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There was a time when slavery was widespread, and slaves almost helpless. Now the Emancipation Proclamation is world-wide in scope. There are no longer slaves except those of bad habits. The creditable and powerful people known as the Jews were once slaves of the Babylonians, but were able to overcome their masters; not by revolution, but by industry, efficiency, reliability, saving. Such information as their masters had, the Jews acquired and improved. And it was the patient workers who survived; the rowdy Babylonians disappeared from the face of the earth, and the Jews are to-day a notable people.

Politics is the finest piece of sentiment in human affairs, and the worst roguery. Every politician is too great a friend of humanity when a candidate, and too great an enemy when elected, in attempts to carry out promises he knew in the first place were ridiculous. This is in the very nature of things, and I know of no remedy, except endeavor to improve the intelligence of voters. With voters as they are, there is no other way for politicians to operate than as they do.

A life is like an automobile; we own one without knowing much about the intricate construction under the hood.

Every man who earns a fortune under rules men have agreed upon, is entitled to not only respect, but to distinction.

But I am not so certain as to his heirs, who, early in life, come into a fortune they have not earned. In many business institutions there are young idlers who receive more pay than other employees who succeed or fail on merit. Such young men cause dissensions hurtful to the business, and I observe that frequently in the best establishments, the sons of owners are compelled to take pot luck with the others; to put on overalls, and fight grease with those in the lower ranks, while the best offices are occupied by workers who have honestly earned the distinction.

This should be the rule everywhere and in everything; I do not know how it is to be brought about, but it is best that everyone be compelled to earn his way up, or stay down.

I am convinced it would be better in human society if this rule could be adopted:

No work, no dinner.

Everyone is better off for earning his own way; it makes him fairer; broader, easier to get along with. Statesmen are trying to steal the big fortunes for public use, at the death of their legitimate owners. It may be a good idea. In one small town thirty-three rich widows, not one of whom has ever legitimately earned a penny, were counted. In some ways it is right; in more ways it is wrong. Let the people vote on it.

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