

Family Reading.

TWO THEORIES OF SOCIETY.

In point of fact, there are but two principles upon which society can be organized; and to make an attempt to combine them is to forfeit the advantages offered by each. One takes for its motto the saying that the good of the community is the supreme law, and regards the individual as having no rights. This principle was consistently acted upon for some centuries in Sparta. The Spartans were a horde of invaders from the North who had invaded a Southern province of the Morea, and held it by force. As they were not more than one to ten as compared with the original owners of the soil, who were as good Greeks as themselves, they could only maintain their position by keeping their subjects down—which they did amongst other ways by encouraging their youth to murder every Helot who showed the smallest sign of ability or independence of character—and by training every man among themselves to the highest pitch of military efficiency. They destroyed every new born child that seemed in the least weakly; at the age of seven every boy was taken from his mother and subjected to the sternest and cruelest education that ever children underwent; and no Spartan was allowed to acquire anything like domestic tastes. The system answered admirably; but what came of it all? The Spartans were not better soldiers than any other Greeks. They bequeathed half a dozen proverbs to mankind and the memory of certain notable feats of arms; but nothing beyond what might be paralleled from the military history of any modern nation. Beyond that, they did nothing for mankind, and as they were cruel to themselves, they invariably proved themselves when power fell into their hands capable of the most brutal oppression that men have ever been guilty of; whereas the other Greeks, and especially the Athenians, attained to the very highest pitch of excellence that human taste or intelligence has ever reached.

To carry out the supremacy of the commonwealth not for warlike, but for industrial ends, would necessitate to some extent the use of similar means. If the State is to provide that no one shall be ill clothed, or house, or fed, it would be compelled to see that there was no idlers, and it would have to protect itself against a sickly and useless population. This is actually the case with Russian peasantry. No young man is allowed to choose his own wife, but that business is left to the chief matron of the family, who selects a bride on exactly the same principle as she would buy a mare—her only care is to see that the young woman is strong to labor, and not likely to be ailing. Englishmen would never submit to a life like that. Wherever Socialism has been tried in America—and it has had many trials—it has invariably broken down. Obviously it is a system that would differ only from an Asiatic despotism in that the slaves would be allowed to choose their own driver; which would graft upon it a system of perennial conspiracy and intrigue.

The other social basis regards the rights of the individual as sacred and inviolable even against the State itself; so that if the country needs the property or the time of a private person it is bound to compensate him for it either in money or money's worth. This is very much the condition of things under which it is our happiness to live. It is unfortunately true that it does not prevent the existence of great evil; but everything has the faults of its qualities, and it would be strange indeed if freedom, the noblest thing that man can enjoy were not liable to abuse. We desire to say it with all reverence, but we know that amongst the first beings whom God was pleased to create with the power of will, some employed that power for the purpose of rebelling against their Maker. We know, too, that even in Paradise our first parents abused their freedom in the same way. It is not therefore wonderful, if fallen men having power to do what they please with their own, should do amiss. But one thing we may say with confidence and without fear of contradiction; and it is, that

free institutions produce more happiness for a larger number of persons than any other. At this moment a great majority of English families are tolerably happy, and no one will deny that of those which are miserable a still larger proportion would become happy if only they would learn and practise their duty as it is set forth in the Catechism. As for the poverty which is unavoidable, it is not too great for Christian charity to deal with; and so we venture with some confidence to say that far more may be hoped from the remedies which are within everybody's reach than from sweeping changes, which have never been tried, or which, if they have been tried, have invariably failed—*Church Times*.

A NOBLE ORGAN.

Messrs. S. R. Warren, & Son, of Toronto, have recently completed a magnificent organ for new St. Andrews, grand in its qualities and proportions. There are 47 speaking stops, and all but three extend throughout the full compass of the organ. The builders have placed nearly the whole under the most absolute control by the extensive use of the swell-box; in addition to the ordinary swell-box which embraces the upper manual; they have enclosed those of the choir or lower manual, as well as the twelfth and fifteenth mixtures and the reeds of the great organ—upwards of 30 stops—this arrangement enables the organist to use the crescendo and diminuendo with startling effect. The wind chests are differently constructed from those in ordinary use, and are patented by the firm both in Canada and the United States; under each valve attached to a pipe is placed a small bellows to operate the valve—the inflation or collapsing of these, sounding the pipe—there are more than 2,500 of these bellows used in the construction of the organ; this renders the touch light and agreeable, and insures a high perfection in "repetition" equal to that of the pianoforte. There are three manuals of the overhanging type, and the disposition of the key boards with the pedal clavier and the arrangement of the different combination movements and couplers, are of the most approved standard.

