

When we can do no good we have a right to be silent. . . . A worm like me must not dispute with our lawful rulers. . . . We must bear almost anything rather than throw the world into confusion. There are seasons when we must even conceal the truth." But this is not the philosophy of the great men of history. When the leading political bosses of the United States offered Theodore Roosevelt an election to the presidency of the republic if he would only submit to their dictation, he answered: "I would rather be a whole president for three years and a half than a half president for seven years and a half"—the "three years and a half" being the unexpired term of Mr. McKinley's office when assassinated. Courage is the master sign of a great soul. Tolstoi remarked with a smile, "The day of my excommunication from the Greek church was the happiest day of my life." John Bradford, in the presence of the Instruments of torture which would cause him untold agony and finally snuff out his life, calmly remarked, "I am a Christian now if I have never been before."

O may I join the choir invisible  
Of those immortal dead who live again  
In minds made better by their presence; live  
In pulses stirred to generosity,  
In deeds of daring rectitude, in scorn  
For miserable aims that end with self,  
In thoughts sublime that pierce the night like stars,  
And with their mild persistence urge men's search  
To vaster issues.

(10) Some men are unpopular because you never know where to find them on questions of vital importance to the community. How many there are who, in portrait and character, match, perfectly, the description of Cardinal Richelieu as painted by Dr. John Lord in his "Beacon Lights of History." "During seventeen years of office climbing, Richelieu was to all appearance the most amiable man in France; everybody liked him, and everybody trusted him. He was full of amenities, promises, bows, smiles, and flatteries. He always advocated the popular side with reigning favorites; courted all the great ladies; was seen in all the fashionable salons; had no offensive opinions; was polite to everybody; was non-committal."

There is some satisfaction in beholding an outspoken character even though bad motives and low ideals are enthroned. Charles H. Parkhurst, the eloquent preacher and social reformer of New York, has recently