The open secret of good health and enduring vigor is simply to "keep in condition.'

The fact that the telephone was laughed at as an impracticability will probably be used all next century as an argument with reluctant investors by people who have chimerical schemes to float.

In one week just before his death Cornelius Vanderbilt received 1500 begging letters. The total amount asked for was \$500,000, and the least wanted by any of the supplicants was \$25. Ah, what a terrible hardship it is to be rich-if one has a tender beart.

The Manufacturers' Record shows that since 1880 the capital invested in southern cotton mills has increased from \$21,900,000 to \$125,000,000. while the sum invested in all southern manu actures has grown from \$257,. 200,000 to \$1,000,000,000, and the value of southern manufactured prodfrom \$457,400,000 to \$1,500,-000.000.

One reason for the scandalous verdict of the court-martial at Rennesthe most shamelessly unjust ever rendered in a civilized countrydoubtless is that a military court presided over by "my colonel" and composed of other subordinate officers dare not convict of lying, fraud, forgery and conspiracy a cabal of their generals, though these were shown to be guilty by their own testimony and by unimpeachable evidence, says the New York World.

We in the United States have been born and reared in a land of plenty, and we seem to feel that nothing is fit for the human stomach which has not cost human effort to raise or procure. We feel that we are mortifying the flesh if we do not eat meat at least once a day. The result is that we have become known as a nation of dyspeptics. Experience, however, is forcing on the American people the value of light and simple diet, and a marked change in American habits in this respect is likely to be seen in the future.

Bicycle riding in some portions of the world is considered incomplete in joys until a patented tow rope has been added to the rider's outfit by means of which the woman rider may make a sure and tireless journey up hillsides at the expense of the man of the party. That dropping out of a line for her to cling to is an old idea but the line is perfect now with springs and coils and all that sort of thing. No wonder that bicycle riding is losing its popularity. It is getting to be a rather onesided sort of proposition.

By careful computation the Financial Chronicle finds that the cotton crop for the year ending Sept. 1, 1899, amonnted to no less than 11.235.383 bales. At average present prices this means a wealth of \$337,061,490 taken from the soil in the form of a single crop which is grown only in a part of the country. We are becoming a great manufacturing nation. We are especially multiplying and extending our cotton mills. Yet of our 11.235. 383 bales of cotton we have manufactured only 3,647,118 bales, while we have sent abroad 7,362,788 bales for the workmen of other countries to convert into cloths. Obviously our cotton-spinning and cotton-weaving industries are still in their infancy. Think of the millions in wages that will be paid to American when we come to manufacture all our cotton! One of the most astonishing changes which has come in the latter half of the 19th century appears in the new moral attitude of all classes in relation to possessions of all kinds, observes the Chartered Register. Fifty years ago it was considered an admirable thing for a man to fill himself with stores of wisdom which he kept for his own use. Now a learned man is despised if he does not let his light shine. Fifty years ago it was considered desirable to cultivate all manuer of gifts and graces for the adornment of the mind and the increase of personal pleasure. Now one who hoards the blessings of culture without imparting them to those who are less fortunate is considered selfish and unlovely. Fifty years ago it was considered honorable to regard great possessions as the perquisites of the fortunate individual who controlled them. Now no rich man has honor who does not make his wealth blessing to the community in which he lives. It is now accepted as a rule of conduct that privilege always implies obligation, and ownership always carries with it the idea of indebtedness to the community which has made ownership possible.

The Boston Transcript wants to have reading cars substituted for smokers on the railroads as being more civilized.

If the increasing fondness for the automobile continues we shall find the horse show with a dangerous rival the first thing we know, and it will be "beauty and the machine," instead of "beauty and the beast."

England's queen has given another illustration of her good heart and common sense. A few weeks ago she set a practical example to the landed proprietors of the United Kingdom by having her herds tested for tuberculosis and ordering all infected animals to be slaughtered.

According to the Canadian Engineer, the last relic of the first epoch of railway engineering in Canada is passing away in the form of the tubular bridge which spans the Ottawa river, near its junction with the St. Lawrence, and a truss bridge is to be erected in its place. The old bridge is not only the last of the tubular bridges in Canada, but is also the last on this continent, so that its removal is really a historical event.

