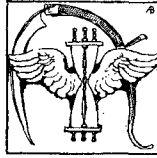


## THE NIGHT OF GODS

THEIR mouths have drunken the eternal wine—  
The draught that Baäl in oblivion sips.  
Unseen about their courts the adder slips,  
Unheard the sucklings of the leopard whine;  
The toad has found a resting-place divine,  
And bloats in stupor between Ammon's lips.  
O Carthage and the unreturning ships,  
The fallen pinnacle, the shifting Sign!

Lo! when I hear from voiceless court and fane  
Time's adoration of eternity,—  
The cry of kingdoms past and gods undone,—  
I stand as one whose feet at noontide gain  
A lonely shore; who feels his soul set free,  
And hears the blind sea chanting to the sun.



## TOPICS OF THE TIME

### CLEVELAND

THE qualities which made President Cleveland a powerful element in the life of the nation, one of our executives of highest accomplishment and influence, have been appreciated more and more widely during his later years, and were generously expressed by opponents as well as by allies on the occasion of his death. In addition to this there has been a growing sense of the disinterestedness of his character and of the deep sincerity of his patriotism. He had lived to see his own traits of industry in the public service, his frankness, dauntless bravery, and complete incorruptibility, become accepted standards of comparison as to political aspirants and public servants. To say of a public man that he had some of the sturdy traits of Cleveland has long been a valued form of praise.

Then, too, there has been a genuine appreciation of the quiet dignity of bearing, in retirement, of one who was for years the country's only Ex-President. The sorrow at his death was sincere and wide-

spread, and was far from being confined to those who had been his political supporters: the country was felt to have lost a great conservative force, a personality that told for judgment, steadfastness, and a profound sense of public duty. The impression of his character and career extended to foreign nations, and found expression in the tributes of the world.

To the circle of his personal friends Mr. Cleveland stood for all the great qualities from which grew his distinguished acts; but in private life he was so different a man from what many imagined the stern, courageous statesman to be that it will probably be long before all the lineaments of his portrait will be familiar to his fellow-countrymen. He who could stoutly resist private appeal and public clamor, when duty and conscience were involved, was one of whom it might be said that he had a genius for companionship. The sweetness, the gentleness, the tenderness, of a strong nature, are things that must be seen near to be thoroughly understood; and, which thus seen, have a very great and poignant attraction.

There is a distinct vacancy in our public life when a towering personality such as the Ex-President's disappears from view, and generations may pass before just such a figure looms again. But when a man like Grover Cleveland—the neighbor, the companion, the friend—passes away, there is a void in many hearts that can never, in this life, be filled again.

#### ACADEMIC HANDS ACROSS THE SEA

IT is a lamentable fact that certain periodicals and certain writers in Great Britain lose no opportunity to stir up ill-feeling between the men of education in England and in America. Meantime the academic authorities of the two countries constantly give evidence of that good feeling which should especially illustrate the world of culture.

Degrees are frequently conferred in Great Britain and in America to distinguished scholars and citizens of the other country; but an instance of academical interchange occurred recently of quite a new character, and for this reason the incident is worth particular attention.

Lehigh University desired to confer the honorary degree of master and science upon the eminent electrical engineer Horace Field Parshall of London, an American, and a graduate of Lehigh's electrical course. The Lehigh authorities did not wish to use the ordinary method,—in absentia,—and President Drinker therefore requested the University of Liverpool to confer the degree "for and on behalf of the Lehigh University, and by its authority and as its attorney and representative." This was done, in July last, at Liverpool. In Vice-Chancellor Dale's letter accepting the duty, he said:

So far as I am aware, no precedent or parallel for such an act can be found in the history of British Universities. But it is our business to make precedents as well as to follow them, and we trust that in so doing our act will be regarded as an expression of fellowship and sympathy with kindred institutions carrying on similar work, established for similar services, and bound to us by many ties.

Such an act as this, and such sentiments as these, make for good feeling between nations, and the peace of the world.

#### "PREVENTION"

WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO UNNECESSARY  
BLINDNESS

"EFFICIENCY" as a new watchword in philanthropy, government, and business was the subject of comment in this department a while ago. The word is being more and more used. Mr. Allen's book, and the promulgations of the Bureau of Municipal Research, have helped the dissemination of the word and the idea, till now even advertisers have taken it up, and this quality of efficiency is earnestly claimed as an important element in contrivances put upon the market.

Another watchword seems to be acquiring new life and significance in our busied existence, and this is the familiar word "Prevention." We hear it on all sides, in fields sacred as well as secular. In the realm of finance, thoughtful experts study fundamental means for the prevention of evils rather than methods of temporary relief.

In the treatment of crime, philanthropists are taking less and less interest in punishment, and devoting themselves more and more earnestly to cure, and to prevention. It is the evident relation of drunkenness to crime that has given strength to the anti-liquor agitation. In every area of the sociological and philanthropological field,—in dealing with the question of poverty and allied subjects,—prevention finds increasing favor, running, indeed, at times, as is natural, into ill-considered, ignorant, extravagant, and faddish schemes, proposed sometimes in cheerful disregard of the very laws of our being. In the religious world we find that the "old-fashioned" methods of evangelical agitation, though by no means disused, are partly set aside in the minds and methods of many leaders of religion, for energetic efforts of a different sort. The "Outlook," the other day, spoke of the "old evangelism, which aimed only to correct individual sinners," and of the "new evangelism, which aims also to reform the social evils and wrongs that breed sinners."

In medicine, prevention goes hand in hand with cure, and with such ingenuity and energy is the former pursued that year by year lives are saved in incalcula-