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GREENWOOD LOCAL BRIEFS

Clarence Trowbridge has moved his family from the farm to his new home on West Greenwood street to Davis Hill. Mr. Sheldy has rented the house vacated by Mr. Trowbridge and is moving into it.

The Bowery Mission, 227 Bowery, New York, say they have a number of experienced farm hands anxious to get employment on farms in Western New York.

May 7th is Arbor Day. During the electric storm Tuesday afternoon a barn belonging to Daniel Baker of Coyle Hill was struck by lightning, killing a valuable Jersey cow. The barn was not burned.

Miss Reita Richardson of Wellsville, has returned from a visit with her brother, A. B. Richardson, of Fort Worth, Texas.

The hearing before the Village Board Tuesday night, to discuss paving Greenwood street was a complete fizzle. Few people came. No merchants or business men appeared either for or against the construction of the pavement.

Fine rain yesterday. Extremely hot. John Hargan of Troupsburg Center was a business visitor in Greenwood Friday.

F. S. Rogers was in town Tuesday. The residence of C. H. Hatheway of Rock Creek burned to the ground Friday. The contents were nearly all burned with the building. The fire caught in the upright from sparks blown from the chimney and as the wind was blowing fiercely at the time Mr. Hatheway barely escaped. The building was lightly insured, but nothing whatever on the contents.

Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Watkins were village callers Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. Menzo Knight were in our city Tuesday.

Another German ship interned. Two of the German navy are under the U. S. flag. Jerry Wright of Jasper was in town Tuesday.

This has been the hottest April on record for 40 years. Tuesday the thermometer registered 90 degrees in the shade.

Death of Mrs. Rachael Plaisted
Mrs. Rachael Plaisted died at her home in this place very suddenly Tuesday morning. She had been about her work as usual, had just watered her flowers and commenced to mop her floor when she was stricken with heart disease and called to one of her neighbors who instantly responded to her call. Dr. Bennett was called in and did all that could be done but she failed rapidly and died within an hour. Mrs. Plaisted was respected and beloved by all for her noble and Christian life. She was prominently identified with church, temperance and benevolent works and her death will be mourned by all. Mrs. Plaisted was a consistent member of the M. E. church of this place and was an earnest worker therein.

Deceased left her surviving three sons, Edward W. Plaisted of this place and David and

THE FORUM

LOYALTY

By Rev. A. L. Egginton

There are worlds and worlds, worlds of matter and worlds of mind. There is also a world into which one may enter and choose his companions and hold communion high or low. Good words are the wings of the soul. They bear it up and balance it and help it to look heavenward.

Among inspiring words there is none of broader or nobler significance than the one I have written above, loyalty. I like the sound of it and all that it implies. I like the loyal man who does not, the man loyal to his friends, to native land, to himself and to God.

We scarcely know how we admire a good thing until we have seen and condemned its opposite. We hardly stop to think how noble it is to be loyal until we have suffered the sting of disloyalty, have trusted and been deceived. Then we realize what this world might be if all were loyal, if every friend were true and every pledge to God and man were kept. Ah, that one word loyalty. Its full realization would have kept the serpent out of Eden and would now restore the lost inheritance.

Some of the prettiest tales to illustrate the moral virtues come to us from the Arabians and here is one of them. Two friends who were bearing a treasure through a forest stopped to rest. One sat upon the ground leaning against a tree and in this position fell asleep. He was awakened by an approaching step and looking up he saw his companion rushing upon him with a murderous knife in his uplifted hand, but he did not cry out nor move. Down came the glittering blade just above his head. The object to which it was aimed was slowly letting itself down from a branch of the tree upon the sleeping man. Had he sprung up he might have received the fatal sting before the knife descended to save him. Why did he remain motionless, ignorant as he was of the presence of the reptile and of the purpose for which the knife was raised? This was the question which his companion addressed to him when the serpent lay dead at their feet. "I did not know your purpose," he replied, but I knew it must be good, for we are friends."

It is quite the fashion nowadays to publish imaginary dreams and visions of the "good time coming" when all the ills of earth shall be cured. I have had no such dream but I fancy if such a time ever does come one of its leading features will be the loyalty of friendship, the perfect assurance that knows no suspicion, that trusts and is not deceived. The ideal friendship never asks or need offer an explanation. "I know it is all right because you did it." This in the golden age, will replace the elaborate excuses and explanations that now reveal only mutual suspicion and want of confidence.

Between loyal friends also there is no fear of expressing a criticism, no fear of giving offense. Kindly criticism is the highest duty of friendship and gratitude is its reward. But who dares to criticize or who knows how, even if he dare?