The Massachusetts statistical bureau reports that there is a steady increase in the amount of work done on Sunday. This is not strange. It is due largely to the action of working people, especially in cities, in converting Sunday into a secular holiday. They use this day to visit neighboring pleasure resorts or to make excursions by rail or water, and this creates a demand for the services of car conductors and motormen, steamboat hands, waiters, bartenders and a great variety of employes.

Within the last few months Nantasket beach has been added to the park system of Boston, a system already so extended and well organized as to excite the admiration of the rest of the country. It has already cost the commonwealth some six million dollars. The late Mr. Charles Eliot, son of President Eliot of Harvard, has been largely responsible for the broad-minded and enlightened policy pursued, states Harper's Weekly. The beach at Nantasket is two hundred feet wide at low tide, is broad and hard, and within only a short ride of Boston.

Tree planting by farmers is being encouraged in a practical way by the division of forestry of the Unitel States department of agriculture. A circular has recently been issued stating that the division is prepared, as far as a limited appropriation will permit, to render practical and personal assistance to farmers and others by co-operating with them to establish forest plantations, wood lots, shelter belts and wind breaks. An expert tree planter has been placed in charge of a section of the division which has been organized for this work, and he will be assisted by collaborators in the different states who are familiar with local conditions.

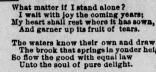
Massachusetts now has two associations for providing annuities for retired public school teachers-one for Boston teachers only, the other and the youngest for the teachers in the cities and towns. The last is believed to be the only guild organized by the union of small cities and towns. Though scarcely six years old, the Teachers' Annuity guild has a permanent fund of over \$51,000 and an annuity fund exceeding \$10,000. It is provided that annuities shall be 60 per cent. of the annual salary at the time of retirement with a limit of \$600. The present assessment is one per cent. of annual salary, with a limit of \$20 per annum, which it is proposed to reduce to \$10. A similar plan has been adopted in a number of large cities in the country. Careful estimates made during the year 1896 indicated that no less than 120,000 horses were required for the propulsion of the street cars in actual use in the various cities in the United States. Recent estimates indicate that about 15,000 horses are all that are requisite today for the horse-car service throughout the entire United States. This surely is a remarkable evidence of the emancipation of the street car horse. Thirteen years ago it was estimated that over 20,000 of these patient and noble servants of man were rendered useless from the excessive strain and overwork to which they were subjected. So soon does the public mind adapt itself to changed conditions that comparatively few people appreciate fully the beneficial effects which the elimination of the street car horse from our public thoroughfares and the adoption of the cable and electric systems has secured.

WAITING.

Serene I fold my hands and wait, Nor care for wind, or tide, or sea; I rave no more 'gainst time or fate, For lo! my own shall come to me.

I stay my haste, I make delays, For what avails this eager pace? I stand amid the eternal ways, And what is mine shall know my faw

Asleep, awake, by night or day, The friends I seek are seeking m No wind can drive my bark astray, Nor change the tide of destiny.



The stars come nightly & the sky, The tidal wave unto the sea; Nor time, nor space, nor deep, nor high, Can keep my own away from me. —John Burroughs.



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Alec McPherson's mother was never tired of showing little Alec the picture in the album of Aunty Morse, whose son had become a millionaire in New York, or of talking of her cousin, who was a senator at Ottawa, and her sis-ter-in-law's brother, who had been appointed lieutenant-governor of a province once, but who had died in-advertently before he was sworn in. Little Alec looked upon these distin-tions, and he saw that they were good. He saw that the men who got respect and consideration when they ame to his father's house were not respect and consideration when they came to his father's house were not farmers like his father, but the doctor in the black coat, who ordered some-body to hold his horses and asked ap-prehensively if the dog bit, or the minister, who kept the men after a hearty dinner from the hay, while he was praying, and a thunder cloud was gathering overhead. It was for men like these that the silver and the best table neaking were brought out, and he thinks himself a gentleman, but he don't own that farm no more nor I do. The company owns it what holds a mortgage on it, and he's really just workin' it for them. His crop ain't his'n; it's got to go to pay the interest, and some says his horses and cattle and implements is all chatteled for moren't they're worth." "That's a lie!" Both looked up. The man they were discussing had risen from beneath a clump of elder

table napkins were brought out, and the household routine set aside as a thing of small consequence. The boy bushes and was leaning over the fence thing of small consequence. The boy began to be ashamed of an occupation that compelled a man to wear rough clothes and carry rough hands, and the town made him shy and ill at with battle in his eyes. He was lank and cadaverous, with a thin, goat's beard, protuberant blue eyes, and wiry yellow hair. The man was plain-ly not in robust health, and he had the look of having reached that point ease. Mrs. McPherson's remedy for the

