

to law, invites other forms of law-breaking. Law is only a set of rules which men agree to to govern their conduct. Law is a convention agreed to by society. Denial of its application and binding authority on one person destroys the whole fabric or agreement. Lynchings, saloons run in defiance of the law and smashing raids such as Mrs. Nation has been making, break the agreement. The highest type of men and women, the perfect product of civilization keep the law no matter what the provocation to break it. The adoption in Kansas, by women who possess the ballot, of the hatchet as a means to bring about a reform is a confession of impotence that is not encouraging to the believers in the power of the ballot. The raids are an especially bad example to the young who love the sounds of breaking glass, whose idea of music is big drums and trumpets and marching, pounding feet. They like the drums because they suggest things going to smash, or big guns shooting cannon-balls into ships and forts and knocking them over. Imagine the unbridled altogether unexpected rapture of the boys, who following Mrs. Nation, are allowed to smash large plate-glass windows; boys, whose meagre opportunities in window smashing, had been confined to breaking panes in untenanted houses on the outskirts of the city.

#### Ethelbert Nevin.

There is none to take his place though there have been and are greater composers. Modern times are not prolific of lyric writers. Of course there are mediocre coon song writers and balladists, but of poets and song-writers there is now not one in America. Nevin's milieu was song writing though he had an ambition, which he was sure would be realized, to write operas and longer and more complicated themes than songs, which pleased the critics, the singers, maidens and little children. Within a narrow range Nevin's genius was universal. His work was like those exquisite small figurines green and gray with mould of Egypt and Greece. He had a great respect for his work and its perfection is a direct result of the care and reverence of a genius. The music that he wrote for Stevenson's verses for children illustrate his comprehension of the limitations of those who were to sing his music, which for the Stevenson libretto never leave the tones and the mild swing of a child's voice.

#### The Queen's Influence.

Queen Victoria began correspondence with the sovereigns of Europe soon after her coronation. For twenty years she received advice and she never outgrew a modest air of receiving more than she gave. But in the last forty-three years of her life kings of all the realms of Europe wrote her on questions which concerned their own and their people's welfare and Victoria only remotely. To most of them she was related. All of them yielded her a reverence her long experience and sound council had earned. With limited constitutional powers, her personal influence was unique and unmeasured. After about thirty years, things begin to happen over again but the average man or woman does not notice that he is on a wheel, that the wheel revolves and that he has seen and felt the same things before, until the age of forty-five or fifty. Some ingenuous people never find out that there are only new things enough to last about twenty years.

Victoria did not grow blasé but she

observed at a very early age the rule of the recurrence of types, accidents and circumstances. She had a marvelous memory and her knowledge was available on demand. Her ministers learned to appreciate the value of her advice and her resourceful command of comparatively similar situations. Large as the salary paid her as queen, together with what seems to Americans the foolish grants to the members of the royal family, no student of government denies that the English people in the years of Queen Victoria's reign got the worth of their money. In wars prevented, in the extension of commerce, in the good will maintained by Victoria with the nations of the earth. Just a few days of war costs more than the price paid for all of Victoria's services. Her warmest admirers believe that had she possessed her former strength the Boer correspondence and negotiations would not have terminated so abruptly and that consciousness of the price her failing strength had caused her people, finally killed this dear, wise old lady.

#### Professor Ross.

The embarrassment caused the committee of the regents which appointed Professor Ross might have been avoided if the fusionist regents had not insisted upon the approval of the action of the committee at the last meeting of the regents. When the motion was discussed Regent Morrill informed the board that neither he nor Mr. Gould would vote for the motion and that it would be better to wait until absent fusionist members were present. Disregarding this advice the motion was offered and there being only regents Von Forell, Teeters, Morrill and Gould present, the motion was lost. Consequently Professor Ross is occupying an anomalous position, which will doubtless be corrected at the next regents' meeting.

#### The City of Lincoln.

Nothing in the current history of this city is more impressive than the rarity of hold-ups and burglaries. Only a few years ago, men returning to their homes late at night after an evening's application to the study of a complicated law-suit or from casting up their accounts, or from any one of the various forms of excessively hard labor which so many patient, overworked citizens are obliged to perform at night, walked in the middle of the street not because the sidewalks are too narrow but because they are too near dark alleys where hold-up men lurk in shadow. That their precaution was very wise may be demonstrated by a superficial examination of the newspaper police court reports of 1896. In January of that year it was not safe to leave horses tied while the owner attended a church meeting for instance. One minister's horse was unharnessed and left standing near the buggy, sans bridle, collar, back-band or blanket. The rest of the month was filled with porch climbing raids, tills were robbed, and Hans Christianson who had just withdrawn all his savings from the bank lost \$1,800. There were also constant hold-ups and street assaults. In February the sneak-thieves devoted a large share of their time to robbing hen-roosts and foot-pads waited on dark corners for the absent-minded, home-returning citizen. March was characterized by the cracksman. May was a month of burglaries. On the 11th, 17th, 18th, 25th, and 27th of the month burglaries were committed. In June thirteen houses were burglarized, four hen owners lost all their

