

The Dispatch.

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even the corner of the organ. He asks if there is no way by which a living calloso, that roars as with a pressure of 100 pounds to the square inch, can have a "top" stop affixed to it when it comes to church to take charge of the singing?

The Chicago Journal suggests no remedy, we regret to say. Nulances of this character are not at all unknown in Pittsburgh. Some of our most prominent ministers with the tremendous voice is a regular attendant at the church, and when again he is often an Ishmael who wanders from church to church spreading consternation wherever he goes. Generally the devastating howler is a man, but we have encountered more than one woman whose voice was too strong for any but crushing stone, and whose persistent vocal efforts have destroyed the harmony and soul of an entire service.

Seriously speaking, a man or woman who habitually throws a divine service out of gear by his or her vocal bombardment is not subject for discipline, and if necessary expulsion, at the hands of the authorities of the church. Human calliope is out of place where choral or congregational singing is concerned. They are right handy in a number of places, but as a rule, to the detriment of the solemnity of the service of state fish or uripio bananas.

It is inevitable that Bishop Potter's timely remarks at the New York Convention on the manner in which the growth of the city has led to the rise of the piano organ, should be received with approval by those whose toes were trodden upon; but it is singular that the reference to "the royalties of fathers" and "the austere simplicity" of the fathers should be construed by others as obnoxious praise of the idea of class distinction which many people are anxious to see maintained. It is not to be taken as any great exertion of the intellect to perceive that the Bishop was right in claiming that the most democratic settlements are involved in the honors which are paid to virtue and integrity. To object to the praise of such qualities because it assumes the form of saying that they constitute a royal prerogative is pure demagoguery.

But perhaps the most singular criticism of the Bishop's remarks is that given by a New York clergyman who professes entire adherence to the Bishop's view. This gentleman asserts that he believes "every word of it to be the cleanest truth," but he thinks that it is ill-timed, because it might hurt the feelings of some of the distinguished persons who were present when the sermon was delivered. It is hard to conceive of any weaker plea than this. If there ever was a time when it was timely to give serious consideration to the standards upon which this republic is founded, and of the particulars in which this generation has departed from them, it was at the Centennial which celebrated the foundation of the Government. It is not the duty of the clergy to speak on such an occasion, because it might injure the feelings of some, who had perhaps risen to eminence through the violation of the original principles, is simple time-serving. If the truth is never to be spoken, because it may wound the sensibilities of certain distinguished individuals, we may as well give ourselves up to a generation of lying and humbug.

Bishop Potter only spoke the truth which is now impressing itself upon the minds of the vast majority of thoughtful and earnest citizens. The offenders against truth are spoken, and the more thoroughly they are laid to rest, the better will we preserve this country in the purity and freedom on which the fathers established it.

THE OWL AND EAGLE. We regret to learn that the esteemed Mr. Howells, having expressed his disapproval of Dickens and Thackeray, as masters in the art of fiction, is now engaged in the attempt to expunge Walter Scott from the list of authors whose people read nowadays. We are sorry to observe the danger of collision between Walter Scott and Mr. Howells as exponents of different schools of fiction, for the same reason that George Stephenson drew the collision of his railway trains with a cow. It will be bad for the cow.

THE OWL AND EAGLE. We understand Mr. Howells to object to Scott on account of his political predilections as well as his literary style. Scott was a Tory, an admirer of feudalism, a lover of the middle ages, almost as bad as Shakespeare, in addition to being superficial and seeing only the outside show and trappings of things. Some of this is true, but his erroneous application is shown by one fact. Whenever Scott treats of the history of the nation, he writes with a scrupulous fairness. The reader has the liberty left him to sympathize with the Puritan and even the Cameraman. Markham Everard, Henry Morton, and even the fierce Burley of Balfour are as favorably drawn as any of the royalists before; while the characters of Roger, Wildrake, Bothwell, Cleverous and even the Duke of Argyll are drawn with a scrupulous fairness. The reader has the liberty left him to sympathize with the Puritan and even the Cameraman. Markham Everard, Henry Morton, and even the fierce Burley of Balfour are as favorably drawn as any of the royalists before; while the characters of Roger, Wildrake, Bothwell, Cleverous and even the Duke of Argyll are drawn with a scrupulous fairness.