The main bellows is placed in the basement of the Church, and gives a capacity of over 2,000 cubic feet of air per minute—they are operated by a "Turk Motor". The organ has a frontage of 42 feet, and is placed in a case designed by Mr. Storm Architect, and made by Messrs. R. Hay, & Co. The front pipe, are decorated very handsomely by the Messrs. Warren, part of them in frosted gold with burnished gold bands, and crimson flock, and the tower pipes in plain burnished gold. The cost of this fine instrument is upwards of \$13,000.

Tenders for this organ were invited from Europe and the United States, as well as from the Dominion. It is very creditable to Messrs. Warren that, in face of such competition, they were awarded the contract.

We often notice in our churches painted windows put up in memory of great people, or of other beloved dead.

There is, however, in a church in America, one such memorial which probably stands alone of its kind, since it commemorates an aged negro couple, man and wife, once slaves, afterwards free, and in their age and feebleness cared for by the parish in which they lived.

The window records that they were for years "door keepers in the house of God;" the congregation who watched their humble, quiet performance of their duties, gladly subscribed to place in their church this window, "to the glory of God, and the affectionate remembrance of John Wilson and his wife Elizabeth."

HINTS TO HOUSEKEEPERS.

The following is recommended as a cure for diphtheria: A child, 9 years old, became violently ill with diphtheria. She was so weak that it was

deemed dangerous to try tracheotomy, or cutting open the windpipe. A Dr. Nichols who was attending her, received a copy of the *Paris Figaro*, which contained a report made to the French Academy of Medicine by Dr. Delthill. Dr. Delthill said that the vapors of liquid tar and turpentine would dissolve the fibrinous excretions which choke up the throat in croup and diphtheria. Directions: Pour equal parts of turpentine and liquid tar into a tin pan or cup and set fire to the mixture, taking care to have a larger pan under it as a safeguard against fire. A dense resinous smoke arises, making the room dark. "The patient," Dr. Delthill says, "immediately seems to experience relief; the choking and rattle stop, the patient falls into a slumber, and seems to inhale the smoke with pleasure. The fibrinous membrane soon becomes detached, and the patient coughs up microbicides. These, when caught in a glass, may be seen to dissolve in the smoke. In the course of three days afterwards the patient entirely recovers." Dr. Nichols tried this treatment with the little girl spoken of. She was lying gasping for breath when he visited her. He took two tablespoonfuls of liquid tar and same quantity of turpentine, set on fire. The rich resinous smoke which rose to the ceiling was by no means unpleasant. As it filled the room, the child's breathing became natural, and as the smoke grew dense she fell asleep.

Black.—For five pounds of goods, bill them in a decoction of three pounds sumach one-half hour, and steep twelve hours; dip in lime water one half hour; take out and let them drip one-hour; run them through the lime water again fifteen minutes. Make a new dye with two and one-half pounds of logwood (boiled one hour), and again three hours; add bichromate potash, two ounces, to the logwood dye, and dip one hour. Wash in clear cold water and dry in the shade. Only process for permanent black.

Sky Blue.—For three pounds goods, blue vitriol, four ounces; boil a few minutes, then dip goods three hours; then pass them through strong lime water. A beautiful brown can be obtained by next putting goods through a solution of prussiate of potash.

Green.—Dip goods in home-made blue; dye until blue enough is obtained to make the green as dark as required; take out, dry and rinse a little. Make a dye with fustic, three pounds; logwood, three ounces to each pound of goods, and boiling dye one hour; when cooled so as to bear hand, put in goods, move briskly a few minutes, and let lie one hour; take out and thoroughly drain; dissolve and add to the dye for each pound of cotton, blue vitriol, one-half-ounce, and dip another hour. Wring out and let dry in shade. By adding or diminishing the logwood and fustic, any shade may be had.

Yellow.—For five pounds of goods, seven ounces sugar of lead; dip goods two hours; make new dye with bichromate of potash, four ounces; dip until color suits; wring out and dry. If not yellow enough, repeat.

Orange.—For five pounds goods, sugar of lead, four ounces; boil few minutes, when a little cool put in goods; dip two hours; wring out; make a new dye with bichromate of potash eight ounces, madder two ounces, dip until it suits. If color is too red, take small sample and dip into it.

As the late Professor Hamilton was one day walking near Aberdeen he met a well-known individual of weak intellect. "Pray" said the professor. "how long can a person live without brains?" "I dinna ken," replied Jammy, scratching his head; "how auld are ye yoursel,?"

COMFORTING NEWS.—What a comfort and how very convenient to be able to have a Closet indoors, it being neither offensive nor unhealthy, "Heap's Patent" Dry Earth or Ashes Closets are perfectly inodorous. The commodes with urine separators, can be kept in a bedroom, and are invaluable in any house during the winter season, or in case of sickness; they are a well finished piece of furniture. Factory, Owen Sound Ont.