Santa Cruz, and then ordered to desert the place and return to Manila. Incidentally the general captured five launches which were in the hands of the insurgents. After three days' work, the general managed to get these launches over the obstructions and bar at the head of the Santa Cruz river. Aside from the capture of these launches, which were practically valueless to the insurgents, the expedition accomplished nothing except the killing of a few insurgent soldiers. Santa Cruz is one of the richest towns of the interior of Luzon. Its situation is such that it would make an excellent base of supplies for expeditions to the southern provinces. To have occupied this town and garrisoned it would have been an excellent strategical move. To take the place and then withdraw is in the nature of a piratical raid. General Lawton expressed his great regret, at the end of this expedition, that he could not leave a garrison at Santa Cruz. Why he was ordered to withdraw without completing the intended movement seems inexplicable. It is generally supposed, however, that General Otis thought it best to concentrate all his available forces for an immediate move against the strong position of the enemy north of Malolos.

General Lawton, in an interview after the Santa Cruz expedition, said that if the insurgents continued to fight, it would take one hundred thousand American forces to pacify the islands. By this he meant that it would be necessary to leave a garrison in every town we occupied. The fact is that there are not enough soldiers here to enable General Otis to carry on the war with that effective rapidity which is the only humane way to make war. He cannot at present spare a single man for garrison duty in Santa Cruz or any other town we take. With the line around the city to hold and the railway line to protect, he has only enough forces left to continue moving against the insurgent army on the north. It looks as if the war may last for another year.—Manila correspondence Harper's Weekly.

Doogan—"Casey fill in yesterday an' was near drowned—ut wuz up to his ankles." Regan—"Up to his ankles and near drowned!" Doogan—"Faith, he wint in head furst."—Brooklyn Life.