

Siegfried (drawing his sword):

Then my father's foe
faces me here? . . .
Stretch out your spear:
My sword shall strike it to shreds.

(At one blow he hews the Wanderer's spear
asunder.)

Wanderer (receding):

Advance! I cannot prevent thee!

In these passages we find, would we heed it, the warning, and the open path of duty and of safety, for organized life, as for all life. We are made for progress; and progress admits of no resting upon past gains, no standing in fear of fiery threats, no distrust of the weapon that we have reformed for our journey. The present is not for awe or reverence of the past, but for command of the service of the past to itself and the future. If the past have no quick, clear answer to the youthful, present query, "What next?" "How shall I go forward?" if it stands pleading for its own life through reverence and duty, and so barring the onward move into the future, though it fancies that it holds the power of the eternal in its grasp, it has yet the lesson of its destiny to learn, and will be compelled to acknowledge to the new life:

Advance! I cannot prevent thee!

But this is not easy. When the first flush of interest and of activity in forming the new organization has passed, the temptation comes quickly to jealously guard the ideas for which the work has been done, and to fancy that the goal is reached. The autocratic temper and methods creep in; new members are welcomed, but with the distinct understanding that no "dangerous" questions are to be asked; entire submission is now required to the old body (now become autocratic). It is plain that the organization now fears for its life; and it is also plain that it will lose it. It ceases to take on new life, as well as ceases to exercise the life that it once had itself; and inactivity leads to atrophy—death. Or, standing Wotan-like across the path of the new, stirring life, attempting to stay the march of its progress, it inevitably invites its own conquest.

This drama of "Siegfried," from which I have quoted so freely, is to me full of significance along this line. Perhaps others may see it, or be led to see it, as I do.

C. J. NORTHROP.

"Little folks mustn't be unreasonable."

"Yes; but, grandmamma, it seems a long time to wait till they're grown up!"—Puck.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF MAYOR TOM L. JOHNSON.

Following is the address in full which was delivered by Mr. Johnson, as mayor of Cleveland, in the presence of the new city council, the newly elected executive officers, and a large assemblage of citizens, on the occasion of the organization of the city government under the new municipal code of Ohio, Monday, May 4, 1903.

Something vastly more important is involved in the simple ceremonies of this occasion than the reorganization of our own municipality. We really stand upon the threshold of a new era in the municipal government of every city in one of the most influential States of the American Union. Throughout the great commonwealth of Ohio, all cities come to-day under the sway of one law, a law of uniform operation with reference not alone to what concerns them in their relations to the State at large, but also to what concerns each solely in respect of its own local affairs.

Our outlook, therefore, is the same as that of our sister cities. But our duties are more exacting and our responsibilities correspondingly greater. For Cleveland has become the largest city of the State, and for that reason alone her policies and her administration, her failures and her successes, her progress or her decline, will exert an influence elsewhere which no one can measure and nothing avert. Potent as is that reason, however, there is another more potent still. Need I remind you of what this further reason is? Not alone is Cleveland the largest city in Ohio, but she has successfully taken the lead—a claim she may make with all modesty—in working out the world-wide problem of municipal home rule by the people themselves.

Of all civic problems this one is the most pressing. It is even more pressing in the United States than elsewhere. Our old questions of State sovereignty were set at rest by the logic of the Civil War. Let the mere theory of State rights linger as it may, the stern fact is that Federation has given way to Nationality. In national affairs the central government is now supreme. The only power the States can any longer hope to preserve is power over their internal affairs—the exclusive right of home rule in matters of State concern. That readjustment of the relations of the Nation to the States is suggestive and prophetic of a similar readjust-

ment of the relations of the States to their respective municipalities. This is clear to all who reflect. Along with the decline in the political power once asserted by the States has arisen a necessity, if popular liberty is to be preserved, for an extension to municipalities of the same benign principle of home rule to which the States themselves may still lay claim. Municipalities must cease to be answerable to their States, except in matters of State concern, and become answerable in matters of home concern only to their own people. Such a policy is in line with the trend of the times.

