

positively injurious to the state and to public morality. The recent taking off of Mayor Harrison, of Chicago, affords a striking instance of the popular tendency to canonize as soon as dead the man whom we anathematize while living. Those who remember the circumstances under which Mr. Harrison was elected to the position he occupied at his death, and recall his portrait as then drawn by the friends of order and morality, must have been often surprised at the almost universal homage which has been paid to his memory since his assassination. The New York Nation is one of the few papers which does not shrink from recalling the facts of his life. It points out that he was, during his whole political career, a strong sympathizer with the lawless element in the Chicago population; that he did his best to save the Anarchists from the gallows after their murderous attack on the police; that he undoubtedly helped to keep alive and multiply the class of people who swarm in the streets with concealed weapons, and who do not all "carry certificates of sanity." If it be true, as all that we can recall of the history of the campaign which resulted in Mayor Harrison's election, as well as of his subsequent record, goes to show, that he pandered to the vicious and criminal elements of the population, with a view probably to a senatorship for himself, it cannot be denied that there was a kind of poetic justice in his falling at the hands of one of this same dangerous class. Perhaps it would be better to revise the old maxim and make it read, "Of the dead say nothing but the truth." This need not mean, of course, that the whole disagreeable truth must be always unearthed and paraded, but only that we should not palter with the truth by making a hero of the dead, when he was but a very frail mortal while alive.

A great struggle is now going on in the State of New Jersey. The question at issue is whether the State shall continue to merit the bad distinction its assembly earned for it last winter, that, viz., of being "The Gamblers' State." Our readers may remember the strange history of its gambling legislation of last February, when three bills legalizing gambling or unlicensed race-courses were introduced in the Assembly on Monday, February 20th; read a second and third time, passed, and sent to the State Senate on Tuesday; passed through all three stages under suspension of the rules in the Senate and sent to the Governor on Wednesday; vetoed by the Governor and returned to the Legislature, where under the rules they had to lie for twenty-four hours, on Thursday; and passed over the Governor's veto and made the law of the State, on Saturday. The history of constitutional government contains few records of more infamous legislation enacted with more indecent haste. The results, so far as yet apparent, are thus summarized by The Outlook:

"Race-courses have been in operation at Linden, Elizabeth, Camden, Monmouth, Hudson and Passaic. Races are run nine months in the year, without reference to the weather and without reference to the quality of the horses. There is no sport whatever in the business; it is gambling, pure and simple. In every locality where the gambling tracks are situated there has been a steady fall in the prices of real estate, a rapid emigration of residents, and a swift demoralization. Crowds of disreputable men and women have poured into the State and made these race-tracks their headquarters. Rowdies of every description have frequented the grounds. Decent men, especially young men, have been drawn into the whirlpool, and New Jersey has been a gambling paradise since the passage of the laws. . . . One of the leading race-track men now proposes to go the United States Senate, and unless the character of the Legislature is changed, his ambition will be gratified."

Thus has this little State gathered up the badges of infamy which Louisiana discarded after so violent a struggle, and bound it unblushingly on its brow. As may be supposed, the better sentiment of the State is thoroughly aroused. A Citizens' League has been organized, and the repeal of the gambling legislation is being made the issue on every platform. The best wishes of good people everywhere will be with the upright citizens who are striving to cleanse the statute book from the foul stain. We are glad to learn from reports just to hand that the anti-gambling forces have triumphed.

We have before us a pamphlet issued by "The York Waterworks Company (Limited)" describing a project for the solution of Toronto's water supply problem, which they are about to lay before the citizens. This Company claims to have discovered within about two miles of the city, on the highlands to the north, beneath the layer of surface clay, a bed of water-bearing sand capable of furnishing a supply ample for the city's needs for all time to come. From this source they propose to undertake to supply the citizens with an abundance of water, second to none in the world in quality, with all the advantage of a high gravitation pressure, for very little more than one-half of what it now costs to pump that which we are using from Lake Ontario. They propose to do this without asking the city to pay them for their scheme, or to spend time and money in making tests. It goes without saying that if the Company can convince the city that they have the ability to do all this their offer is too good to be refused. The crucial questions will be, is the water there in sufficient quantity? Can it be made available? Is its quality as described? All these are questions of fact. It was, of course, not to be expected that the evidence in support of such claims could be furnished in a pamphlet of half-a-dozen pages. The instances which are adduced of the successful use of similar sources of supply by other towns and cities,

if the facts be as stated which we know no reason to doubt, would suffice simply to put the scheme into the category of those worth investigating. The theory which is advanced in partial explanation of the alleged existence of so large a source of water-supply, at so great a height above the city level, viz., that the waters of Lake Simcoe find their way thither after percolating by means of underground channels through the intervening thirty miles of distance, is, of course, in the absence of demonstrative proof, but a theory, and as such can have no convincing force. Proof, clear and incontestable, of the various statements put forward is the first thing needed, and a *sine qua non* of serious consideration of the scheme. The Company will, no doubt, be prepared to find no little difficulty, no matter how satisfactory the evidence to their own minds, in popularizing the idea that a great city, bordering on a great lake, should turn its thoughts from the latter and place its entire dependence for its water-supply on a source that is not visible, and about the extent and permanence of which so little can be absolutely known.

Our new Governor-General and Lady Aberdeen have been welcomed to Canada with a warmth which may have verged in some cases on effusiveness, but the genuineness of which they cannot for a moment doubt. Their responses, so uniformly genial and hearty and so refreshingly free from official stiffness, have given not only convincing evidence of their sustained good nature, but gratifying assurance that their interest in the people and institutions of Canada is deep and sincere. Lord and Lady Aberdeen have evidently none of the fear which sometimes leads dignitaries of smaller minds and less assured positions to hold themselves somewhat aloof from the people lest a too close contact might impair official dignity. It is not, in fact, too much to say that their Excellencies have made their way direct to the hearts of the Canadian people. To this end their unaffected interest in every philanthropic institution, and in every form of earnest endeavour to promote the physical comfort and the highest well-being of those who for any cause stand in special need of the help of their more prosperous fellow-citizens, have contributed not a little. Far above all respect due to high rank and official position is the heartfelt tribute which is spontaneously paid to those in whom we recognize the attributes of the noblest Christian manhood and womanhood.

Reverting for a moment to the formal addresses with which Lord and Lady Aberdeen have been almost overwhelmed at the various places they have visited, it may not be amiss to give voice to a query which must have suggested itself to many a thoughtful onlooker. Why is it that when we hear so much of other nationalities and the addresses and replies we hear so little