

Highest of all in Leavening Power—Latest U.S. Gov't Report

# Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

views, and very few of them think alike. Any speaker who may appear before this club and say what he honestly thinks is sure of a respectful hearing and then much vocal antagonism. Last Sunday night the club heard an address on "Social Phantasms." The address was not intended to fettle the fancy of the audience, and it didn't. One or two of the ten or fifteen who commented on it expressed partial approval. The others opposed its views with much force and enthusiasm. Just one man who did not raise his voice publicly, assured the speaker privately that he endorsed what he had said. What the members of the Social Science club took the most decided exception to was the statement that mankind is not worse today than it has been in the past, but rather better. It was said that "with all the hardships of the poor today, with all the combinations of capital and oppression by wealth, there is reason to doubt if the rich man has increased in power or oppression or the poor been made to suffer greater hardships than in the centuries immediately preceding. Indeed, with all of the combination and oppression of the rich, the poor man of today enjoys a freedom and prosperity and privileges that he has never enjoyed before. Nothing in the present day equals the injustice and oppression and inhumanity of the system of actual physical bondage, the vassalage to feudal lords of a few hundred years ago. If the rich lived forever and were always rich the phantasm of accumulated wealth would be much more than a phantasm. But rich men die; fortunes disintegrate, wealth is scattered. With comparatively few exceptions there has been no perpetuity of wealth in one family. The poor man accumulates money. He dies and leaves his wealth to several children. The children waste the money in extravagance or lose it, and the grand children of the rich man may be cast back into the ranks of the poor. It is often so. Probably there never was a time when the poor man had so many opportunities, when it was possible for him to rise as high."

It is the popular view among socialist agitators that mankind is sunk in an abyss of misery beside which all preceding conditions were comfortable and just; that the poor are today downtrodden as they have never been before, and that their cause is well nigh hopeless. One does not have to be an optimist to take the opposite view. In this year, 1866, whatever may be the condition of the poor, they are not mere chaff and chaffed with the beasts of the field. They are free and untrammelled. They vote and make laws. There is no caste to repel them, no aristocracy they may not penetrate and override. The rich man was a poor man only yesterday. The great men come not from the ranks of the rich, but from the cabins of the poor. Things are not wholly bad in a condition that makes it possible for poverty and obscurity to evolve a Lincoln, a Grant and a Garfield. There is no achievement open to the rich that the poor may not compass.

The announcement is made that Prof. Herbert Bates will on April 1 become literary and musical editor of the Cincinnati Commercial Gazette. Prof. Bates has, for several years, been an instructor

in the English department of the university, and is at present musical editor of The Courier. His appointment to a responsible position on the Commercial Gazette is a compliment to the university and to The Courier. Prof. Bates was first engaged to do general literary work for the Cincinnati paper. Since that time, it is said, his musical criticisms in this paper, came under the eyes of the managers of the Commercial Gazette, and they have notified him that he would be expected to do musical criticism also. The State Journal says: "Mr. Bates is unusually well equipped for several kinds of highly specialized newspaper work. He has been literary in instinct and literary enthusiasm. He is well grounded in music."

During the period of Prof. Bates' connection with The Courier there has been a serious and intelligent effort to provide genuine musical criticism, and I

believe it can truthfully be said that Prof. Bates has made a distinct achievement in this direction. It has been said that the criticisms that have appeared in these columns have been unduly severe. It was the purpose of The Courier and the musical critic to have the criticisms entirely impartial and honest, and this endeavor was fairly carried out. Care was taken to confine the criticism to such performers as appeared before the general public, and a proper distinction was made between professionals and amateurs. While there may have been some complaint, it has not been demonstrated that the statements which have appeared under the heading, "In Related Keys," have been unjust in any particular. The effect of such criticism has been wholesome. The Courier will part with Prof. Bates with regret, and that regret will doubtless be shared by the music loving people of the city.

Playwrights who write poor plays and who have wives who cannot act are sometimes sensitive. In the early part of the present theatrical season Charles H. Hoyt, the author of "A Texas Steer," "A Midnight Bell," "A Tin Soldier," etc., and the husband of Caroline Minkel, brought a new play, "A Contented Woman," and his new wife, to Lincoln. A small number of people, including the newspaper critics, saw the performance. They were not impressed with the play or the wife. The general disapproval

found expression through the medium of the critics, who frankly said Mr. Hoyt's play was poor and added that while Caroline Minkel may be pretty she cannot act. All this was displeasing to Caroline Minkel and to Mr. Hoyt. Next week another of Mr. Hoyt's attractions will appear in the city, and by Mr. Hoyt's directions, all of the newspapers will be denied admission to the theatre. Reputable newspaper writers will not bear Mr. Hoyt any grudge. Things have not been coming his way lately, and they will doubtless be disposed to make due allowances. Rumor has it that since Caroline Minkel succeeded Flora Walsh Mr. Hoyt has not been a contented man."

A new political party was organized in Nebraska the other day. It is the opinion of the New York Sun that "there can't be much prospect of good days for a new party which, like this one, has two hundred members. The many makes the party unwieldy. Why two hundred members are enough for two hundred new parties. When a man finds that there is a vacuum in his heart not to be filled by republicanism, democracy, populism, prohibition, or silver, and looks about for a party of his own, he wants a party that will really be his own. He wants a machine that he can be sure of. Ishmael doesn't spur his camel into the desert for the purpose or in the hope of finding an oasis hotel full of guests. Alone in the desert.

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