Mrs. Mcchaerson's remedy tor the disadvantage under which her son had been born was education. She told him what it could do. Education could make him a gentleman, give him money and clothes, and respect and "Maybe it is," "And they say you're make him a gentleman, give him money and clothes, and respect and power, and put his heel on the neck spect and "Maybe it is." "And they say you re-the neck a reg'lar gentleman," Crawford re-ould have marked, turning to Alec and looking) it came him up and down with scornful ec was 24 amusement. "A reg'lar gentleman y to rest that never had his nose to the grind-tone and keens money in the bank of men who otherwise would have their heel on his neck. So it came about that by the time Alec was 24 and his father laid safely to rest under the sod, the boy had taken his and his father laid safely to rest under the sod, the boy had taken his bachelor's degree at college, spent a year abroad and was plunging into the study of Blackstone and the civil indly. With surprising quickness the was on an evening in early spring that he came home. There was still " \vec{x} at intrivin' farmer, ehe" he queried, thrather came home. There was still

that he came home. There was suit frost in the air, and night was coming on windy with a moon that was no more than a tilted horn wracked with clouds and insignificant beside Alec's face. The next instant he had fallen forward with his face in the grass, and his thin hands grasping convulsively before him. They turned lights beginning to come out in the houses. After 10 miles in a stage over bare country, sole passenger, huddled into a corner, with a rug wrapped round his knees and his hands thrust deep into his overcoat pockets, the gush of yellow light from his own door was the welcomest of sights. The low-ceiled room, the familiar enin consternation. "This is hard on Lyddy," Henry said at last with a gravings on the walls, his mother's gravings on the wais, his mother's lined face under the gray hair, were furniture of his earliest recollections. "Mother," he said, "my health is broken down. If I don't get help comuches I'm vices for life!"

Lyddy," Henry said at last with a great sigh, pointing to the prostrate form. "He's a widower, and Lyddy keeps things together, and there's two little uns." They carried the dead man up to his honse, where little Blanche Mary was helping Lyddy get dinner, and Tony, the six-year-old, stood washing himself with legs set somewhere I'm useless for life." He told his story, his nervousness, is sleeplessness, all the long months he had spent trying to work and doing nothing. "Ever since that hot day last summer when I was overcome by the heat, I've never been the same since. When I went back to lectures," since. When I went back to lectures," he went on, "I couldn't work. There was a doctor I knew, a young fellow. He thought he could fix me up. Bro-mide, morphia, chloral-I tried them "Well," said Mrs. McPherson, when the funeral was over, "Lyddy Crawford's got a hard row to hoe. She'd like to stay on the farm; it's like home to her now, and they've got to have a roof over their heads someall. Then I went to a specialist, and he told me everything. It was a shock to the brain; I was a victim of he tota he brain; I was a victim of shock to the brain; I was a victim of neurasthenia. Mother, I may live to be an old man, but I'll never be good for anything, so far as head work is concerned, again." McPherson stood up indig-

what the doctor said. He said it was in my favor that I came of country people and hadn't inherited the hysteria and debilitated nerves that people and hadn't interves that hysteria and debilitated nerves that mother, that coming back to the far was my only hope." He sat silent, with his clenched hand holding his head; then looking round him, "I thank God, I'm home!" Condar in the middle of the fore-mith the silence of the fore-mith the sile noon Alec came downstairs with the unusual feeling that he was a slug-gard. The sun was strong, and just butside the door a turkey cock dis-tended himself in its warmth; the bees were busy in the flowers, the men were haying. He took his hat and were busy in the flowers, the men were baying. He took his hat and went out, walking past the barns and along a lane where beside him lay a field of potatoes, their regularly spaced clumps of green radiating like the spokes of a wheel from whatever point the eye close as a beginning. An unremarkable man was walking between two rows that ran parallel to the fence. In one hand he held a pail filled with green-tinted water, and in the other a whitewash brush. He dipped his brush in the green water and flounced it over the potato tops on either side, and talked alond to and founced it over the potato tops on either side, and talked aloud to himself as he walsed. "Saul has slain

