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REVELRY AND MISERY.

EACH HAS ITS PLACE AT THE NATION'S CAPITAL

Where Sweet Charity Discriminates Between Two Classes of Poor, the Worthy and Unworthy.

Washington Correspondence.

Aren't you tired of politics. I am. Let us talk society and fashion for a change. Not any country town, American backwoods style either, but way high up English style, such as we have here at Washington, don't you know.

Why am I so frivolous as to seek to turn away your thoughts from immortal themes in this solemn Lenten season? I suppose it's because solemnity and Lent failed to connect at the capital this year. How could we be pious with all this regiment of sinful lobbyists badgering congress in the interest of the sugar trust, the whiskey trust, the coal combine and all the wicked rest of it right before our face and eyes? How could our congressmen keep track of holy days with all those "sugar stocks" and the other market ups and downs to be looked after? No, sir, it was out of the question. Don't expect too much of human nature. There are only just so many hours in the day, so don't crowd congressmen too hard; there was only just bare time for speculation and society this season. Seek not to uncover the secrets of their over-busy lives. Let their transactions remain for the most part in executive session. It might be that some of them sank so far in sin as to eat meat instead of fish. But society has kept up. The stately receptions, the sumptuous state dinners and the elegant parties, retired when Lent arrived; they gave way to smaller parties, and more of them, to theatre box parties and to every other conceivable species of gayety. The most popular pastime of the season was the "oharity" entertainment. In the name and grace of sweet charity society's grand dames became patronesses of musicales, readings and other diversions, the proceeds of which went to the poor whom we have had more abundantly with us than ever before. Society has danced, sang and laughed much this hard, sad winter in behalf of the poor. Society, as well as other people, and the newspapers, has drawn the line of favor and sympathy between the "worthy poor" and the "unworthy poor." The worthy poor has seen better days, had never asked alms before, had been driven to it this year on account of threatened interference with the tariff, which brought on hard times. The worthy poor shrank from telling of empty stomachs and no coal. Some of

them were so beatifically worthy as to die of starvation without even hinting to their neighbors that they were tussling with death. Society used \$50 lace handkerchiefs to wipe away a tear for such super mundane worth.

But for those other creatures the "unworthy poor," society had only abhorrence and utter condemnation. The unworthy poor went out upon the street and told of their collapsed stomachs, told of little children crying for some of the bread which might have been made of the wheat which the farmers fed to their hogs, told of their human needs in a brazen, shameless fashion. The unworthy poor are shabby, disreputable, dirty looking people; they do not use Sear's toilet soap. They have been known to lie, yea, actually lie, incredible as this may seem to Senators Brice, Gorman and one or two others.

Several times this winter these unworthy poor have violated the rules of the "associated charities" and obtained bread and old clothes at more than one disbursing agency. They are repeaters, these shameless fellows are, to take two loaves of bread instead of one. Society is humiliated that these unworthy poor belong to the human race. There is but one consolation therefor; the last vestige of humanity is rapidly disappearing from multitudes of them; they are becoming fiends with a nightmare of dynamite. Arrived at that last stage in their journey from innocent babyhood, whence every mother's son of them started, society owes it to itself to destroy the bomb-throwing monsters. Call out the military. Speculators in stock must be protected and society must "patronize" dolls fairs and private theatricals to give alms to the worthy poor.

Speaking of our facilities for disposing of the unworthy poor after the fitful fever of life has reached the bomb-throwing stage, reminds me that to-day our big thirteen-inch naval gun, the largest ever fired in America, is to be tested at Indian Head. Our elegant "Dolphin," which was so recently snubbed by President Cleveland, will steam down the Potomac, bearing 150 congressmen, ever so many diplomats and distinguished gentlemen to see the firing and hear the big noise. About \$6,000 worth of powder and other fixings will be used up to-day to show off our big gun. The secretary of the navy will be present and the whole affair will be made as impressively patriotic as possible in order to impress congressmen with the immense practical value of the navy. Scores of congressmen will return from Indian Head just bursting with patriotism, and full of loud boasting over our ability to lick any Britisher who sails the ocean blue.

