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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1906.

### MERCY OR JUSTICE?

Whatever the authorities of Vermont may do with Mrs. Mary Rogers, who is under sentence to be hanged on December 8 for the murder of her husband, and however much all of us might desire to see the country spared from that ghastly spectacle, it is nevertheless true that the law must be enforced. The fact that the prisoner is a woman is the strongest argument against her execution. But there is no distinction in law as to sex. Under the present statutes she deserves no more consideration than a man. Undoubtedly she was guilty. She would be convicted again on the same evidence and the Supreme Court of the United States has declined to interfere in her behalf. The Governor may do the same. The dispatches tell us that the hundreds of good people who have begged for mercy are not going to beg again, in view of the revelations made public at the prison investigation, and, indeed, it is claimed that they would prefer to see a Vermont woman die on the gallows than to have the old testimony thrust out again in the courts.

Public sentiment is a powerful factor, but often it defeats the aims and ends of justice. Thousands of persons who know absolutely nothing of the evidence in the Rogers case have appealed by letter and petition for a commutation. It is simply an expression of sympathy from those who abhor the thought of ignominious death for a woman. It is beautiful, perhaps, but is it right? Will it not have some effect upon the Governor or the Board of Pardons? Might it not turn them from the matter of duty? It too often happens that when a wretch is facing the gallows this same element of sympathy rises up when there is no thought of the victim, lying under his six feet of earth. All of us will admit that when a woman is fitted with sudden anger, which forces her to kill, she has strong provocation for the act. It is different, however, when she kills her husband that she might enjoy the love and companionship of another man. That, we believe, was the motive behind Mrs. Rogers' deed. The question, then is one of law. Vermont does not say that the man who slays his wife shall be hanged while the wife who slays her husband must not die a life for a life. Both are equal under the statutes, and every man may have his own opinion about the mercy or justice of the statutes.

Therefore, if Mrs. Rogers is guilty, and the jurors and the courts have decreed that she is, it is only proper that she should die. The law cannot be repealed just now to save her. Our indignation may be aroused, our bosoms may rebel, but our tears and our prayers cannot stop the execution. The subject, of course, is one of tremendous bearing, yet there is an organized body to say whether the law shall stand. Certainly it should not if the wailing of the multitude shall prevent its enforcement.

The published report that President McKinley of the Mutual Life Insurance Company will resign, will bring to many minds the fact that resignation if it proves to be true, and it might be to true. The McKinley records were extraordinary, if not fabulous, and much of the credit has been due to his work. The New York World, which from day to day has been wailing a bitter warfare on McKinley, believes that a splendid triumph of public opinion will have been achieved when the president is driven from the post of power and profit which he has so long enjoyed.

"The World has said," it continues, "and with general approbation, that the three M's must go—McCurdy, McCall and Murphy. McKinley is going soon. Murphy is the toughest and may last a little longer. What of McCall? What are the trustees of the New York Life doing to meet the disclosures of infamy committed under their names and nominal authority? Do they imagine that this heaving wave of moral indignation that is sweeping over the country will leave McCall untouched? Let them learn wisdom from a glance at the bold Hyde and Alexander are already gone. McKinley and his family are going. Jordan and Hamilton are in exile. Every man smothered by the testimony is grievously hurt. And the exodus has but begun."

The Mutual Life cannot prosper if McKinley remains or if he retains any business or managing connection with the company. He not only took a big part of the funds for his own salary, but he looked well after the comfort of his family, and \$1,000 of the policyholders' money was squandered daily by the trio, which was an invitation to other grafters on the inside to pick as they pleased. And yet they tell us that nothing good has come out of the investigation.

### NEBRASKA'S MORAL SPASM.

We are not going to shock and offend good people by coming forth as the champion of the cigarette, nor are we going to say that the man who occasionally smokes one is ill-bred. Now and then the little thing brings comfort. Our Nebraska has many strange laws and strange people in Nebraska—there is a law which says that a man cannot smoke. The other day one Patrick Raymond was arrested for rolling a pinch of tobacco on the public highway. He was sent to court, fined fifty dollars and taxed with the costs. The court held that he was a manufacturer.