am determined to stay here." "This is no place for a young man of your education," she expostulated. "That's what I thought once,

mother, but everything seems differ notice, but everything seems differ-ent now, I can be just as useful here. It's better to be a good farmer than a poor lawyer." "You needu't be a poor lawyer. Besides I'd rather be that than a farmer. I hate the name of farmer. None of my relations were ever that. There isn't any excuse for such low testes" He was noticed such low tastes." He was nettled. "Let us take some cases we know of," he said quietly. "There's Walters, the sharpest young lawyer in Buxton and the best pleader; he was in jail 2 and the best pleader; he was in jail 24 hours for voting twice at an election. hours for voting twice at an election. There was Barr, who started poor and died rich; he lost his seat in Parlia-ment and was disqualified for open bribery, and there was things in his private life far worse. No profession is going to make a man's life honor-able. I'd rather be a man like my father, mother, than be Barr or Wal-ters." ters.

He had the impulse to burst into contemptuous laughter, but something checked him. He leaned forward, instead, and placed his hand on hers, "Mother, I disappoint you, but don't drive me away. This is the dearest drive me away. This is the dearest place on earth to me. I can understand Horace now! 'Happy is the man who, far from business, like the ancient Horace now! 'Happy is the man who, far from business, like the ancient race of men, works his paternal fields with his own oxen.' I can under-stand that now." Mrs. McPherson picked up the teapot and set it down with fierce emphasis. "Then I sup-pose the truth is it's that girl that's keeping you here " she hust out

keeping you here," she burst out. "What do you mean?" he asked hotly. "I mean," she said, without qualing before his angry eyes, "that I suppose it's that Crawford girl your qualing before his angry eyes, "that I suppose it's that Crawford girl your hanging after. The dear knows what else keeps you here. You don't seem able to tell. I think you must be pretty soft. To see her eyes following me round like a tame cat would be enough for me if I was a young man. It makes me sick. I should think she'd be the lanching stock of the girl your It makes me sica. I block of the she'd be the laughing stock of the neighborhood." Her son looked at her in blank amazement. "Oh, she her in blank amazement. "Oh, she knows which side her bread is butknows which side her bread is bit-tered on. You'd be a pretty good catch for her, wouldn't you? I'll tell you something, too,' she went on, hoarsely. "If you take up with such trash as that, don't come here again. As long as my head is above the sod this house is mine, and if you go 1 go God against me, keep out of it. God knows I've slaved to give you chances to make yourself somebody! Yes, you've been dearer to me than the apple of my eye, but unless you make up your mind to go back, I will never

and

own you for a son again." She turned her back upon him and marched away with her usual soldier-like tread, and he heard the key turn in the lock as she closed her bedroom door. He flung out of the house in a passion of opposition. O the shoddy pride, the vulgarity of *t* all! Some words of Tolstoi recurred to him, printed without flaw on his memory "Everything which I used to thin bad and low-the rusticity of the peasant, the plainness of lodging, food, clothing, manners—all this has be-come good and great in my eyes." He leaned against the railing of the little wooden bridge and listened to the hurry of water underneath. There was a watery, intermittent moonlight, and every now and then a snowflake, damp and adhesive touched his cheek. He looked up and saw Lyddy stand-He looked up and saw Lyddy stand-ing in the road, herstartled face peer-ing at him from its framing of black shawl. With an exclamation of joy he went quickly to meet her. —New Eng-land Homestead.

Wooing a School Teacher.

"Yes," said a young man, as he threw himself at the feet of the pretty school mistress, "I love you and would go to the world's end for you."

"You could not go to the end of the world for me, James. The world, or the earth, as it is called, is round like a ball, slightly flatted at the poles. One of the first lessons in elementary geography is devoted to the shape of the globe. You must have studied it wh n you were a boy." "Of course I did, but "----

"And it is no longer a theory. Cir-cumnavigators have established the fact."

A TEMPERANCE COLUMN.

THE DRINK EVIL MADE MANIFEST IN MANY WAYS.

Which Shall It Be?-The Wrecking of a Prosperous Business House-A Refusal to Drink Lost a Sale, But Made a Saving in the Long Run.

