

the ideals that gave it birth. It was a free soil Democrat when the slave power was supreme; it is a democratic Democrat now. Jeffersonian principles have always moved it. From its infancy Gov. Mueller, at one time lieutenant governor of Ohio, whence his title comes, has been associated with the publication, and his spirit influences it still. It is a pleasure to recognize such a paper as the leading German daily of northern Ohio and to count it among the leading German papers of the West.

Chicago can boast of a jailer who, by uniting good motives to good sense, is sinking the jailer in the man. He has conceived the idea that he owes something more, both to the prisoner and to the community, than to feed the prisoners and keep them locked up; and he is pursuing a policy which is surely calculated to make them rather safer when at large than whole job-lots of well feathered men who never get into custody. John L. Whitman is the name of this model jailer. He has allowed the prisoners to organize in the jail the "John L. Whitman Moral Improvement association," over which he presides, but in which the prisoners govern themselves. Explaining this unique association in a public address last Sunday, Mr. Whitman said:

If I attempted to picture to you the scenes of one of the weekly meetings of the Moral Improvement association of the jail you would hardly believe me. Imagine, if you can, from 300 to 500 prisoners, all under the ban of the law and many of them considered to be vicious, being marshaled into the jail chapel under the leadership of some of their own number, absolutely no official authority being used, yet perfect decorum maintained. After they are all seated I open the meeting—no other officer being in the room—and during the rendition of the programme not a boisterous action or word to mar the proceedings, reverence shown where reverence is due, applause given where proper, and hearty, too, yet always within the bounds of propriety.

Mr. Whitman's just theory of criminal punishment is that it should not

be vindictive, but should have a twofold object; first, the protection of society from the continued commission of crime; second, the reformation of the offender. To accomplish the second purpose, this is his advice for the treatment of the prisoner:

Strengthen him morally; show him the error of his ways; hold out an incentive to him to lead an honest life. Light the beacon in the harbor of the troublesome sea of life, so that thereafter he can steer his craft out of the tempestuous waters into the calm sea of righteousness. Send him back to society benefited by his punishment, an honest and a better man. This second object, the spirit of the law, Justice has either been too blind or too busy to see, and until the dawn of the twentieth century it remained an unknown quantity.

Mr. Whitman might truthfully enough have added that society is not over-scrupulous in sinning against the prisoner before he begins to sin against society.

There appeared in a late issue of the Buenos Ayres (Argentina) Herald a suggestive item in these terms:

In May 18,069 immigrants arrived in the country by water and 22,937 left, making a loss of 4,868 people to the country. These people have no interests here and there is no inducement to stay, as the land is in the hands of big speculators who use it for cattle, and will not have agriculture unless they can make a profit out of the labor of other people. This emigration does not include the large numbers who are going to Paraguay, which country has trebled its population in 30 years, notwithstanding its less salubrious climate, great depreciation of currency and the difficulty of making money with which to return home. Paraguay is getting ahead of Argentina simply because she has shown herself more fit for self-government by wise land laws, a sensible tax system, facility for the immigrant to obtain land free and not through any colony-organizing capitalist, model system of agricultural banks, which besides buying produce, sell the farmer his chief necessities at cost price, and protection of property from lawyers as well as from thieves.

The idea that fitness for self-government is dependent upon wisdom in making land laws and tax systems, isn't bad. But what would become of this republic of ours if it were tried by that test? At bottom,

though, that idea is not only true, but the penalty is self-executing. A people who make bad land and tax laws are in very truth not fit for self-government, and as surely as effect follows cause such a people cannot remain self-governing. It requires no military subjugation to put them down. They lose their liberties imperceptibly but steadily as inequitable taxation and land monopoly, twin sisters of evil omen, gain a place in their affections or toleration. What it is that Paraguay has done to outstrip Argentina might make an exceptionally interesting and educational consular report.

The convict Thoms, who was hanged last week at Chicago for a brutal murder, may have been guilty, though his dying declaration, made on the gallows drop with the hangman's noose encircling his neck, had about it the ring of truth. Said he: "I am innocent of the charge brought against me. My only hope is that some day the truth will be known and the guilty man punished. For myself I approach death without a fear. It is for the honor of my wife and child that I wish the truth to be known. These are my last words. I am innocent of the crime with which I am charged." But whether guilty or innocent, that man was hanged without having had a fair trial (p. 260). Two men on the first jury that tried him did not believe the incriminating evidence and courageously stood to the end for acquittal. They were reputable men, and there is not a shadow of suspicion against their good faith. Yet the prosecuting officer publicly denounced them as unfit for jury duty, for no other reason than that they had disagreed with him about the merits of the case, and he put the prisoner upon trial immediately before another jury. What innocent man would have been content to face that second jury at that time under those circumstances?

In every man there are two men—the man of this age, and the man of the Stone Age.—Life.