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WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6, 1899.

**For President,
1900:
Hon. W. J. Bryan,
Of Nebraska.**

HYPOCRISY.

To be sincere, i. e., without wax, was considered by the ancients one of the supreme virtues, and any person having a transparent character was accordingly honored above his fellows. It is still so considered, and every one is judged largely by whether he be considered sincere or not. This is so in every walk of life. Any man's erroneous faith of any kind, and his wrong acts also, are excused if one believes him sincere. The wrong is condoned, as an error of the head and not of the heart. It is, indeed, a noble trait. It is one of the saving virtues of fallen humanity that there is a disposition in every person, not wholly lost, to think others sincere, even where grievously and manifestly wrong. The principle is often carried to the mischievous extent of believing every one right in any opinion he entertains, provided he is sincere. Of course, that is an extreme, which a novice in moral science will at first regard; yet it illustrates how highly sincerity is prized as a cardinal virtue.

Now, every virtue has its opposite. The antithesis of sincerity is hypocrisy. As sincerity is one of the noblest characteristics of the human soul, so hypocrisy is one of the basest. Indeed, it is probably not going too far to say the lowest and meanest. Alas, it is too true to say that it is also the most common. It has always been the most conspicuous evil in religion, as it is in business and social life. Every one who reads the Bible remembers the Scribes and Pharisees and the fearful denunciations of Him "who spake as never man spake." All remember Judas, the hypocrite and traitor, who betrayed his master with a hypocritical kiss. All are familiar with Annanias and Sapphira, whose base hypocrisy and lying resulted in their death. Of all low, mean, dirty, detestable things hypocrisy is the lowest, meanest, dirtiest and most detestable. There are, doubtless, degrees in it; but any degree is too much of it. If a man is a man, he should be open, honest, sincere. It matters not what other qualities a man may have, if he is a hypocrite he is dangerous. Job had many noble qualities, but who, with any virtue in his soul, does not despise him, because he met his fellow captain and, as he kissed him said, "Hail, brother Amasai!" and smote him with his sword under the fifth rib and slew him? Many do the same now, in one way and another. Great friends in pretence, but quite otherwise in fact; to the face and, insofar as they can use another, with him, but behind the back, and no further use desired or possible, not only indifferent but hostile. Away with such! An opportunity, and a Job act would occur. Hypocrisy should be abhorred. Decidedly better plain bluntness than sneaking hypocrisy.

The President's Message.

The message to Congress of President McKinley, printed today, is one of the most remarkable official documents that has been promulgated in this country for some time, though both Mr. McKinley and his predecessor have been responsible for messages of no mean novelty. In all fairness to Mr. McKinley it can be said that the paper is fresh proof, if such were needed, that the nation has a politician for president, and one without who lacks the fertility of expedient and the decisiveness that go to the make-up of even the first-class politician. The message, so palpably in many parts a defense of the course of the administration, has clumsy rhodomontade where an able advocate would have put clever justification, while the references to the "market price of liberty" and the "stringent anti-trust law" that his Attorney General has made a dead weight on the Federal statute books, can scarcely be considered happy in the present state of the public mind. Emergencies take the measure of men and of parties. They bring the opportunity of the highest success, or danger of the deepest disaster. No president of the republic since 1868 has had so many emergencies to meet as Mr. McKinley. His was the opportunity to indicate to 70,000,000 of people what would be the clear policy of a victorious party of which he is the official head, and, therefore, what will be the policy of the government in conditions of the gravest possible import in both domestic and foreign affairs. Let him who can, find aught of clear policy in Mr. McKinley's message as regards the two most absorbing public questions—trusts and the disposition of Cuba and the Philippines. In regard to trusts there is only a deal of awkward stump oratory, a warning not to act rather than an encouragement to his party to act vigorously, while we are told how naughty the rebels have been in the Philippines, and how the broad mantle of executive "clemency" will descend upon them, instead of what should be done with the islands. Like when the Maine was blown up in Havana harbor, the Chief Executive has nothing to recommend. As to Cuba, there is the citation of the Congressional pledge to let Cubans govern themselves, followed by a picture of the dire things that will follow if the pledge is kept. Hawaii is to have the unutterable bliss of a Federal judge, and Porto Rico a ready-made "temporary government," though everybody had supposed that it had that boon already.

Though Mr. McKinley indicates no policy for his party in the crisis which confronts the country, it is plain enough that his procrastination means "laying on the new world burdens of the old." By dodging and delay it is hoped to impress the public that militarism and imperialism have been fixed on the country by force of circumstances and not by the deliberate choice of the Republican party. Congress can be spared the necessity of action or declaration of intention, beyond voting men, ships and money to prosecute the war on the Philippines, while the people are tickled with reports of victory and habituated, without sudden jars, to bearing the expenses of war. By and by when a reckoning is called the Republican party can hold up its hands and exclaim: "Thou canst not say I did it."

Upon a few points, however, Mr. McKinley is clear-

sidey steal is to be put through, the existing gold standard is to be maintained through a patent process for issuing and selling gold bonds, and the control of the currency is to be more than ever turned over to national banks. Mr. McKinley's advice to Congress may be summed up as follows:

Let Cuba and the Philippines rock along.
Cavort and cuss the trusts but don't touch them.
Tickle bond buyers with a promise of bond whenever they want them.
Keep campaign contributors in good humor by fixing of good firmly on the country.
Prepare to re-fire the greenbacks and give national banks a free hand.
Yank the Eagle's tail.
Hooray for the flag!—News and Observer.

His Life Was Saved.

Mr. J. E. Lilly, a prominent citizen of Hannibal, Mo., lately had a wonderful deliverance from a frightful death. In telling of it he says: "I was taken with Typhoid Fever, that ran into Pneumonia. My lungs became hardened. I was so weak I could not even sit up in bed. Nothing helped me. I expected to soon die of Consumption, when I heard of Dr. King's New Discovery. One bottle gave great relief. I continued to use it, and now am well and strong. I can't say too much in its praise. This marvellous medicine is the surest and quickest cure in the world for all the Croup and Lung Trouble. Regular sizes 50 cents and \$1. Trial bottles free at Theo. F. Klutz's drug store; every bottle guaranteed."

Advertisers Take Notice.

Owing to the fact that several of our customers may want to change their advertisements the same day and as it is likely to delay the paper, we must ask advertisers to be governed by the following notice in every instance. The advertising patrons of THE INDEX, who desire their advertisements changed, should be sure to have their copy in this office before 9:30 a. m. to insure an insertion the same day.

No Right to Ugliness.

The woman who is lovely in face, form and temper will always have friends, but one who would be attractive must keep her health. If she is weak, sickly and all around, she will be nervous and irritable. If she has constipation or kidney trouble, her impure blood will cause pimples, blotches, skin eruptions and a wretched complexion. Electric Bitters is the best medicine in the world to regulate stomach, liver and kidneys and to purify the blood. It gives strong nerves, bright eyes, smooth, velvety skin, rich complexion. It will make a good looking, charming woman of a run-down invalid. Only 50 cents at Theo. F. Klutz's drug store.

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SALISBURY INDEX.

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