This being so—and who can dispute it?—we could have wished for a more generous recognition of the principle of home rule for the cities of Ohio than the expiring legislature has seen fit to concede. We could wish for a more complete application of the principle than is possible, perhaps, under the State constitution as it now exists. A municipal code under which every city could make its own laws, could design its own organization, could in every way govern itself by the ballots of its own people, absolutely untrammelled by outside dictation or interference except with reference to matters of outside concern—such a code would be the ideal of State legislation for municipal government.

Short of that ideal it is doubtful if a better general scheme could be devised than the "federal plan" with which Cleveland is experimentally familiar and under which she has developed a civic consciousness and conscience among her people of a higher order than that of any other large city in the country. Lodging legislative power in a council elected from wards, and administrative power in a mayor who could be held responsible by all the citizenship for the good conduct of his appointees, that "federal plan" operated to inspire the citizens themselves with a sense of responsibility for good local government. The power of "bosses" was thus held in check, and a wholesome respect was fostered in Cleveland for government for the people by the people.

But we are forced to face the problems of municipal government, as are the people of our sister cities of Ohio, without the advantage either of the ideal system of local self-government, or of the "federal plan" which served our city so well for more than a decade. Our new municipal system is singularly defective. Not only does

it rest on no fundamental principle, not only does it embody no consistent scheme of popular rule, not only does it revive the universally discredited devices of board rule and divided responsibility, but in many respects it is obscure in terms and confusing in detail.

The responsibility is upon us, however—upon you, gentlemen of the city council; upon you, gentlemen of the various executive departments; and upon me as mayor—to administer this system with all the abilities at our command, with complete devotion to the interests of the people whose commission we have received, and in absolute good faith. It is not for us to quarrel with the tools that have been placed in our hands. What is required of us and what we must render is the best workmanship in all respects that the circumstances permit. In every emergency let us remember that we are not the agents of any political party or faction, but are the servants of all the people. At the very outset, then—at this moment and in this place—let us solemnly determine to manage the affairs of Cleveland, in so far as we possess or can obtain the legal power, upon the principle, ever old but never stale, of equal rights and opportunities for all and special privileges and advantages to none.

Actuated by this determination we shall find it necessary to protect the people of Cleveland against the aggressions of certain so-called "business interests." I do not allude to competitive business, but to interests that are grounded in special privilege. These have no natural affinity for legitimate business interests; and their beneficiaries know no political party except to use its influence to serve personal ends of pecuniary profit.

All such spurious "business interests" are now served in greater or less degree by unfair apportionments of taxation. Efforts were made by the city administration which has just retired, to correct this gross abuse; but its beneficiaries were able—through county auditors, through State officials, through the courts, and through the legislature—to obstruct and for a time to nullify those efforts. May it be our aim to renew them and make them fully effective. In this let us miss no lawful opportunity.

Complete success will be impossible, however, until the State legislature establishes fair rules for the

taxation of steam railroads and the like, and permits municipalities to adopt systems of local assessment admitting of fairness in local taxation. Our work, therefore, cannot be confined to the boundaries of our own city. So long as legislators are under the domination of privileged corporations and individuals, unjust taxation will prevail here in spite of all we can do. It will, consequently, be our duty as faithful representatives of the people of Cleveland, to awaken the people of the whole State, regardless of their party affiliations, to the iniquities of unjust taxation. They must be made to realize that national issues and senatorial ambitions are of less importance to the people of Ohio in State elections, than the fitness of candidates for such offices as county auditor, as State auditor, as attorney general, as Supreme Court judgeships, and as legislators.

Nor is taxation the only subject with which this new government of Cleveland must deal even to the extent of appealing to the civic conscience of the people of the whole State. Chief among the questions of prime concern to Cleveland are those relating to the common municipal services that are distinguished as "public utilities."