fowls, and sneak thieves stole overcoats, lap-ropes and harnesses innumerable. July was the worst month of the year. A circus arrived and the thieves who accompanied it were allowed to pursue their work undisturbed. In July of 1896 thirty-three complaints are recorded by the police reporters in the daily papers of Lincoln. Twenty successful burglaries were committed. Pick-pockets filled the city. Losses were reported but no pick-pockets are reported arrested. August was a month of sneak-thievery and of eight burglaries. September, October and November, the thieves in the city were evidently not reinforced by circus followers. Hen-roosts, entrys, ice chests and groceries furnished food and overcoats to the leisure class of the old residents of Lincoln whom the present administration has driven out of town. The record of December is a very long one. It was cold and no man with an overcoat dared to leave it in an unlocked hall—how-so-e'er defended. There were thirteen burglaries.

Anyone who cares, can verify this list and add to it by consulting a file of any Lincoln daily. The papers do not now often contain reports of hold-ups, robberies and complaints of pick-pockets, because these men have been driven out of town. As soon as they arrive in Lincoln and before they begin their work Detective Malone whose knowledge of and acquaintance with criminals is exhaustive noses them out, they are arrested and Chief Hoagland talks with them. They invariably admit their business and he gives them the choice between a trial on their record and an opportunity to leave town immediately. Not one has yet cared to remain for trial. And this is the inhabitants of this town can go home safely at any hour of the night, can go to sleep in the calm serenity that they will find their treasures in the morning where they left them the night before. In these days or on these nights hens remain on the roosts their owners have built for them, horses remain in their stalls, and harnesses and lap-ropes are not molested. Sneak thieves, hobos, tramps of all kinds no longer infest the town, there are the same number of horses, hens, just as many watches and rings and many more well-filled pocket-books. But among grafters Lincoln has a bad name. It is "no good." The mayor and the chief of police are blind to the advantages of a treaty with the grafters who are now living in town where the mayor and his appointees are willing "to live and let live."

#### Mr. O. W. Webster for Winnett.

"I am for Winnett for renomination, and the more I hear the arguments used in the interest of Mr. Woodward, the more I am convinced that Mr. Winnett is the man for the place. I hear it repeatedly urged that Dr. Winnett should not be renominated because he failed to pardon Lou Vance, lately convicted in police court for assaulting H. B. Sawyer. It shows the weakness of Woodward's campaign to have to resort to such arguments. Every well informed man in Lincoln knows that the mayor has no power to pardon any one convicted under the statute of a misdemeanor, or to remit any fine or penalty under a statute at any stage of the proceeding. Vance was convicted under a statute. The mayor has pardoning power in cases arising under the ordinances of the city, but no further. All Mr. Woodward's arguments when analyzed are found to be equally weak. His promise to establish a fire

station at Twenty-seventh and Y streets, to be manned exclusively by colored firemen, can not help but render his campaign ridiculous. Every one knows that the mayor has no power to establish a fire station except through the aid of the council, and if such action on the part of the council could be secured, it would mean that some station which we now have would have to be abandoned, since the city is limited by statute to a five mill levy for fire protection, and it requires every cent available now to maintain the stations we have, and before any new stations are started the firemen now serving should have their meagre salaries raised. Mr. Woodward's campaign seems to be one of campaign promises, that if fulfilled would bankrupt the city. We now have a clear, business administration conducted on business principles and we should support it."

O. W. Webster.

"Marrying a man," observed the Philosophical Girl, "is strangely like buying a piece of chinaware. It may have a break or a flaw in it that you cannot see when you buy it, but time reveals it. So time brings to light the hidden flaws in a man's character and shows just what of matrimonial bargain one has made."

"But there is no need of buying a piece of china with a break in it," said the Disputatious Girl.

"Yes," signed the other, "but in the case of marrying, you know, it is always the man who does the ringing."—Chicago Tribune.

#### More Like It.

Briggs—I see that Russell Sage says every body should save twenty five cents of every dollar earned.

Migge—I wonder if he has followed that rule?

Briggs—No; I think he must have saved a dollar out of every twenty-five cents.—Town Topics.

Mrs. Chugwater—Josiah, I've been reading about this ship subsidy business. What does "subsidy" mean?

Mr. Chugwater—I should think you could tell from the word itself. Sub, under; soda, a drink. Under the drink. It means these new-style boats that are built to sail below the surface of the water.—Chicago Tribune.

Younghusband—Merciful heavens, woman! What do you want with all that soap?

Mrs. Younghusband—I don't want the soap at all. I bought it for the wrappers, so that I could get one of the lovely prizes.—Town Topics.

Miss Sinnick—What do you think of Miss Heigh?

Miss Verigood—Oh, I don't know; I think she lacks repose.

Miss Sinnick—Impossible, my dear; she lives in Philadelphia.—Town Topics.

"How was the dinner last night?"

"Fine, old man, the best I ever drank."—Town Topics.

"I don't see how he can live as he does and sing."

"I don't see how he can sing as he does and live."

One touch of nature makes the whole world blush.