

SEARCH OF HAPPINESS

Is the Keynote of Human Life

Man Loves Nothing But Happiness, Always Striving For it and Lives For it Alone—Rules For Individual and Social Life.

(By JEAN FINOT, Editor French Review of Reviews.)

Man loves nothing but happiness, always strives for it and lives for happiness alone. Transform his sensibility, ennoble his feelings and instead of doing harm, he will live to do good, because this has become one of the necessities of his life.

Maine de Biron has made this profound remark: "Give the strongest being a feeling of sympathy and love and all his efforts will be to assist the weak instead of opposing them."

We preach to man the dogma that he must sacrifice his own person to the species and still he never ceases to affirm his personal right to a happy life. The word of the founders of religions are broken against the wall of the invincible exigencies of our life, our rights, our happiness. The noblest, the most unselfish spirits often disagree with their abstractions when it comes to carrying them out in real life and the religions then speak of "rewards" as the infallible means to attract the mortals and keep them on the hard and narrow path of virtue.

"Rejoice and be exceedingly glad for great is your reward in heaven—Thine Alma may be in secret, and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly."—Matt. v 12, vi 4.

"Rejoice ye in that day and leap for joy, for behold your reward is great in heaven."—Luke vi 23.

"Sell that ye have, and give alms, provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not."—Luke xii 33.

"But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame and the blind, and thou shalt be blessed, for they cannot recompense thee, for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just."—Luke xiv 13, 14.

"Go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast and give to the poor and thou shalt have treasures in heaven."—Mark x 21.

Nature herself seems to favor the rights of the individual. We admit without contest that the latter makes sacrifices for the sake of the species, but it is easily seen that these sacrifices are in inverse proportion to the value of the individual. As this latter rises from the organic ladder its immortality in favor of the species diminish in quantity and quality. The Myxomycetes, as well as certain cryptogams disappear as individuals as soon as they are born. But if we mount a few steps we see how the individual frees itself until we reach the human species where the individual demands absolute individual liberty.

As happiness is the goal of man as well as of society, it is easy to lay down the rules for the individual and social life. Man being a social creature and his happiness impossible apart from that of society, his personal happiness must be in accord with the collective happiness. This accord is created on the basis of justice which in turn establishes duty. Their principles strive towards collective happiness, which again is nothing but the sum of individual happiness. The individual happiness must subordinate itself to justice, which as the vigilant guardian of collective happiness remains the only absolute condition for individual happiness. The two forms of happiness must be reasonable, for the mortals tolerate none but reasonable beings.

An involuntary misgiving arises in us in regard to a moral based upon happiness. Will that not mean the turning loose of all passions and all evil desires?

Not when you remember that we have in view a humanity that, without being superior, still has an idea of its true interests. It must have reached a certain culture as well as a reasonable comprehension. This education will triumph sooner or later. Humanity must first of all give up its false ideas in order to give us just men.

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This education is peculiar in this, that it imposes upon us the duty of being our own educators. It demands of us that we control our own lives and bring them into harmony with our own real happiness in order to secure the happiness of others.

A moral based on happiness as the final end is at any rate far preferable to one based on fear. It is more dignified, more generous, and first of all more human. It acts in broad daylight, and is divinely simple. The obligation to do your duty, solely for duty's sake, today appears, in spite of the authority of Kant, a childlike and unrealizable idea. Herbert Spencer was right in saying that a human society living according to the principles of Kant would be unbearable.

The idea of absolute duty, apart of individual and social interests, makes us smile as does the invisible wants to rule as a supreme being. The salvation which the moral based on happiness promises us is far more certain than that promised by morals based on heavenly rewards or fear of hell.

NEWS FROM THOMASVILLE.

Meeting of Womans' Missionary Society—Bank Building Being Remodeled—Personal Notes.

(Special to The Times.)

Thomasville, Aug. 9.—The State Womans' Missionary Society of the Reformed Church held its annual meeting in Heidelberg Reformed Church of this place Thursday and Friday, three services were held each day and an interesting program had previously been arranged for every service. About fifty delegates were in attendance and were entertained by ladies of the town. Interesting and instructive addresses were made and the music throughout the meeting was very fine. Saturday morning the entire society were carried to the orphanage in a body, where they were entertained by the children. Prominent among the visitors were Mesdames L. E. Whitner, C. C. Bost, P. L. Murphy and Rev. P. L. Murphy, of Hickory; Mrs. G. T. Crowell, of Conford; Miss Ida Hedrick, of Lexington; Rev. Dr. J. C. Leonard, of Lexington; Mrs. W. H. McNairy of Lenoir, and Miss Addie Carrier, of Concord, corresponding secretary of the society.

The street and lawn in front of the Reformed church and parsonage has been graded down, plotted, sowed in peas and now it makes a very pretty appearance.

