

duty more pressing on its Legislature, than to patronize a plan for communicating it to those who are to be the future guardians of the liberties of the nation."

If we follow the successive elections and campaigns through the history of the nation we shall find, almost without an exception, that fraud was practised in every one of them. The election of 1876, still fresh in the memories of many of you here to-night, was so full of fraud that it was necessary to submit the returns to a joint electoral commission in order to obtain an election, and the crisis through which the union passed at that time was surpassed only by that which caused the civil war.

It is useless for us to attempt to enumerate the mischief and strife wrought by the political rings, the more prominent of which was the Tweed ring and at the present time Tammany Hall. Public opinion has destroyed the former and it is the sincere desire of every patriotic honest citizen that the latter share a similar fate. Abolish such rings and abolish excessive legislation in private interests.

"How is this improvement in citizenship to be accomplished."

Introduce such studies into our public schools as will teach the youth his whole duty to his fellowman and to his country. Impress upon him the fact that he is a man among men and that he has a duty to perform towards his fellow man and towards his country that he must not neglect.

Elect men to positions of honor and trust who will work for the safety of the government and for the prosperity of its people.

This nation wants men in such positions, whose character is beyond reproach, who, when a question arises that conflicts with their party platform, but is of benefit to the people, will not be afraid to forsake party and perform their duty toward their fellowmen. The country wants men who are not afraid to follow the example of Sir Robert Peel. When he saw that

the welfare of the nation demanded the repeal of the corn laws—though previous to that time he had been their strongest supporter—he did not avoid his duty but bravely voted for repeal. His action cost him his office—he was then prime minister of England, and threw his party out of power, but he recognized that his duty to his fellowman was greater than his duty to party.

Lord Dalling says of him: "Above all parties himself a party he had trained his own mind into a disinterested sympathy with the intelligence of his country."

Those are the men the nation wants in her legislative bodies and in her presidential chair. How many members of our legislative bodies are worthy of such a glowing tribute?

If they are in the minority, then public opinion should demand a change. The instruments with which that change can be wrought are scattered broad cast throughout the land.

The institutions of learning scattered from the lakes to the gulf, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, stand as beacon lights ever ready and willing to direct the unlearned in the paths of knowledge; yet some have declared this method of preparing men for citizenship to be a failure.

Popular Education has not fully accomplished the work of improving citizenship more rapidly for the reason that it has not been properly applied. Place such information as may be derived from social, moral and political science within the reach of the masses; and add a good course in civics to our public school curricula. Then Popular Education will fulfill its mission toward citizenship to the satisfaction of its severest critics.

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SUMMER CONFERENCE FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS.

Summer gatherings have come to be a recognized factor in promoting educational and religious interests, and the more thoughtful of