Which shall it be, lads? which shall it be? God, or the devil, bond or free? Will you boldly and cheerfully take your stand

stand with the chosen few, with the noble band, With the chosen few, with the noble band, Who are steadfastly doing all they can For God and the right and failen man? Or will you sink, debased and blind, To herd with the ruck of human kind? God, or the devil, bond or free-Which shall it be, lads? which shall it be? Which shall it be? The home-life sweet, Gay with the patter of thy feet; Or the squalid tap-room, grimy and grim, The drunkard's curse, or the children's byma?

hymn? Wrecked lives, or the strength that never

flags Peace and plenty, or ruin and rags? Bible or beer-shop, bond or free-Which shall it be, lads? which shall it be? Which shall it be? Two paths Ho here-The right leads upwards, the left, aht

Others may give you counsel true, But the choice, dear lads, is for you, for

youl And remember now in your boyhood's

Is the turning point and the seeding time; The sot's bent back, or the saint's bent knee-

Which shall it be, lads? which shall it be?

A Drommer's Experience.

A Drommer's Experience. A Drommer's Experience. To reighteen years I was a drummer. My territory was in all of the Southern States; and I traveled through them all. In one of the largest cities in these States I had a good customer to whom I sold many large oills. The buyer of this houses was a man who drank regularly and very often. To none trip I weni In to this buyer, and be sent the stock clerk to see how many cases of my goods were needed. When told, he ran his arm in mine and walked out of the office and up the street to an alley (talking all the time about business), and then down the alley to the back door of a barroom. When he struck the alley I saw his object, and said: "If the Lord will help me now, I will not break my rule." When we got within ten feet of the door of the accursed hole I stopped, and, looking at my customer (for he certainly was not my friend). I said: "I don't drink any-thing; no use my going in there." He looked at me, and said: "No, I don't drink." I replied: "No, I don't drink out of mine, and went in. He soon came out, and we walked on back tor speak a word to me. Walked the back nor speak a word to me. Walked to have and said down?" "None," said he; "I don't want surplus on hand at all times, and when you want any of our goods we will be pleased to have your order. Jook as though nothing had happened, and said politely: "How many cases shall I put down?" "None," said he; "I don't want any. I answered, "All right, sir, we have a surplus on hand at all times, kind when you want any of our goods we will be pleased to have your order," and bade him good day. This was Saturday. I remained ore in the city until Monday. Sunday morning I went to church, as was my habit, and when the collection was taken up who bould I see passing the plate my way but this buyer whom I had offended three day before. J don't know whether he recognized me or not, but I Knew him, and was told that he had bea an officer in that church twant y genes. This ma

recognized me or not, but I knew him, and was told that he had been an officer in that church twenty years. Now for the application. This man of whom I speak was a fuil partner in the house, which was rated at \$200,000. I lost the custom of this house. It failed in about two years after this for over half a million dollars, but did not get my house for a cent. Since that time this man has gone down the hell, until to-day he is a complete whisky wreck. He is very poor, and has to work hard to make both ends meet. His head is now white, and his steps feeble and tottering. I never see that man that this incident doesn't come up in my mind. My employer commended me for what I did, and retained me in his service for thir-teen years. If it had not been for whisky this ma would be well off to-day, and have plenty to start all his children and grandchildren in his. Asim.

Alcoholism and Crime.

Alcoholism and Crime. The alcoholic craving accounts for many dency exists in a minor degree as belong-ondary part of their life, testotalers belong-rarely met with in criminal walks. But there is a large number of hopeless prison-ers whose only idea of life is drunkrenness at any cost. In such the craving makes obtained without money other means are resorted to, such as breaking into public houses, robbing bar tills, stealing jurgs and bouses, robbing bar tills, stealing jurgs and other pleasantries so will known to the er-rands, dressing up as blind men, mutilated beggars crawling alcag the pavement, and other pleasantries so will known to the er-pert. Chewing a pleee of soap and thus housed, robewing a pleee of soap and thus of the sublican. The alcoholic aspect is, however, very difficult of concealement, and the experienced observer well knows the pseudo-opileptic, the armiess, legless crime children (all hired) parades the sine the langentation of woes,-Gentle-ments. Magatine.