Miss Blanche Austin left Saturday for Blumont, near Black Mountain, to spend two weeks before opening of the graded school. Rev. and Mrs. M. L. Kestler have been there for sometime and have invested in a

summer home in that pretty little mountain resort.

Mrs. W. D. Cochran and children, of Laurens, S. C., arrived in the city Saturday and will spend several days visiting the family of Mr. G. T. Cochran.

The First National Bank is having its banking room remodeled, repainted and otherwise improved. When completed it will be very pretty.

The military company held its first drill Friday night since returning from the encampment and great improvement was shown as a result of the encampment. They are a fine looking set of young men and reflect credit on the town.

Country watermelons are coming to the local market in great numbers. They are large and of a fine quality.

A big picnic was held at the Zion Reformed Church, two miles north of here Saturday. A large crowd from here attended. All had a good time.

A meeting of the directors of the People's Building and Loan Association has been called to be held in the First National Bank Wednesday night.

If the street committee were allowed to use the money expended one year on the streets for the purpose of placing prominent curb stones along the sidewalks of the town, they would aid greatly in protecting the walks and keeping them up, besides it would protect the walks from washing rains which tears away all the work that has been done during the year. One year's street tax would do the work without extra expense.

The recent rains have greatly delayed the farmers in this section and has washed the land terribly. Older people say that the land is washed worse now than they have ever seen it.

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WOULD PREVENT ELECTION.

Supreme Court of Palmetto State to Hear Application for an Injunction Against Dispensary Election on August 17.

(By Leased Wire to The Times)

Columbia, S. C., Aug. 7.—Chief Justice Jones has called a special session of the state supreme court to meet here August 12 to hear the application for an injunction against the holding of the dispensary election on August 17. The rule will be directed against the Charleston county election commissioners, and is asked for in the name of Thomas Jellico, of Charleston.

The petitioner alleges that the act calling for the election is unconstitutional, the specific attacks being on the ground that the purpose of the act is not expressed in its title, and that the act is class legislation, giving to certain of the counties the privilege of holding the election and withholding the choice from the counties now dry.

The Crime of Idleness.

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CHANCE FOR DEMOCRATS.

(Special to The Times.)

Washington, August 9.—Gillon Gardner veteran newspaper correspondent and close friend of Theodore Roosevelt, believes the sixty-second congress or the lower branch thereof, will be overwhelmingly democratic.

"The democratic party," in my opinion," said Gardner, "has not had as good issues on which to go before the people since following the McKinley bill. In the congressional elections following the passage of that measure, the republican party was all but obliterated."

"The republican party today hasn't a leg to stand on, when it comes to going before the people and asking for votes. There is no excuse the stand-patters can put forth for breaking the platform promises. The republican platform promised revision downward. This promise was not kept, for no sane person can say conscientiously that the Payne-Aldrich revision was downward. Cold figures stamp the lie on the assertion of the Jimtownites that the revision was downward."

"President Taft's administration has been a failure from the day he entered office. He first put enemies of Theodore Roosevelt in his cabinet, and then proceeded to undo the things Roosevelt accomplished in the way of bringing law-breaking corporations to the bar of justice. The prosecuting machinery of the government is now in the hands of the corporations. Roosevelt policies are in the ditch, and have been since March 4, 1909."

"The present executive will wait in vain for the endorsement of a single one of his official acts by Theodore Roosevelt. Taft fooled Roosevelt, because the latter believed him to be a man of his word. Theodore Roosevelt had no sooner turned his back than the man he made president betrayed every pledge he had made to the people about believing in Roosevelt policies."

"Not only have the republicans broken the important tariff pledge, but all the other promises made the people. We should not forget that among other things the republican platform provided for 'immediate' admission of Arizona and New Mexico into the union. When the bill came up in congress after election it passed the house and died in the senate, where it was killed by the New England tariff barons, who feared lest the West be represented too liberally during the revision of the tariff."

"Aldrichism and Cannonism are two strong issues and still undoubtedly receive much attention in the congressional elections next fall. Since Roosevelt has been out of office they have been bigger figures than Taft, whom they have used to endorse every bit of juggle they have indulged in."

Gardner believes that following the return of Roosevelt, the formation of a new party is likely.

Washington's Plague Spots

lie in the low, marshy bottoms of the Potomac, the breeding ground of malarial germs. These germs cause chills, fever and ague, biliousness, jaundice, lassitude, weakness and general debility, and bring suffering or death to thousands yearly. But Electric Bitters never fail to destroy them and cure malaria trouble. "They are the best all-around tonic and cure for malaria I ever used," writes R. M. James, of Louellen, S. C. They cure Stomach, Liver, Kidney and Blood Troubles and will prevent Typhoid. Try them, 50c. Guaranteed by all druggists.

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