THE OWL AND EAGLE. It is well to say that the youth of this generation, who are the heirs of the tradition of Walter Scott, will not only lose a legitimate field of enjoyment and vast incentives to imagination, but they will miss a positive educational influence. It would be hard to say how many have been discovered from Walter Scott that history is something more than dry bones, and aimed the broad vision that can be obtained by seeing in it the story of generations of life and action; there are numberless cases of this sort. It is safe to say that Walter Scott has done more in the way of putting real life into historical studies for the past two generations, than any other single individual.

THE OWL AND EAGLE. It is true that many of his stories treat of subjects as to the reality of which we have no means of judging. It is also true that he is prone to dealing with battles, plots and heroisms rather than every day events. But Mr. Howells' polemic is not meant to exclude all such things from the list of those that are real. Are there no nobler things in actual life than petty tattle or the futile discussion of imaginary social distinctions? Do the great achievements of history offer no nobler subjects for the pen of the writer than the chronicle of small beer?

THE OWL AND EAGLE. We have a real liking for Mr. Howells as a delicate and neat painter of genre work in fiction. But a genre painter who proceeds to expunge Michael Angelo, Dostoevsky, Tandyke and Rubens from the ranks of art would expose himself to severe but not unjust criticism. If Howells can rule Walter Scott out of the list of live literature it will be the latest example, how

THE OWL AND EAGLE. An eagle soaring in his pride of place, was hawked at by a mounting owl and killed. NEWSPAPER COMMENT IS GENERALLY TO THE effect that experience proved the hundred and sixteen-foot bar at the Centennial ball to be none too long. Still experience is to make another conclusion possible. If the bar had been much longer the chances are that all New York would now be engaged in a life and death struggle with the snakes.

THE OWL AND EAGLE. Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS is quoted as saying that Washington's most servicable trait was "abstinence from sectional or partisan feeling and faithful adherence to the compact of the Union." At a certain point of this entire dissimilarity from the character of Mr. Jefferson Davis, another contrast is shown in the fact that Washington built up the Union and Mr. Jefferson Davis tried to destroy it. The contrast is completed by the fact that Washington succeeded and Mr. Davis did not.

THE OWL AND EAGLE. The report that the B. & O. refuse to pay the coupons of a branch which is guaranteed, but will "purchase them at par," looks like a fine-drawn case of the disaffection between the railroad and the investor. But the distinction may make a difference when it comes to the point of absorbing the branch road.

THE OWL AND EAGLE. It is painful to learn from a report of Lord Salisbury's recent speech at Bristol that His Lordship is very angry at the Parneil movement. In his view the Parneil movement "is controlled by universal greed," "is criminal in its character and is upheld by 'embezzlement and fraud,'" and "other bad qualities." This language is not of that much annoyance over the failure of the Times to make good his charges has made His Lordship very mad.

THE OWL AND EAGLE. An obituary notice of the late Mr. Barnum states that he was a shrewd but not a fastidious politician. Fastidious politicians are rather scarce nowadays. Senator Quay was a fastidious one, but he was a man of high character, and his fastidiousness was in fact, church people generally, Judge White is decidedly popular.

THE OWL AND EAGLE. Judge White lives in a rather pretty frame house on Broad street, in Sawick Park, which is the Methodist Church, of which he is a shining light. He has filled the pulpit once, and has been a member of the church since. Among the Methodists, and in fact, church people generally, Judge White is decidedly popular.

THE OWL AND EAGLE. Poon Charles Clifford, who has been managing the "Uncle Tom's Cabin" show this season, will be sure to get fair play for his yacht in the race for the American cup, because American yachtsmen "can beat the world so easily and fairly that they are never even tempted to be tricky." Would the esteemed Press concede that if Americans could not beat the world so easily that they might be tempted to be tricky?

THE TOPICAL TALKER.

The Role of the Head—Gossip Personal and Otherwise—The Baltimore Oriole. SOME time ago, a friend of mine who was returning from a long tour, discovered that the passenger which he was traveling in was the station near which his home was. If he stayed on the train he found that he would not have to travel to his home. He was so pleased that he knew the conductor of the train very well, and he asked him if he could stop the train at his home. The conductor said that he would do so, but he would not allow him to stop the train at the way station in question, but he said he thought he knew a way to do it. The highest authority could get out where he wished to.

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