

INDEPENDENCE NUMBER

Let our object be, our country, our whole country, and nothing but our country.

—Webster.



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HARMONY.

IN every co-operative undertaking, whether it be great or whether it be small, the most essential thing to its success is Harmony; the co-operation of all its forces in harmonious relation one with the other. And *per contra* the influence which is most disastrous and which most effectually results in non-success, in any undertaking, from that of the marriage-relation to that of the greatest co-operative undertakings, is dissonance, or lack of Harmony.

Those who are placed at the forefront of any undertaking, especially those to whom are entrusted the vital interests of any great body of men, cannot too deeply allow this thought to sink well into their minds, and to highly resolve that, so far as in them lies, they will endeavor to agree with their fellows and to subordinate all other desires, all other interests, to the central idea of Service to those who have honored them with their trust and confidence. *Noblesse oblige* should be their constant thought; that the high rank to which they have been elevated entails upon them the obligation to subordinate selfish and narrow interest to the good of those who have trusted them; who have deemed them wise and able to lead them out of the wilderness, into the smooth and peaceful plains of prosperity and peace.

It is somewhat regrettable that in the Symposium on the Harrison Bill, which appeared in the June issue of the JOURNAL, a note of dissonance should be apparent, and that a lack of concord among the members of the Drug Trades Conference should seemingly be noted.

The American Pharmaceutical Association, in formulating the plan for this conference, was actuated by the one high and noble purpose;—that of Service to the Drug Trade of the country, by opposing a bulwark of defense against the absurd and freakish legislation proposed, most of which, through ignorance of

conditions on the part of those proposing it, threatened to harass and annoy the honest and well-meaning members of the profession, while accomplishing but little of good result to the people.

There was no selfish thought in that effort. It was simply a wise attempt to unite all interests for mutual protection, and its wisdom has been proven by the results already achieved. Is it not possible for the members of this conference to place the greater interests of our profession above that of everything else, and to make that the bed-rock, the sole motive of all their acts? Or is it impossible for some men to forget their own selfish interests for a time and to act in a large and liberal way; in a way comprehensive of the general good?

Some one has written, "In essentials, Unity; in non-essentials, Harmony; in all things, Charity." Let this be the rule for the conduct of the business of the Conference, and the results achieved by it will be enhanced a thousand-fold. If we might be allowed to drop into slang, as Silas Wegg dropped into poetry, we might advise the members of the Conference to "Get together," and, forgetful of self, think only that the well-being and the destiny of a noble profession is in their keeping, and that its dignity and its welfare is in their care. "'Tis nae feesh yere buyin, it be men's lives," as the old fish-wife told the chaffering Laird, and it is not the interest of self or of the moment, that should guide the action of the members of the Drug Trade Conference, but the weighty thought that upon their wise action depends the welfare, the happiness, the destiny of the thousands of druggists, and of their wives and children, of this broad land.

The responsibility rests upon the members of that Conference to see that these interests are conserved and fostered, and it is greatly to be hoped that they will rise above all slighter considerations, and use their magnificent opportunity in a manner that will not only redound to their credit and honor, but also for the general welfare of the whole profession, which needs brave, strong, unselfish leadership, to guide its members in these troubled days.

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A FEW NOTES OF INTEREST ABOUT THE CONVENTION CITY.

Detroit was an outpost of the *Coureurs de Bois*, those famous wood-rangers, hunters and trappers of Canada; those outlaws against whom Louis the Grand, of France, launched those edicts intended to prevent their leaving the homes in which he was determined they should abide; to follow their own bent as free rangers of the forest; as men free from those laws which made them serfs and slaves of the nobles under the reign of the *Grand Monarque*, who thought all his subjects were born to minister to his pleasure. Pontchartrain was one of those nobles to whom *les droit des seigneurs* was a God-given right. I have wondered if the name Detroit had relation to these edicts of Louis, which were intended,—as were those he fulminated against the Protestant Huguenots,—to force them to do his will or to destroy them;—the French verb "*Detruit*" being the past participle of "*Detruire*," which means, "*to destroy*." I cannot find any other derivation for its name stated anywhere, but perhaps I am far from the fact.

The Jesuit Father, Cadillac, is considered to be the founder of the city. In