Down at the navy yard we are making

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IT WAS CHILLY.

Weather Calculated to Cool the Ardor of the Commonwealth Army.

MASSILLION, OHIO, March 26.—The severe cold weather and snow storm froze the vim out of General Coxe's army of the commonweal yesterday, and when the time came for the army to start to Washington a great many had disappeared. About 100 of them, however, faced the storm and started out. Among the arrivals on Saturday was Douglass A. McCallom, who represents Mrs. Lease, and asked permission to have her address the army at Pittsburg, which Coxe refused. Henry Vincent, editor of the Chicago Express, also arrived.

Not to exceed a dozen had overcoats or gloves. They had slept Saturday night on pallets of straw in the airy and cheerless circus tent, and they were greeted yesterday morning by the disagreeable discovery that no detailed arrangements had been made for feeding them. Several hundred persons watched their departure from Massillon. About 3,000 persons assembled at the temporary camp at Reedurban and a host greeted the crusaders at Canton. A heavy snow storm set in before the details of the camp had been completed and the trappers are huddled around a roaring camp fire. About two-thirds of the men enlisted made the trip. Coxe has buried his disappointment over the non-appearance of the myriad he expected, and is exultant over the handful who reported for business.

SENATOR STEWART'S ADVICE.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—Senator Stewart, of Nevada, has sent Mr. Coxe the following message:

"UNITED STATES SENATE, March 24.—DEAR SIR: The preservation of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness was entrusted to the people under the constitution of the United States. A free ballot was the means by which the sovereign people could retain the rights acquired by the patriots who gained the independence and established the government of the United States. There was a time when the ballot placed the control of the government in Washington's, Jefferson's, Jackson's and Lincoln's hands. Such use of the ballot sent terror and dismay to tyrants, despots and plundering oligarchies throughout the world.

"The enemies of justice and human rights predicted that the success of the ballot was temporary; that man was not capable of self-government. The destruction of ancient republics and the repeated failures of the people to govern themselves was cited in proof of their contention that despotism, oppression and slavery were the fate of the human race. There have been no Washingtons,

Jeffersons, Jacksons or Lincolns elected president of the United States in the two decades. A soulless despot of alien origin is monarch of the commercial world. His name is money. His instruments of oppression are banks and bonds. His servants are administrative and legislative bodies. The army you are collecting used the ballot to put the army, the navy and the treasury departments under the control of banks and bond-holders and place in the halls of congress representatives to do the bidding of money-changers.

"The ideas of November are approaching. An opportunity for the people to strike for liberty will again be presented. The old parties, which have surrendered the rights of the people to the rule of concentrated capital, will ask for a renewal of their lease of power at the ballot box. Every movement of the people to obtain relief outside the forms of law will be denounced as anarchy. The purse-strings of the nation are held by congress under the dictation of the administration, and the president is commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States. The attempt of a starving multitude to march to Washington will furnish an excuse for using the power of the governments of states and of the United States to put down anarchy and insurrection. The vigor with which the laws will be executed against starving people will be argument in the next election for continuing in power concentrated capital as a necessity for the maintenance of law and order.

"The sufferings of the people are the result of electing men to office who do the bidding of the money powers, which have destroyed more than one-half of the metallic money of the world by legislation, and cornered the other half. Twenty years of uninterrupted rule of banks and bondholders has concentrated the wealth of the world in the hands of the few, and enabled them to seize the telegraph, the press and nearly every other avenue through which the people can obtain information of the cunning devices by which the parasites absorb what the masses produce. There is but one battlefield where the forces of liberty and equality can meet and overthrow the enemy of human rights. There is no law now on the statute books authorizing the president of the United States to march an army against the people at the ballot box. Every attempt to place the ballot under control of federal authority has thus far been successfully resisted. Let your army be reinforced by the millions of the unemployed and by the wealth producers of the nation, and be thoroughly mobilized for the battle in November, when a victory for

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