

A TIME FOR POSITIVE PROTEST.

Rev. H. C. Morrison, D. D.

Some one tells us that a famous preacher in England has recently said that the last step in the degradation of a nation before appalling calamity and catastrophe, is immodesty and indiscretion in women; that suggestive dress means, in the end, the ruin of a people.

It is well understood and will be admitted without controversy, that the state rests upon the home. You can have neither church, state, sacredness of property rights or any sort of uplift of morals or safety in social conditions without the purity of the home, the sacredness of the marriage vow, the virtue of wifeness, motherhood, sisterhood, daughterhood and last, but not least, manhood. We must have pure men, if we are to have the true Church of Christ in our midst, the perpetuation and progress of our republic.

We think the men who write on sex relations will tell you that inordinate desires are born in the brain. That they are started by suggestion; that they are nursed in the imagination and flame up into uncontrollable passion, and result in the breaking of all moral bounds, the prostitution of man and womanhood, the wreck of character, the despoiling of the home, the destruction of body and soul. Of all evils there is perhaps nothing quite so bad as the destruction wrought in the life and home through unrestrained lust.

That which furnishes the kindling wood, starts the flame and fans the fires of lust ought to be condemned without mincing, without hesitation, without nice distinctions; as we love womanhood and manhood, beautiful children, the words mother, wife, daughter, home and heaven, we must contend for virtuous manhood and womanhood. We can't afford for the sake of the stupid feelings of the unthinking, the daring, the reckless and the lewd to keep quiet when such vital interests are at stake.

All this, by way of preparation to say, that the suggestive and immodest dress which has broken into good families and church circles has become so absolutely outrageous that we must protest against it in the most positive language at our command. We were about to say that we cannot understand the feeling, intelligence, sensibilities and modesty of parents, good people, Christian people, who permit their daughters to appear in public in dress so immodest that it is astounding; but we pause to say that the young people of this generation have broken away from parental control. At fourteen years of age and upward, they are almost beyond control, at least very large numbers. They go where they please, when they please, dress as they please and associate with whom they please. Many of the victims of the white slave traffic meet the whiteslavers more than half way. The immodesty, indecency and impiety of the young women of this nation who insist that much of their person shall be exposed to the public gaze, deserve the severest rebuke from the American pulpit and the religious press, and it ought to be spoken *now*.

It is quite useless for mothers of bad taste and daughters of brazen face to try to pretend either ignorance or innocence. They are seeking to attract attention by the improper exposure of their bodies. They and their friends who deny the charge will have their part with all liars in the lake of fire and brimstone. Their profession of religion is false; their claim to true modesty

is contradicted by their conduct; they are debauching the nation, they are damning manhood, they are breaking up the foundations of the home, they are polluting society, they are driving spirituality out of the church, they are scattering death and preparing the nation for slaughter. God hates impurity; lust is the most dangerous foe of spirituality. The mothers and daughters who are trampling upon propriety and dressing indecently are poisoning the fountain of life; the whole stream reeks with the vilest disease that can affect body, mind and soul.

Let every honest, earnest man and woman rise in war against these conditions. We cannot afford to let those servants of the devil, those recruiters for hell, pattern makers, the drawers of fashion plates and dress-makers, with their smirks and whines dictate to us in the matter of dress and consign us to ruin. Miserable dressmakers will tell you when you insist on decent dress that, "It is entirely out of fashion; this low-cut is all the go. You will not be in style. I can't make that. It will be impossible to fix it as you wish," and a whole string of miserable falsehoods. Let us bring them to have sense and decency or drive them out of business. These are severe words about the dressmakers; there is a demand or there would not be supply, and yet, the people who make the fashion plates and get up the designs are rank rotten, and decent dressmakers ought to rebel against the custom and become advocates and evangelists of decency. Would God every minister of every church and every religious journal in the land would declare and wage relentless war against indecent dress.—*Pentecostal Herald*.

JEFFERSON'S NINE RULES.

Never put off until tomorrow what you can do today.

Never trouble another for what you can do yourself.

Never spend your money before you have made it.

Never buy what you don't want because it is cheap.

Pride costs more than hunger, thirst and cold.

We seldom regret of having eaten too little.

Nothing is troublesome that we do willingly.

How much pain the evils that have never happened have cost us.

Take things always by the smooth handle.—*Selected*.

PETER'S LOAN.

"Lend me thy boat," the Master kindly said
To Simon, wearied with unfruitful toil.
He lent it gladly, asking but the smile
Of him who had not where to lay his head.
But Jesus knows our need of daily bread,
And will be no man's debtor. If awhile
He uses Simon's boat, in kingly style
He will repay—a hundredfold instead,
And Peter's Lord, as yesterday the same,
Walking, though now unseen, among his own,
Still condescends to ask from each a loan.
O humble toiler, when he calls thy name,
Lend him thy all. The Master ne'er forgets
Discouraged fisherman or empty nets.
—Selected.

Never bear more than one trouble at a time. Some people bear three kinds—all they have ever had, all they have now, and all they expect to have.—Edward E. Hale.

ONE BAPTISM, MANY REFRESHINGS.

Rev. R. Pierce.

If the plan of salvation were more clearly known, there would be fewer theories in reference to it, especially with regard to the office work of the Holy Spirit.

The divine order in our salvation seems to be (1) John and repentance; (2) Jesus and faith; (3) the Spirit and holiness. The highest revelation made to man is the baptism of the Holy Ghost. The Holy Spirit is essential to holy living, and He is the One who is the most easily grieved. The pressing theme of the apostles was the indwelling Holy Ghost for every believer, and the normal experience of the early Christians was, "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost."

There is a Pentecost needed for every new believer, but not a new Pentecost for those who are already sanctified. There are many refreshings and anointings from the presence of the Lord, but no new baptism. There is "a stirring up of the gift that is in you," but no repetition of the coming of the Holy Ghost, unless He has been grieved away by sin, and on repentance the heart is opened to Him anew. The Holy Ghost has only one temple—the clean heart. He wants to abide there forever, making it the base of His gracious operations. Let Him, by keeping it clean.—*The Way of Holiness*, England.

INGRATITUDE.

A man once said to Sam Jones: "Jones, the church is putting my assessment too high."

Jones asked: "How much do you pay?"

"Five dollars a year," was the reply.

"Well," said Jones, "how long have you been converted?"

"About four years," was the answer.

"Well, what did you pay before you were converted?"

"I was a drunkard."

"How much did you spend for drink?"

"About two hundred and fifty dollars a year!"

"How much were you worth?"

"I rented land and was plowing with a steer."

"What have you got now?"

"I have a good plantation and a good pair of horses."

"Well," said Sam Jones, "you paid the devil two hundred and fifty dollars a year for the privilege of plowing with a steer on rented land, and now you don't want to give God, who saved you, five dollars a year for the privilege of plowing with horses on your own plantation. You are a rascal from the crown of your head to the sole of your foot."

THE HIGHWAY.

Sister Boone, when paying her renewal for the Highway said: "I would not like to try and keep house without it."

Sister Lunn wrote to the editor: "I certainly would not try to get along without The Highway. It is worthy of all the praise I can say for it. It is of much value to us; I read it for its spiritual help."

A minister who did not renew for The Highway last year subscribed for it again and said: "I am sorry that I did not take it last year, for I missed it very much."

"The most fascinating of all the devil's baits are fixed with feathers and foolishness instead of food."