Naturally, many of us will be rather inclined to protest against such unjust legislation, at least as it appears to us. Raymond was not the first victim, and the officers are always on the alert because they need the costs. It helps them to keep the wolf from the door. There is nothing so abominable as the cigarette fiend. Doubtless hundreds of young men and boys are in the asylums today because they were addicted to the habit. But there are grown men who are not debauched by it. All of us know of many physicians who are incessant smokers, and while that does not prove that it is a healthy or harmless pastime it does establish the fact that all persons who smoke are not apt to reach the asylum. The real enemy of the cigarette is the man or woman utterly ignorant of it and who contend in their wrath that it is filled with opium and other drugs. If that were true the article would not be so cheap. It is right, of course, to discourage the habit, especially in boys, but there is no sense in the law enacted by Nebraska. It would seem that the legislators should join the real fiends in the crazy wards.

### THE SENATORIAL GRAFTER.

United States Senator Burton, of Kansas, will be sentenced by the Federal courts in St. Louis to-morrow. Three times he has been indicted, and on two occasions he succeeded in having the verdict set aside on technical grounds. Now he will appeal. It is very hard to put the stripes on a high class thief; it is more difficult still to send a member of the Senate to the penitentiary. That, however, does not mean that a Senator is above the law. From the moment of his indictment Burton ceased to act as a member of the body which he has disgraced. His commission will not expire for more than a year. The call from the public to resign has been ignored. In the meantime the State of Kansas has but one representative

in the highest branch of Congress. The fact that he has been disgraced may serve to bring about the reformation of the Senate. The chances are that he will resign his seat. The seat will probably remain in the hands of the Senate until after the day of Burton's resignation from the Senate. The proper thing to do is to expel him. Kansas is entitled to two members. One of them today can render no service; he cannot occupy his seat and he ought to be expelled. The Senate has just changed with nearly all, but just now it has an opportunity to purge itself by dismissing the grafter.

### BONAPARTE AND DEWEY.

Secretary Bonaparte is not in sympathy with the suggestion of Admiral Dewey and the desire of President Roosevelt for a big navy. In this respect, as it has been pointed out, the Bonaparte-men will appeal to the taxpayers even if it does not suit the fancy of those who believe that the United States should be on an equal footing with Great Britain and Germany in fighting strength. Indeed, naval experts lean to the belief that our next trouble will be with Germany, and while there is no indication at present to give support to that fear, there is so telling when our fire-eating President will suddenly break forth to read the riot act. For our own part we believe in a great navy. It is not necessary, perhaps, to squander billions of dollars to get it, but as this is the leading country of the earth it ought to be inferior to none on the sea. Moreover, it is not always possible to secure extra battlements after war is declared; it takes time to build them, and while the prayer of all is that we may not be involved in another war it can do no harm to be prepared for it if war must come.

And it is natural, too, to suppose that Admiral Dewey is a better judge of naval matters than Secretary Bonaparte. Experience and achievement are in his favor, although that does not mean that the Secretary is weak or ignorant. He is one of the best men in the cabinet, and yet Dewey is a king among naval warriors. Germany is building more ships and we might as well keep pace.

It is said that the Catholic diocese of Richmond will not permit weddings after 4 o'clock in the future because of the gaudy and dazzling displays of the past. This ruling will be rather hard on the women, who cannot reasonably expect more than one wedding in six years.

A Chicago newspaper is worried because the manufacturers turn out 100,000 more coffins every year than are needed. Possibly they believe in giving a good margin to take care of Chicago strike victims.

Already the impression has gone forth that there will not be an honest count of that New York vote if the twenty-one lawyers can prevent it.

The question of the proper way to handle the masher has not been settled, although it ought to be without gloves.

Having turned turtle so often it is about up to Mr. Theodore H. Price to do the telescope stunt.

Just as soon as the sheep follow Mr. Price into his den he will proceed to trim them.

Some of the football games are also as brutal as fraternity initiations.

