

humanity possesses, namely, a man's own honor. He has, over the protests of the penitentiary ring, corrupt politicians and brutal jail guards, recognized the fact that even a convict has honor which can be successfully appealed to. Nearly four hundred robbers, murderers and crooks of varying degree march out of the prison to do road work, and camp for days upon the hills without a guard, and return on time, merely because they have given their words of honor that they will do so. He is reforming men, reducing taxes, improving the highways, lessening crime, and incidentally furnishing an object lesson of the fact often asserted but seldom believed, that a man who makes one, two, or even more mistakes, does not thereby become a wild beast unless he is made one by our clumsy attempts at "reforming" him.

† † †

I know not whether Laws be right,  
Or whether Laws be wrong;  
All that we know who lie in gaol  
Is that the wall is strong;  
And that each day is like a year,  
A year whose days are long.

The vilest deeds like poison weeds  
Bloom well in prison-air:  
It is only what is good in Man  
That wastes and withers there:  
Pale Anguish keeps the heavy gate,  
And the Warder is Despair.

—Oscar Wilde in "The Ballad of Reading Gaol."

† † †

## CLEVELAND'S "GOLDEN RULE" POLICE POLICY.\*

From Annual Report of Fred C. Kohler, Chief of Police at Cleveland, Ohio, for 1910.

The total number of arrests for the year 1910—the third full year that this department has been operated under the Common Sense or so-called Golden Rule policy of making or not making arrests—you will note is 7,185, an increase of 19 per cent compared with the previous year—1909,—when the total arrests were 6,018.

With the end of this year, as before stated, we have completed three years under this policy, and call to your attention briefly, the good results attained which stand abreast with all good work that has been accomplished by a police force.

First, the arrests for the years 1908, 1909 and 1910—10,085, 6,018 and 7,185 respectively—totaled exactly 23,288, an average of 7,762 for each year. This average number of arrests for the three years mentioned is a decrease of 22,656, or 74 per cent when compared with the number of arrests for the year 1907, in which year the large number of 30,418 arrests were made in this city.

\*See The Public, volume xii, pages 38, 614, 807, 1083; volume xlii, pages 614, 615.

In passing it might be well to attract to your attention that during the year 1907 and previous to that time, this department as other departments was still laboring with the old-time and antiquated method of carelessly throwing people into prison.

In this total of 30,418 arrests for 1907, we had but 938 arrests for felonies, which is approximately 3 per cent of the total, while during the years 1908, 1909 and 1910, we averaged approximately 950 arrests each year for felonies, which is a percentage of 12 compared with the average number of arrests for the three years. And during this time crime and vice greatly decreased.

These figures we base upon hard facts, and when you take into consideration the large and steady increase in our population as well as added territory, it is convincing proof that former methods of placing people in prison were entirely wrong, as so much time is given to the arrest and detention and prosecution of minor violators that the more serious and habitual offenders do not receive the proper surveillance and are practically allowed to operate without detection.

Formerly it was charged that it was the police who made those who had once had a police court record think there was no use in trying to go straight after getting out of prison. No man or woman ever appreciates a "square deal" more than these unfortunates who may have been shown their error by our policy. A person is never anything but what his outside influences have made him. They train him upward or they train him downward—but they train him; they are at work upon him all the time. And I hold that our policy and our police department has done more toward the ultimate reform of these minor and first offenders than any other agency could have accomplished under any circumstance.

In going more thoroughly into the matter, it might be well for me to mention that this department is being taught the greatest regard for the people whom they should protect, and not in a single instance can we be charged with the endeavor to ruin the lives of unfortunate people who have no voice, no "friend" to lift a shield above them, no defender. If many poor creatures who are victims of their surroundings and handicapped, as it were, in the battle of life, can be brought to see the error of their ways, and become honest, upright and industrious neighbors, is not our police work full of encouragement? If in the constant exercise of justice tempered with common sense we strengthen the moral fiber of those most likely to err, without arrest, detention and disgrace, are we not doing a great work? I answer "yes."

One of the primary purposes of this policy is not to make money for our municipality but to make men and women. That the same can never be done under the old policies, we are all agreed.

