

"I believe in my policy. I believe that if it is properly and generally carried into effect it will put the American policeman in the position he should occupy. He will learn that the people he has to deal with are human beings, not machines; liable to have mistakes and failures, but not therefore lost souls. And I believe that the patrolman should be the friend and parole officer of these laggards. I believe that the best policeman is he who manages all offenders against the law with the least show of authority, with the least personal pride, with the greatest sense of human justice.

"We also have a plan of 'police repression' which consists in warning would-be criminals. The purposes of it are to prevent violations of the law, instead of waiting for them to occur. That plan, in connection with this 'golden-rule policy' has really made Cleveland a good city to live in.

"And, to take a broad view, I submit that we police can help to make the world a better place to live in. It has been said, and you detectives, with your long experience in police business, know, that the police, unwillingly and unwittingly perhaps, but nevertheless hastily, have been instrumental in making as many criminals as any other agency—poverty, heritage, and association excepted. This we have done by making these numerous arrests of first offenders, by exposing and branding them with Police Court and prison records.

"We have discouraged men. We have driven young and weak men to the haunts and association of habitual and expert criminals, who have taught them the ideals and practices of crime. We have punished; we have not prevented crime. The time has come to change all this, and I believe we in Cleveland have found the way to do it. For a great many years in Cleveland the police had done as the police do everywhere with drunks and disorderly persons, petty thieves, bad boys, and small offenders generally—we ran them in. It was the custom in Cleveland—it is still the custom of practically the whole police world; and customs, ground as they are into the very fibre of men's minds, are hard to break. But we have broken the custom of the world and the ages in Cleveland. We are treating men as men even when they are drunk, even when they disturb the peace, even when they insult the dignity of a policeman. We often make arrests, but even then we deal with our prisoners as citizens, as human beings. And we all like the change—not only the offenders, but the police. It works. Humanity pays. The results of our so-called 'golden-rule policy' are good."

#### RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTAGE.

It must be noted that the view is rapidly growing that the time has arrived when, if the elevation of the race is seriously desired, the freedom now allowed to degenerates and confirmed criminals to become parents must be ended forthwith. Many go further, and insist upon the absolute good health of those wishing to contract marriage. A law to this effect has been enacted in the State of Washington, U.S.A., and came into operation a few months ago: it will probably be repealed, as one State can scarcely enforce such a stringent law alone.

The crucial question appears to be, What is all effort, both by charitable persons and the State, leading to; and what can be done to check irresponsible parentage? An idea which appeals to me is that of Mr. H. G. Wells, who thinks that parents who are incapable of rearing their children in a healthy or moral manner, and parents of illegitimate children, should pay the State for the cost of their upbringing, and, if they fail to do so, should be put into celibate labour establishments to work off the debt, and remain there until it is fully discharged.

I think Mr. Davenport, Dean of the University of Illinois, puts the question in a peculiarly lucid and reasonable way, as affecting a certain class, when he says,—

"The question for the Courts to determine is, therefore, whether the man is by heredity a criminal; and, if so, then he should be separated and segregated from society, not temporarily, but, like the dangerously insane, for ever, because, like the leopard, he will not change his spots. He cannot.

"When this once comes to be followed, then the race will rapidly rise, and we shall reduce, though we shall never be able to obliterate, the degenerate. When that time comes we shall have fewer in our prisons, and we shall cease making criminals out of normal, average men by reason of enforced evil associations and lost hope. If we segregate and prevent the reproduction of the degenerate on the one hand, and depend upon the educated and preferential mating upon the other, the human race should rapidly and indefinitely improve.

"To conclude: I cannot approve of the oft-proposed interference with the marriage relations of normal people. Any mistakes they make will be blotted out mechanically, and will not permanently weaken the race, or greatly hamper it at any given moment. But I would deal differently with the criminal class, and I would take every opportunity to eliminate them from the possibility of reproducing their kind when once adjudged to be degenerates. In other words, I would not tamper with the normal men and women in their marriage relations, but I would deal differently with our degenerates, by inquiring more deeply and sharply into the real nature of the criminal; and I would adjudge him upon that nature, as determined upon evidence before a competent Court, rather than judge him by a single act which may or may not indicate his hereditary nature. In a word, I would begin the improvement of the human race by the elimination of the degenerate in every possible way."