Alec was pleased. Gradually it be-came his chief interest to watch Lyddy' s undertaking. sometime "Yes," he said, "that was met her in the woods with the children, gathering berries, Tony trailing a long, dead branch as a protection against dead branch as a protection up to bears. He never saw Lyddy now and slipped out of the house and down the hill to the bridge, to see if the lights were still burning in Aleo's windows. She did it every night, and it had assumed for her the sacredness

thrusting forward his white, impuden "Take that, young upstart! face. "Take that, young upstart!" And suddenly raising the switch in his hand he laid it smartly across

him over, but though the muscles of

his face moved, his heart was quite

The two men looked at each other

very wide apart at a big basin on the outside stoop. They were all thin, elfin creatures with bright hair and

said Mrs. McPherson

"But the mortgage," Alec

blue.

radiant eyes of corn-flower

"Well,

still.

of a rite.

of a rite. When fall came, Alec was better. He was less thin, his hand had a firm grasp, his skin was a healthy brown, his eye was steady. He had almost forgotten his languid days and sleep-less nights in the buoyant pleasure of rising up early in the autumn dawn to feel himself the director of all the activities of the farm. It was at supper one night that his

It was at supper one night that his It was at supper one night that his mother spoke to him. "Alec, you have been at home close on eight months now," she said, and waited for an answer. "Yes," he said, brief-ly. "And your health is ever so much

"I know, but what I meant was that I would do anything to please you. Ab, Minerva, if you knew the aching void ---"

"There is no such thing as a void, James. Nature abhors a vacuum. But, admitting that there could be such a thing, how could the void you speak of be a void if there were an ache in

"I meant to say that my life will be lonesome without you; that you are my daily thought and my nightly dream. daily thought and my nightly dream. I would go anywhere to be with you. If you were in Australia or at the north pole, I would fly to you. I ——" "Fly! It will be another century before men can fly. Even when the

"Fig: 1t will be another century before men can fig. Even when the laws of gravitation are successfully overcome, there will still remain, says a late scientific authority, the diffi-culty of maintaining a balance ----" ""Well, at all events," exclaimed the

"Well, at all events," exclaimed the youth, "I've got a pretty fair balance in the bank, and I want you to be my wife. There!" "Well, James, since you put it in that light, I" Curtain. --Wichita (Kan.) Eagle.

Worse Ment Than Goat

The big packeries are now slaugh-tering thousands of Texas goats and selling the fiesh for mutton. The de-ception is reprehensible, but the meat and nounced it could be dependent of the point of the poi

Practical Work by Salvationists. Practical work by salvationate. Practical work for temperanone has been undertaken by the Salvation Army in Bos-ton, in the establishment of stands where ice-cold lemonade and buttermilk are sold ton, in the establishment of stands where ice-cold lemonade and buttermilk are sold at one cent per glass. At first a variety of drinks were offered, ice-cold tea, coffee, etc., but the public demanded only two, lemonade and buttermilk, and nothing else is served. It is good lemonrde, too, a Boston Transcript reporter says, after sam-pling it, and buttermilk fresh from the farm churn, and the public is reveiling in the privilege. Well-dressed men and wom-en patronize the stands and the small boys find their delight there. The idea is to supply the needs of the thirsty thousands of poor outside the saloons. Seven stands have been established, and it is proposed to double this number at once. As yet the army has not been able to meet expenses in its enterprise, and an appeal has been made to the temperance public to be gen-erous with funds.

Rumsellers Organizing.

Rumsellers Organizing. The saloon keepers of the country are preparing to band themselves together. To do this, a secret society only a short time ago was born in Louisville, Ky., un-der the name of the Kaights of the Royal Arch. The purpose of the society is to protect the interests of saloon men and dealers in whisky. The members wear a button, and have society grips and signs.

A Bishop's Views

A Bishop's Views. There is what Bishop Spalding, of Peoria, fil., says of the drink evil: "The evil wrought by alcoholic drink is now ac-knowledged and proclaimed by all the or-gans of public opinion. It undermines health, enfrebles the will, coarsens the mild and inflames animal passions. It reportes husbands and wires, divides influence which nothing else can supply. It lowers the standard of morals, filis pris-ing fine the garden of the conse of the coarsent of the conse of public. It is, in a word, the conse of the coarsent of the conse of the coarsent of the conse of the coarsent of the crime of which nother of the crime of which our mational life is disgraced."