Another conspicuous feature of the better day will be loyalty to native land. Fifty years ago there was a war in this country and those who waged it on the southern side were called traitors and only extreme leniency on the part of the government and the people saved the leaders from the gallows, but were they more disloyal, more treasonable, than those who, at any time since the foundation of the government, have been false to the oath they have taken to maintain the laws and the constitution? There is a form of treason that consists in making open war upon the government and there is a treason that consists in official corruption while swearing loyalty. The treason that organized

armies and marched upon the national capital cost the nation, including pensions paid up to this time, over seven millions of dollars, a sum greater than all the money, coin or paper in circulation among all the nations of Christendom and it shrank or shrank more than a million of men but it did not do the harm that threaten our institutions to the extent that they are threatened by the official corruption that has prevented more or less from the beginning and that is believed by the best authority to be greater than at any previous time.

There are two possible remedies for the disloyalty, the treason, that call it by its right name, that consists in carrying on a government not as is professed in the oath of office but in the private interest of those who have the control of it. One of these remedies would consist in limiting the functions of the government to really necessary things and thus greatly reducing the amount of money handled by office holders by which means the temptation to corruption would be proportionably diminished.

At present the public funds are so enormous and the possibilities of enriching one's self by handling and appropriating them are so great that multitudes make a profession of politics with an eye single to the "boodle" which is to be gained by it, and the tendency of all our legislation is to the increase of the amounts handled by the government and of the matters with which the government may concern itself. In proportion to this increase, in proportion to the amount of money handled and the financial interests legislated upon, will the corruption also increase.

The other possible remedy would consist in a change of public sentiment as to the real nature of official corruption. There is vital need of a change in this respect. A man may now do in politics what he could not do in private life without ruin. The public treasury is not held sacred. On the contrary it is a treasure to be plundered by the strongest. It is a kind of game that anybody may poach upon at all seasons provided only that they can get the necessary votes. Isn't it the public treasury and may not the public vote money out of it at will? The remedy consists in developing a sentiment of patriotism under which it shall seem as treasonable to rob the public treasury or take a bribe for a vote as to wage open war against the government. The political corruptionist and the bribe taker at the polls are traitors to their country and should be so known and branded.

There is also a loyalty to self that we all need to think of. There are vows that ought to be made concerning one's own body and mind. There is a faithfulness to self as sacred as to any other cause. There is a personal wealth to be guarded as jealously as priests guard a holy temple. The treasury of physical health and of moral purity is the first treasure in all this world. Its sacrifice involves the sacrifice of the home and thus of all else that men hold dear. To make the physical and mental inheritance all that it is in our power to make it, is the first and the highest thought, of the mind that is loyal to itself.

The last and highest form of loyalty is that which makes one true to his religious convictions. There should be a sharp distinction between the condemnation of false doctrines and the condemnation of those who hold them. The proscription of men for their beliefs is a premium on hypocrisy and an assassin's blow at mental freedom. He who is loyal to the truth as he sees it may be in the wrong but his person and his right to think are sacred. He who shouts with a triumphant majority may be loyal to his convictions but he who stands with a feeble minority certainly is.

Sincerity is to truth what powder is to lead. It is the impelling force that awakens it and sends it on its mission. We have in our day a striking example. The Salvation Army proclaims no new truth. It only tells "the old, old story" but with what a fire, with

what sincerity! At a recent Salvation meeting in London General Booth, the commander, came upon the stage just as some one was beginning to lead in one of those hymns that express such absolute devotion to the dying "Christ" but which are so often sung with out the slightest appreciation of their meaning. Booth caught the first words and laying his hand emphatically upon the shoulder of the singer he said: "If you mean it you may sing it."

In those words the man whose voice of command was heard around the world sounded the keynote of all the singing and all the drumming and all the preaching of that vast army. It is an army that means it. Look into the eye of any one of a group of Salvationists as they stand in the mud or swelter in the scorching sunshine conducting their almost fiducious services and you will read at a glance the secret of their amazing success. They are a queer people but what they say and what they sing they mean down to the mud they stand in. "If you mean it you may sing it." My! What if the license to sing should be taken away from all who don't mean it!

I have nothing here to say about the truth or falsity of the doctrines preached and sung and drummed and tamboured by the Salvation Army, but for example of loyalty to conviction, for an illustration of the awakening and impelling force of sincerity, for proof of the conquering might of a word that has life behind it, for all this I go to the Salvation Army and stand with bowed head while they drum and talk and sing after their fashion, not ad-

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INDEPENDENCE

26—M. A. Bassett is a new Ford car. Crandall is home from Washington, D. C. for the Sum

or Chaffee is spending a days with friends at Cameron

and Mrs. M. A. Crandall R. Crandall were in ville on business Thursday. Linford Potter is in And a couple of weeks. Phillips and granddaugh- ura of Beach Hill, passed with Mrs. Amelia Cot

Clarke and family of er were guests at George and Saturday.

Mrs. R. E. Spicer and Robert motored to Whites- Wellsville and Scio Satur-

and Mrs. D. C. Chapin and hn of Whitesville, passed at C. M. Crandall's.

tion No. 4 of Ladies Aid supper at the parish Saturday night, realizing

Smith of Wellsville gave at the Ladies Aid Societ ay evening;

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