

use, and throwing the armor of "private citizen" around their own shoulders, arm themselves with slander and falsehood, and strike their victims fierce and fast, and innocence often falls before their relentless charges.

Why is it that a politician is any more open to such charges than any other citizen? The answer that is usually given is, "He is a public servant, and his acts should be discussed in a public manner." But if we should hear a vague report of some misdemeanor of a business man in our city, we would be slow to repeat it above a whisper, unless it were backed by strong proof. The merchant is also a public servant, not quite in the same sense as the politician, but none the less a servant, for he serves us with what we want and receives his pay from us as a public, yet how many of us know, when we make a purchase of sugar, whether we receive sugar, or sand and sugar: or if purchasing extract of *corn*, whether it is corn starch or something else we receive. Then why not start an immediate war on all the merchants because we have heard that some of them are dishonest.

One reason that politics are as we find them, is because of our indiscriminate war on them. But, at the same time I do not believe they are one-tenth as bad as some try to make us believe them. There is a certain class, who are always bemoaning the corruption of the age. No matter at what time of the world's history we take it up, we find whiners, who, like Hamlet, are sighing and moaning about the "times being out of joint:" and, like Hamlet, instead of setting to work to rid their country of a few men who could be spared to advantage, they conclude that everybody is corrupt but themselves; and that the only thing they can do is to complain because they were cast upon the world at such a degenerate time.

Let us discard the foolish and pernicious practice of abusing a man as soon as he gets an office, and see if we cannot

respect ourselves; then others will respect us, also.

What inducement do we offer an intelligent foreigner to adopt our form of government, if we make him believe that we are a nation of defaulters and mountebanks, he will say, "If that is the fruit of republicanism, we had better bear the ills we have, than to adopt such as the Americans say they have, for at present we can have some self respect." But the whiners say, "we can not cover up the truth, and if such irregularities do exist, it is our duty to expose them."

Well, we agree with you, if they *do* exist, but be sure they are practised, before you parade them so conspicuously before the public, and see that it is not the old habit that so many fall into, of making what happens to-day the greatest that ever did happen. To illustrate:—some men will say of at least fifty days during a single winter, "This is the coldest day I ever saw;" or, in speaking of a lady, "She is the best-looking woman I was ever acquainted with;" while the facts are, they have felt much colder weather, and seen ladies much handsomer, if they would only take the time to consider.

History shows that we never had a more prosperous time in our government than at present, and if we would take the trouble to examine the local papers, we would find that there always has been the same cry of fraud in local affairs, as at present. But some will point to our daily papers and say,—“See what a record of crime they furnish.” We should remember that they give the aggregated crimes of forty millions of people, and with our railroad and telegraph facilities, the combined crimes of the nation can be reported at one point in a few hours.

And more, the people are becoming more civilized and christianized in the broad sense of the words. What a couple of decades ago would have been considered as chivalric, now is considered as barbarous. Take, for instance, the assault of Mr. Brooks on Charles Sumner