

Goodwin's Weekly

Vol. 27

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, JANUARY 13, 1917

No. 27

An Independent Paper Published Under
the Management of T. L. Holman ::

EDITORIALS BY JUDGE C. C. GOODWIN

The Birds

THE last month in Utah has been a hard one on the robins, the wrens and the quail have suffered greatly and the sparrows have had a hard time to make a living. A little company of pigeons that have learned to come to a certain window for food come now and peck on the window with a look that seems to say: "Can you not see that there is no hope for us unless you help us through?"

It is too bad. Everyone should feed the birds in such a winter. Even the sparrows should be fed. If the purpose is to exterminate them, it should not include starving and freezing.

And the robins, the jolly, sociable robins, and the quail, they surely should be looked after and fed. Their loss is a state loss. So innocent are they, so trusting. The spring will not be spring without the robins and the quail are a part of the state's food supply.

Have The Exposition

BOSTON is beginning the agitation for a world's exposition in honor of the landing of the Pilgrims three hundred years ago. This is as it should be, for that landing was in truth a punctuation point in history.

Those old Pilgrims were not a perfect set of mortals by a long way, but they were a marvelous, robust crowd nevertheless. They were seeking a land "where they could worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience," but the germ of charity for the opinions of those who differed with them was not largely developed in their make-up. They had not much use or compassion for any one whose conscience ran in any other groove than their own, which caused them to do many cruel things in their way up toward perfect light. But their work in the mighty aggregate was something so tremendous that it may be fairly set down as a chief factor in the civilization of those nations which we call the enlightened nations of the earth.

In this, the soil they were given to cultivate in the new world and the climate they were given to live in were strong factors.

They were not stronger than were the men who followed Cortez and Pizarro, but they were different.

They were determined to keep all the commandments and the conditions that surrounded them caused them to see at once that their existence depended upon incessant labor. There were no precious metal mines to lure them; there was no soft climate bringing forth spontaneous food supplies, or food in abundance with the most careless cultivation.

It was a fight for life from the beginning, and so with a grim determination they began that

fight and with a tenacity of courage and purpose they kept it up until they made a marked impression on the world. They pushed the little red school house before them into the formidable wilderness and this caused each rising generation to be superior to the one preceding it, and gave a special significance to the reply of Webster to Jackson, when Jackson was president and Webster accompanied him on a trip through New England. Looking out upon the poor and thin soil, Jackson said: "My God, Webster, what can people raise out of this soil?" The sombre eyes of Webster glowed as he replied: "They build school houses and raise men, Mr. President."

So that work and that discipline for a hundred and fifty years had prepared them, both in the aggregate and as individuals, to look with calmness when the mightiest power on earth marshalled its armies and assembled its fleet to subdue them.

Ever since, out from her schools a contingent of men has spread which has given direction to events in our own country, which, by indirection, has influenced the world, softened the ferocities of wars, given women a new place in the societies of nations, made the one man shrink in importance and exalted all men, and vastly reduced the tyrannies which were the rule only a century ago.

So intense was the vitality of old "Eclipse," the wonderful English thoroughbred horse, that he transmitted a black spot on his back through nine generations of colts.

We have always thought that was typical of that race, the fathers and mothers of which in midwinter landed on Plymouth Rock and kneeling awakened that first song of praise on this continent:

"Amidst the storm they sang,
And the stars heard and the sea;
And the sounding aisles of the dim woods
rang
With the anthems of the free."

We hope Boston will go on with her preparations for the exposition. It should be held. Since the landing of Columbus on the soil of the new world, not many events have been more important than the landing of the Pilgrims on Plymouth Rock.

Electricity

BEFORE us is a most interesting article on the constantly increasing uses to which electricity is subjected.

It is a reminder of one of the marvelous facts of history. For thousands of years, electricity as seen in the lightning's flash was but a terror. The ancients assumed that it was the especial agent of Jove to show his power, his approval or disapproval of the works of nations and individuals.

Its unexplained nature, the swiftness of its coming, the ruin it wrought, were all incomprehensible and hence the natural conclusion that it was but the agent of the gods to do their work.

That it was but waiting for man to utilize it for his work never crossed their minds.

That, despite its fierce manifestations, it was

ready to serve mankind in a thousand ways they could not comprehend.

But of all the elements it has more power and less pride than any other. It is ready to ring a door bell or bore a decayed tooth. At the same time it moves the mightiest machinery, and now the United States government is making arrangements to propel some great battleships and to move its heavy guns by electricity.

Still in one sense the ancients were right. It is the working agent of omnipotence, the power He calls into service to light and warm and keep in jarless motion His worlds, even to the remotest boundary of His universe. Without it creation would suddenly become dark and cold; all vegetation and animal life would die—it would mean annihilation.

Men have learned much of its nature and still they actually know about as little of it as did the ancients who watched its power and said with trembling lips: "It is Jove's messenger—no mortal can measure its power."

His Attitude On Prohibition

GOVERNOR BAMBERGER seems determined to make a record on extreme prohibition, which is all right, only to assume that a large portion of the property holders and taxpayers of the state have no rights which the truly good have any call to respect jars upon the sensibilities of old-fashioned people who have old-fashioned ideas of right and wrong.

When the first twelve miles of railroad were built in China it crossed an old graveyard at one point. The wise populace made such a clamor about their dead ancestors being disturbed by the noise that the government stopped the work and tore up the rails. But before doing that, they paid for the work that had been done and the material that had been used. They were "heathen Chinese," but the Christian people of Utah think it unnecessary to make any restitution when they go out to destroy property and make wicked people good by statute.

As To A Merchant Marine

WE have not heard from Washington since congress assembled the words "merchant marine." Is there no senator or representative who can at least try to introduce and urge the passage of an enlightened shipping law?

The president pointed out last summer (what the Weekly had often done before) that for years our country has been like a great merchant who has no delivery wagon, but his remedy offered no hope of a restoration of our merchant marine. He seems to think that for the government to undertake something which private citizens can do infinitely better, and to meet the deficit thus made by dipping into the public treasury for the funds, is vastly better than to pay a competent company a subsidy or a bounty to make up the necessary deficit that at first would be encountered in running ships in competition with the protected ships of Great Britain and Germany.

But to successfully restore our merchant service on the seas requires many things.