

MAYOR JOHNSON'S WAY. MORE BOUQUETS FOR CLEVELAND.

Lincoln Steffens' declaration that Cleveland had the "best mayor of the best governed city in the United States" has led to the throwing of many bouquets at various city officials. Gus Hanna superintendent of the street cleaning department, and Prof. Bemis, manager of the water department, are the latest recipients of flowery things.

Bemis yesterday received a letter from Joseph M. Patterson, water commissioner of Chicago, requesting copies of the annual reports of the local department for a number of years back.

"We all feel that the Cleveland water-works system is a standard, and we want to take the benefit of your experience as far as possible," concludes Patterson.

Hanna's bouquet comes from Section Superintendent McGrath, of New York's street cleaning department. McGrath was recently here on a vacation, and yesterday Hanna received a letter from him in which he declared he had never visited a city in which streets were so uniformly clean as those of Cleveland.—Cleveland Plain Dealer of July 13.

AN ESTIMATE OF WILLIAM J. BRYAN.

From a private letter from John T. McClure, of Beaver City, Neb.

Yes, I am for Bryan and Free Silver, and in favor of a Republic and against an Empire; eternally against a standing army, and likewise against trusts; and am proud of the fact that I live in a State which has the least illiteracy in the Union, and produces such a statesman as William J. Bryan—

- a man who has the heart and conscience of an Abraham Lincoln;
- the philosophy of a Benjamin Franklin;
- the simplicity of a Thomas Jefferson;
- the oratorical ability of a Daniel Webster;
- the personal magnetism of a James G. Blaine;
- the courage of an Andrew Jackson;
- the patriotism of a Patrick Henry;
- the fortitude of a Bismarck;
- the wisdom of a Gladstone, and
- the piety of a Paul Kruger;
- and who stands to-day the best specimen of statesmanship produced in the world during the nineteenth century.

For nobler 'tis to stand alone
On God Almighty's highway,
Than gnaw with millions at the bone
That lies in Satan's by-way.
—Speed Mosby.

THE GRACE OF HOSPITALITY.

For The Public.

If thou *hast* something, bring thy goods,
A fair return be thine;
If thou *art* something, bring thy soul,
And interchange with mine.
—Schiller.

We are naturally social beings. The universal desire for friendly fellowship underlies our hospitality. Unfortunately, the form of social intercourse now much in vogue does not commend itself to the judgment of wise and thoughtful people. It is prodigal in efforts to gratify the luxurious propensities of our nature—suggests that we "eat, drink and be merry," savors of ostentation and emulation, and is not devoid of a spirit of commercialism.

Who shall say that the malevolent influence of extravagant entertainments has not much to do with the dishonesty, defalcation, and general disaster of which we see and hear much?

Society at our national capital, if current report be true, recently received a merited rebuke in the retirement of one of its prominent members, who declined longer to keep pace with its unreasonable requirements.

The spirit of reform is abroad, and men and women courageous enough to lead in the release of intelligent and otherwise independent people from the slavery of conventionalism, will receive grateful appreciation. Then we shall be blessed with sunshine and fresh air at midday entertainments, instead of being irritated, blinded and suffocated by gaslight and heat, and we can dine and lunch without sitting through the serving of numberless courses which nobody wants.

True hospitality is simple and unpretentious. It does not depend on riches, but is entirely compatible with economy and frugality. It does depend on wealth of character—the result of intellectual and ethical culture. The quintessence of true hospitality gives hearty welcome and perfect freedom in the every-day life of the home, with the manifest assurance that the presence of the guest implies no burden and imposes no restraint.

I shall not soon forget, and shall never cease to admire and honor the dignified hospitality of a mother and her daughters who, though dependent on their own efforts for livelihood, invited a series of semi-monthly gatherings during a winter. Little expense was incurred, but the best people in the large city in which they live were their guests.

Nor shall I forget the reply of Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones to a young friend who asked if living in the city was

really so very much more expensive than in the country. "No," he said, "if you want only the very best things!"

The world is moving, conditions are changing, men and women are so much occupied in educational, economic, philanthropic and kindred subjects, that less need is felt than formerly for purely social entertainments. A prominent woman, much given to hospitality, said recently that she seldom now invited company without an ulterior purpose—the discussion of some interesting or important subject.

Only slight variation is needed in Lowell's inspiring lines to adapt them to the present time:

New occasions teach new duties,
Time makes ancient good uncouth;
He must upward still and onward
Who would keep abreast of truth.
SUSAN LOOK AVERY.

CALLING LEGISLATORS TO AC- COUNT.

For The Public.

A people is but the attempt of many
To rise to the complete life of one.

So Browning the poet defines a people. "The people," as the term is used in the political field, is a corporation politic with legal methods of expression and action.

Such methods of expression and action may be inadequate or unsatisfactory. It is the belief of many that popular government is unsatisfactory in proportion to the legal limitations upon direct methods of expression by the people.

If the people do not nominate their representatives, but allow them to be chosen by party leaders; if the representatives when legally chosen do not represent those who elect them; if the people have no means to correct such unrepresentative action; if the courts are unable to declare illegal such acts of the representatives as violate their trust to the people—the system of popular government, and not the people themselves, is directly to blame.

The preamble of the Constitution of the United States says:

We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, . . . promote the general welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Knowing that eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, it will be admitted that a free and intelligent electorate will exercise its right and duty to use its political powers.

If it has the means it will use them. If it has not the means it will seek them. Having the means it will obtain a gov-