### Reflections of a Bachelor.

It is very exciting to kiss a girl before she lets you. If a man wants to marry a girl it is a sign she thinks a lot of others do. A jolly father of a family is about as jolly as some of the jokes he tells. If a woman really has small feet she worries all the time for fear somebody else's are smaller. Most anybody seems to be able to catch a crook, but the best lawyers and the sternest judges don't seem to be able to hold him.—New York Press.

### Some Bad Characters.

The Raleigh and Durham people are having a little squabble over the case of an objectionable character who was dismissed by a magistrate of the former city upon the agreement that he should leave the capital city. He kept his word and turned up in Durham the following day. Of course it's all wrong and Durham has a righteous kick, but so long as all the cities of North Carolina are in the habit of doing just as that Raleigh justice did there is little consistency in the protest.—Salisbury Post.

## THE FRIENDS OF HIS CURE

What New Thing Do You Think Treatment At Greensboro, Which Saved His Front Teeth.

About eight years ago I took to my bed with influenza, pneumonia, and was confined there for two years. To alleviate the intense suffering I had to take morphine, and in a short time found that the habit was fastened upon me. When I was again able to be up I commenced to investigate the various cures for my disease, and after thorough investigation, and upon the advice of my family physician, I decided to enter the Keating Institute at Greensboro, N. C. After taking a six weeks course of the treatment I was cured, and discharged on the eighth of July, 1902. Before taking the treatment I honestly believe that it would have been death to me to be without the drug. To-day I am thankful to say I have not the least desire for drugs of any kind, nor have I had since taking the treatment. My cure is absolute and to any one who may be so unfortunate as to be addicted to drugs of any nature I would earnestly recommend the Keating Treatment, and especially the Greensboro Institute.

My stay at the Institute was made as pleasant as could be, and I was treated most kindly and courteously by the officers and physician, as were also all the other patients.  
H. C. FULTON.  
White Road, N. C., Nov. 7, 1904.

If you have a friend that might be benefited, send his address to the Keating Institute, Greensboro, N. C.

### Personal and General.

Rev. David Hillhouse Buel, the new president of Georgetown University, is one of the pronounced opponents of the present methods in football and says one of the greatest drawbacks to a college has to combat is that "the public too often judges of the strength of a college by its strength in the line of athletics."

Ontario's new postmaster-general, A. B. Aylesworth, who is seeking election to parliament in succession to Sir William Mulock, is described as closely resembling Abraham Lincoln in appearance, being six feet six inches in height, spare, a life-long temperance worker, a champion of provincial rights and a strict Presbyterian.

President Roosevelt has received twice the number of honorary degrees ever given any other president. Two doctorates have been conferred upon him this year. His bachelor of arts was conferred upon him twenty-five years ago by Harvard. In addition he may now write after his name eight LL. D.'s and one L. H. D. He is the first president to receive the latter degree.

It is sixty years since Rev. Henry Francis Lyle, who wrote the beautiful hymn, "Abide With Me," died at Nice, and this year a final effort is being made in the far-distant little seaport in Devonshire, where he lived and ministered for twenty-five years, to complete the rebuilding of the little memorial church which has taken the fishermen thirty years to build.

The promotion of Brigadier General Weston, chief of the subsistence department, to become Major General Weston in command of the northern division of the army, with headquarters at St. Louis, removes from the official circles of Washington one of its most popular and picturesque characters. For his genial and readiness of retort this little Fishman has been dubbed the Charles O'Malley of the army.

The standard silver coins being used in the Philippines are known as "Conants," having been named for Charies A. Conant, who was sent to the islands to prepare a coinage system. The authorities in Washington objected to this nickname and directed that the coins should be known as Philippine currency. Before this order arrived they were universally called "Conants," and notwithstanding the official mandate the name has stuck.

The oldest enlisted man in point of service in the United States Army is said to be Color Sergeant William G. Hardy, of the Fourth Cavalry, which was stationed for the last year at Fort Myer, Wash., Washington, but which left recently for the Philippine Islands. Born in the army, he has spent thirty-eight years in the service and expects to die there. His father was a regular and was stationed at Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island, N. Y., when William was born. That was fifty-eight years ago.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of C. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure.

FRANK J. CHENEY,  
Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1888.

(Seal) A. W. GLEASON,  
Notary Public.  
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