

**NO CHOICE.** The crime of making fraudulent election returns is not one of degree. A man who has committed a thousand crimes cannot ask to be released and rewarded because he is able to prove that some other man has committed eleven hundred. The fact remains that he is not fit to mingle with better men. Upon the same principle Congress rightfully denied a seat to the Missourian who fraudulently counted about two thousand votes for himself, and proved that his opponent made a similar error, amounting to about five thousand votes. While it is a fact that the investigation proved that one man was more practiced in the art of juggling with the returns than was the other, it also evolved the fact that neither is fit to occupy a seat in the House. In contests of this character, Congress certainly is justified in adopting the rule: of two evils choose neither.

**PUSH IT ALONG.** The sentiment in favor of the Post Check currency is growing and spreading each day. At the first glance, it seems a trivial matter, but a closer inspection will discover much good in it. Not only will it facilitate business and cheapen exchange, but by transforming wealth into non-transferable orders, it will lessen crime by removing the temptation. There will be less train robbing, and thieving by mail clerks, consequently more peace and safety for the traveling public, and fewer men behind prison bars when the Post check has been placed in operation. This fact alone should be considered sufficient to insure its early adoption. If you favor the system, your support has a value. If you take two cents' worth of interest in the matter, expend that amount in postage and give your congressman the benefit of your opinion.

**DISASTER IMMINENT.** Anticipating the annexation of the Danish West Indies, shrewd Yankee dealers are depositing rich stores of merchandise upon the islands, expecting to rush them into the United States in the interval which will elapse between the date of the ratification of the treaty and the readjustment of the tariff. Here is a national calamity impending, for there is grave reason to fear that, by reason of the tariff evasion, prices of these goods may be lowered a trifle, which could result in nothing less than national disaster. The destructive effects which must follow a reduction in

the price of anything which we consume, cannot be measured. The very thought of such a catastrophe causes shudders of apprehension to play tally-ho along the spinal cord of every captain of industry in the land. And if the slipping in of a few bales of goods through the back door threatens to so seriously cheapen that which we purchase to eat, wear or otherwise employ, what would be the result if the gates were thrown open and all countries invited to sell us goods as cheaply as they can? Horrors!

**LIONIZED.** Some men are engaged in killing thousands of pigeons at Kansas City. A news reporter refers to them as "brave boys in the field." Many kinds of men have been lionized, but it remains for Missouri to take up the work of heroizing the butchers of innocent birds.

**PLEASE REMIT.** Governor Savage went clear to Missouri to deliver the joyful tidings that Nebraska's depleted treasury was to be swelled by the return of every penny of the money lost through Bartley's over-confidence in his friends. Only one thing is wanting to make Nebraska's joy complete, and that one thing is—the money.

**JOKE.** The Peerless—you have all read of the old Spanish Grandee who insisted upon being addressed as "The Duke," totally disregarding the feelings of other dukes.—The Peerless has spoken, has accused General Funston of talking too much. Somehow that suggests hurtling stones, glass houses, etc. The Peerless is certainly growing facetious.

**EXTREMISTS.** Like the French, many Americans are extremists. Having measured a man or an idea, they deliver their verdict, which is usually pronouncedly favorable or unfavorable. To them a man is either saint or sinner, either phenominally good or hopelessly bad. An example of this will be found in the case of two admirals, rivals for public favor. Some editors declared one of them to be all that is manly and soldierly, the other all that is low and base. Other editors treated the matter in the same strain but transposed the admirals. Another illustration of this same spirit may be found in an editorial from the Grand Island, (Neb.) Independent, which says:

"J. Sterling Morton seems, since the Meserve decision, to have in a degree, changed his views as to the Bartley jail delivery. Mr. Morton, to the surprise

of many, at first wept copiously for the martyr and expressed his belief that Bartley was more sinned against than sinning, but now, in a denunciation of Meserve, concludes that Bartley, too, is unworthy of confidence and that no man would think of mentioning his corrupt name in connection with the meanest office within the gift of the people."

Note that the editor of the Independent cannot conceive that a man who is fit to live outside of the penitentiary may be also fit to remain outside of the State house. We do not believe that because a man follows the path which leads from the State house to the penitentiary, the return trip should be back along the same path to the old office and honors.

If all the men not qualified to hold office were to be immediately consigned to prison, there would not be enough left outside to guard the gates. Many Americans are extremists, and the editor of the Independent is one of them.

#### PERSONAL PRIVILEGE.

Editor The Conservative:

Allow me to encroach again upon The Conservative's space. I am in receipt of a booklet entitled "God or No God," by John H. Anderson, Osceola, Neb. But I am at a loss to know whom to thank, for the kind sender forgot to enlighten me. I suspect though that he is a member of The Conservative family who lives in Osceola—that-being the post-mark on the wrapper,—and I would here extend my thanks for his consideration of my "soul's" welfare. Most likely the sentiments in my article "Another Gate Ajar," of recent date, has aroused his solicitude for the independent wanderers.

This booklet being one of some two hundred paragraphs, a book would be required to answer it, but as yet I have not become a bookmaker. And moreover, although it is new to me, the booklet must be an old messenger in your neighborhood, its copyright year being 1889. So its contents must long since have been threshed and rethreshed, an unproclaimed truce being now established between the undefeated sides. I do not care to precipitate anew the fracas, and what here follows is in nowise an answer to the suggestions in the booklet, but rather is in addition to my recent article. Indeed I admit that I would make a sorry bluster in endeavoring to answer the booklet, for it employes that subtle method, suggestion. It is by following the suggestions of the operator that the subject becomes hypnotized and passive.

The realms of the earth and the realms of thought each contain innumerable jungles in which any man can be lost. Self-consciousness, the ego, substance—or matter and force,