Already the statutes permit cities to engage in the business of gas and electric lighting, and of this privilege it is our duty to avail ourselves at once. Let us begin with an electric lighting plant of the most modern type, by which we can produce electricity cheaply for street lighting, and in addition can give to the people in their homes and places of business the benefit of electric light and power at the minimum of cost. As that experiment proves its value, the same system can be extended over the entire city.

The management of this plant should be under a merit system of service such as we have successfully introduced in the water department. And in regard to the lighting plant and to the water department itself we should perfect the merit system until we have finally made it secure by ordinance. Of course, subsequent councils might repeal such an ordinance, but by that time public sentiment in its favor would probably interpose an effectual obstacle to their doing so. This policy is of special importance in view of the probability of an early extension in Cleveland of the principle of municipal

ownership and operation to all public utilities. With the rule of merit in full and successful operation in the administration of our electric lighting and water supply, the people would have an object lesson in municipal business, which would be, with reference to its extension to other public utilities, at once a guaranty of good service and an encouragement to make the extension. It would be, moreover, an example to other cities of which our own might well be proud.

Even in itself, regardless of all collateral considerations, the perfecting of this merit system would be a great advance in the art of municipal government; for it would tend to do away with the spoils system altogether, not only in some departments, but in all the ramifications of the public service. Nothing in municipal government is more corrupting than the spoils system, with a single exception, and to that exception I especially call your attention. I refer to the prevalent practice of granting to private corporations franchises to do public business for profit. That practice should be abolished.

So far as supplies of light, power and water are concerned, we are, even now, as I have already observed, legally empowered to abolish this prolific source of corruption. But with reference to street railroads and some other kinds of public service our powers are extremely limited. Yet there is no good reason why the city should not own, and under merit rules of employment operate its own street car system. It owns the tracks on the public viaducts, although there is no specific legislative authority for it. Originally the rails were paid for by the city on all the great viaducts and on some of the small ones. The companies were required to keep these tracks in repair, and now not an original rail remains, the companies having substituted new ones. Yet these new rails belong to the city and the tracks are absolutely under its ownership and control. There is no reason why this should not be done on the streets as well as on the viaducts. Were we to attempt it, however, we should doubtless meet bitter opposition from monopoly interests and probably be tied up with injunctions. With reference to street car service, therefore, as well as to taxation, we of Cleveland shall be obliged to awaken the interest and obtain the cooperation

of the people of the State at large. In no other way can we secure for Cleveland the unobstructed right to establish the kind of system we ought to have and which our constituents clearly demand.

Meanwhile, however, it is fully within our power to begin anew the important work in this connection of establishing a system of low fares. To prevent this consummation a revolution in the judicially-approved practice of half a century of municipal government in Ohio was precipitated. Cleveland was thus divested of its admirable charter and placed for nine months virtually under the government of the Supreme Court. But the day of our city's deliverance is at hand. All the legislative precautions of monopoly lobbyists and party "bosses" have been set at naught by popular vote. The people of Cleveland have spoken, and the duty of their officials is clear.

These are but suggestions of the larger and perhaps more difficult duties before us. Other duties and other problems will unite with these to make our labors arduous and the necessity for our vigilance constant. Doubtless we shall often meet with difficulties that will try our patience and encounter obstacles to tax our resources. Even in the most favorable circumstances it is no easy task to execute with intelligent fidelity the delicate trusts which the people of a modern city, with all its marvelous complexity of public and private interests, repose in their officials. The severity of such a task is intensified as new municipal problems naturally press forward for solution. It is greatly aggravated when in addition the whole structure of the municipal government is suddenly altered by hasty legislation, undigested and unconsidered by the law-making body, and dictated by conflicting private interests having little or no regard for the public good. But I venture the prediction that the officials of Cleveland will prove equal to their peculiarly delicate and difficult task.