Another purpose of our policy is to wage a re-

lentless war against the confirmed criminal and habitual offenders and those making their living by criminal means and practices, as the detection of crime and criminals, in these modern days, has become entirely a matter of cool, hard-headed business.

During these three years of our policy we have demonstrated to those who are held responsible for crime and vice in municipalities, the possibilities of this policy, and they now agree that it is punishing the innocent more than the guilty when you imprison a person who may have committed some minor offense, and then feed and clothe him at public expense, while those dependent upon him suffer for the necessities of life. Our system greatly avoids this, and it also lessens the liability that such persons will commit crime and be arrested or imprisoned in the future.

I can only say that a review of our so-termed "Golden Rule" police system, inaugurated by me, shows it to be eminently successful. It has caused prevention of crime instead of arrests, to be a policeman's real duty. It has diminished crime and vice. It has about driven professional criminals, swindlers and the vicious class from the city. It has checked the budding criminal in his downward path. It has reduced the number of arrests about 75 per cent; saved thousands upon thousands of young men and women from adopting a life of crime and vice; raised the standard of the police force; increased the citizens' respect for the police; made practical judges of policemen, and has driven out shyster lawyers and professional bondsmen. Procurers, cadets, "trailers," brokers, professional "protectors"—men who traffic and live upon the proceeds of woman's shame—are now unknown here. The farce of a city's sharing in the wages of a woman's shame by exacting tribute from unfortunate women by a regular or systematic fining system or license system, is not permitted. No such thing as girls being lured to a house of ill repute under pretense of obtaining employment and afterward kept in bondage, nor such a thing as emigrant girls, ignorant of the language, being held in slavery by brutal masters, is known here.

This policy has no opposition among the law-abiding citizens, nor among the mothers whose sons and daughters have been saved from disgrace. But there is opposition among the professional bondsmen—police court sharks—who waxed fat on swollen fees extorted from poor men and women. There is opposition among politicians who formerly used their alleged "influence" to get votes—politicians who existed by catering to the lowest elements in the city. In fact, it has the opposition of the most vicious and disgruntled element in our midst, which, in reality, is one of the best recommendations it possibly could have.

## "THE HEIRS OF ALL THE EARTH."

By the Late Thomas Wentworth Higginson.

From street and square, from hill and glen,  
Of this vast world beyond my door,  
I hear the tread of marching men,  
The patient armies of the poor.

The halo of the city's lamps  
Hangs a vast torch-light in the air.  
I watch it through the evening damps;  
The masters of the world are there.

Not ermine clad, nor clothed in state,  
Their title deeds not yet made plain;  
But waking early, toiling late,  
The heirs of all the earth remain.

Some day, by laws as fixed and fair  
As guide the planets in their sweep,  
The children of each outcast heir  
The harvest fruits of time shall reap.

The peasant's brain shall yet be wise,  
The untamed pulse beat calm and still;  
The blind shall see, the lowly rise,  
And work in peace time's wondrous will.

Some day without a trumpet's call,  
This news shall o'er the earth be blown:  
The heritage comes back to all;  
The myriad monarchs take their own.

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## BOOKS

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### PRISONS IN ENGLAND.

*Crime and Criminals.* 1876-1910. By R. F. Quinton. Published by Longmans, Green & Co., 39 Paternoster Row, London. 1910. Price, 4s. 6d. net.

An English physician, for twenty years a prison medical officer and at one time governor of Holloway prison, tells what kind of men he has found criminals to be and how they should be treated. "Both crime and criminals," writes Dr. Quinton, "have steadily diminished in numbers to an extent that is hardly realized, and the habitual class no longer produces so large a proportion of reckless desperadoes as it did in former years." This improvement is partly due to the separation of youthful from habitual criminals under what is known in England as the Borstal system.

Non-habituals between sixteen and twenty-one years old are committed to the Borstal institutions for at least one year. The youth is then "put to work at some skilled trade in which he can take an interest, he goes through a regular daily course of physical drill, and, on the moral and intellectual side, his general education is specially forwarded, while he is encouraged to read literature that is improving as well as instructive, and he hears lectures on subjects that are likely to attract and interest him." At about this point the man from Mars would probably ask whether crime is the only