Working harmoniously together, without regard to party, with malice toward no man and injustice to no interest, but in response to a lively spirit of fair play to all, whether rich or poor, I believe that the members of this new city government will overcome every obstacle, those that are designedly thrown in their way as well as those that naturally arise, and so triumphantly achieve the beneficent results they have been elected to secure. Upon you, gentlemen of the city coun-

cil, I trust we may depend for a courageous and untarnished record and wholesome local legislation. From you, gentlemen of the various administrative departments, I am sure we may expect industrious, sensible and faithful service. For myself, I pledge again my best abilities and my sincere devotion to the work we have in common to do—to this great work of making our city a model municipality.

What greater honor could any of us desire? What object could there be more worthy of any man's ambition than to succeed in giving strength and tone and exalted character to the municipality of which he is a citizen? to succeed in effectively cooperating in the work of establishing in his own city municipal self-government upon the basis of equal justice, and thereby setting an example of practical democracy to the civilized world.

Perhaps we cannot wholly succeed. Be that as it may, let us firmly resolve, each for himself in his own sphere of official duty, and all of us together, that at any rate we will deserve to succeed.

"ME AND MY FRIENDS."

Mr. Baer says that coal will advance in price again. Asked why the price had not been reduced, he said: "Because you and your friends have succeeded in raising wages and getting up the cost of necessities, so that profits are less."

You and your friends had to come and stick your old proboscises
Into all our business and criticise its processes;

Had to come and quiz us on our dealings carboniferous,
Then go saying wicked things in language most vociferous—

Now, see what me and my friends
Do to you and your friends.

You and your friends had to go and utter things calorified—
Things about our deals that left me and my friends horrified;

Had to egg our workers on until there was no pleasing them
Other than to make their wages suit them by increasing them—

Now, see what me and my friends
Do to you and your friends.

You and your friends spoke of our divine rights disrespectfully,
Treated all our edicts and all our rules neglectfully.

Now it's our turn—wait until winter time's frigidity;
Prices will be climbing up with intense rapidity.

Then see what me and my friends
Do to you and your friends!

—The Chicago Tribune.

The day after President Loubet arrived in Tlemcen (Algeria), which had suffered long from drought, there was a heavy fall of rain. This was attrib-

uted by the natives to the President's visit—with as much reason as our present prosperity is attributed by many to the Republican policies of protection and expansion.—The San Francisco Star.

Dickey, five years old, the son of a well-known minister, reports the Commercial, has not advanced sufficiently in his studies to take up physiology, but that the subject may appeal to him, perhaps, is revealed in a dialogue between himself and his brother Teddy, seven years old, which occurred at luncheon the other day.

"I'm so hungry, I wish I could eat everything on the table and fill my stummick from here to here," said Teddy, indicating what he thought was the "stummick's" location by pointing his finger to either side of his little body.

"Huh, you don't think your stummick goes so far, do you?" questioned Dickey.

"Why not?" asked Teddy.

"Well, you've got a gizzard and a soul; where're they?"—The Red Wing (Minn.) Argus.

Smart Aleck—Once upon a time there were three little children. Half of them were boys an'—

Dumb Delia—Why, Aleck! How could there be one and a half girls?

Smart Aleck—There weren't. The other half was boys, too.—London Tit-Bits.

The rich man is the trustee of humanity. In this way, you see, humanity's money is kept profitably invested, instead of being spent for food and drink and other frippery.—Puck.

A PRIMER OF RIGHT AND WRONG.

This attractive little volume, by J. N. Larned (Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 70 cents), seems to me the best of its kind. It is easy, interesting reading to grown-up people; whether it will prove to be so to "young people in schools and families," for whom it is by its title page intended, is another matter. It ought to be. It is written simply, though not childishly; concisely, though not without some grace of style.

But it is hard to prophesy what the average child will take to willingly. The little girl who said she had received as Christmas presents three books for improvement and two to read, was doubtless very serious in her criticism, and meant no joke. Among