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transmitted to their successors the older traditions of the Church. And this strain of sacred oratory is still prevailing; and whether animated or pathetic, goes straight to the Welshman's heart now as it did of old, when St. David and his companions, by their pulpit eloquence, extirpated Pelagianism and vindicated the orthodox creed. She set the example of collecting the young together and teaching them on the Lord's day. This was begun, long before the venture of Mr. Raikes of Gloucester in the same direction, by Mr. Griffith Jones and his associates in South Wales; and their efforts led eventually to the Sunday-school system, which is at present almost universal among us.

But we fear that we have already trespassed too much on the reader's patience, and we feel besides that any further treatment of the question would be superfluous. We venture to state conclusively that the parties who assert that the Church of England in Wales is "an alien" are certainly breaking the ninth Commandment. We do not profess to judge of their motives or objects. But we cannot forget that the ninth Commandment is closely related to the tenth. This is taught us from its position in the Decalogue, as well as from many a lesson in history. We have a significant warning in the case of Naboth the Jezreelite, whose vineyard, "the inheritance of his fathers," was seized and appropriated on a false accusation, and the accusation was invented for the express purpose of the robbery. The vineyard of the Lord of hosts, which His right hand has planted, and which heretofore has borne fruit of "the choicest vine," is ours, and ours also by right of inheritance, and is in the keeping of England no less than of Wales. May its hedges not be broken down—may its sacred inclosures be not again wasted by the spoiler, as was the case once before in our history, and when the result to our beloved country was nothing but anarchy, irreligion, and incalculable misery.

JOHN MORGAN.

LLANILID, GLAMORGAN.

ART III.—UP THE MISSISSIPPI.

OF all the features of our globe, there are none that surpass in interest its Rivers. We cannot name the Euphrates, the Tiber, the Thames, the Nile, without a host of deeply interesting associations rushing in upon our memories. Without the Euphrates, the Garden of Eden would have wanted one of its noblest features; without the yellow Tiber, Rome would not have sat on her seven hills, the centre and mistress of the world; how should London have become the greatest city of ancient or modern days, the undisputed ruler of the financial

world, without the Thames bringing the commerce of all nations to her markets? or how could Egypt have been the granary of the ancient world and the birth-place of science, if the Nile had not fertilized its soil, and by the resultant wealth afforded learned leisure for the pursuit of knowledge?

These rivers all run their course through continents or kingdoms; but we have now learned to think and speak familiarly of rivers in the great seas. I know no more picturesque or suggestive description of a natural object in any writer than Maury's remarkable piece of word-painting: "There is a river in the ocean; in the severest droughts it never fails, and in the mightiest floods it never overflows; its banks and its bottom are of cold water, while its current is of warm; it takes its rise in the Gulf of Mexico, and empties into Arctic seas; this mighty river is the Gulf Stream. There is in the world no other such majestic flow of waters. Its current is more rapid than the Mississippi or the Amazon, and its volume more than a thousand times greater."

We attribute to this great stream many important results affecting our daily life; it ameliorates the climate of the British Islands; it is the prolific source of many storms and atmospheric disturbances; and so it enters into our daily thoughts and conversation. Now the Mississippi does not run by any means so long a course, nor exercise an influence over so wide an area, as the Gulf Stream, yet it is a wonderful river both in its volume and its influences. The region which it drains, known as the Mississippi Valley, occupies fully half the area of the United States; it greatly exceeds in area the Nile Valley, which is in comparison but a narrow strip of alluvial soil; it is the most important region on the North American continent; its resources are as boundless as its climate, which varies from the almost tropical heat of New Orleans to the low temperature of St. Paul, where the thermometer frequently falls far below zero in the winter. A naturalist who should embark at New Orleans and ascend to the Falls of St. Anthony would note with interest the gradual marks of transition as he passed from the confines of a tropical fauna and flora to the southern limits of Arctic forms, both in the animal and vegetable kingdoms—from the habitat of alligators and humming birds in Louisiana to the home of the buffalo and prairie hen in Minnesota—from the sugar-canes and cotton of the south to the wheat and barley of the 45th parallel of latitude.

The contrast of the people, their life and habits, is almost as marked as in the animal and vegetable worlds. New Orleans is inhabited by a race of men utterly dissimilar to those who have built up St. Paul. French tastes, French

amusements, French morals, reign in New Orleans; the French die has been sharply stamped on its society, and has left its indelible impress. No commercial distress, nor even an epidemic, can restrain the light-hearted *abandon* of the people. During the Reign of Terror in Paris in the last century we read that the theatres never ceased to be filled with crowds. An epidemic of yellow fever periodically causes a reign of terror in New Orleans, but it fails to curb the irrepressible levity of the citizens.

At the other end of the journey we find a community differing from this in every particular. The indomitable energy and moral force of the old Puritan stock of New England have built up within an incredibly short time a populous and wealthy city, while the distinctive features of New England life and habits strongly mark the community.

To those distinctive features of character the American people owe more than the founding even of great cities, like St. Paul. From New England a far-reaching and powerful influence has gone out to the utmost limits of the continent; the leaven of the Pilgrim Fathers has leavened the whole lump; the sons of men who in bygone days had forsaken all that men count dear for civil and religious liberty could not brook the tyranny and cruelties of slave-owners in the South; abolition doctrines had their origin in Massachusetts, and to the ultimate prevalence of those doctrines the three millions of slaves in the Southern States owe their freedom, purchased for them at the cost of one of the most bitterly contested and bloody wars on record. The black chattel, whose only travels in the past were to the markets, where he would bring the highest price to his owner, may now go unhindered from New Orleans to St. Paul, and view with a freeman's eyes the glories of the great river and the cities which adorn its banks.

The vast region comprehended under the name of the Mississippi Valley is rapidly becoming the wealthiest portion of the continent; the nation that controls that valley, and the great river flowing through it, must be carried by the irresistible force of natural causes to power and wealth. "We are not here selling a number of vats and boilers," said Dr. Johnson at the sale of Mr. Thrale's brewery, "but the potentiality of growing rich beyond the dreams of avarice." The people that command the great Mississippi and its valley do not merely bear sway over so many acres of soil and a great natural highway, but possess the potentiality of growing rich and powerful beyond the dreams of the most ambitious of the Pharaohs that ever sat enthroned on the banks of the Nile.

The Church of Rome, ever on the watch for any opening to promote her interests, has not failed to appreciate the import-

ance of ascendency in this region. To be in the ascendant there means to be in the possession of the high-road to the ultimate control of the American Continent; and long ago Rome planted her foot there, and has never relaxed in her efforts to attain the coveted supremacy. The number of priests that one sees everywhere is very striking; the present number of adherents of that Church is by no means sufficient to require the ministrations of such an army of ecclesiastics as the traveller meets—it is evidently the future that is in view; and unless the Protestant Episcopal Church and other Protestant denominations awake to the supreme importance of the stake at issue, and put forth efforts commensurate to the occasion, they will at no distant period wake up to the appalling fact that the day is lost and their opportunity gone for ever.

When the American revolution had been accomplished and the revolted Colonies were recognised as an independent nation, the State of Louisiana was a French domain; but through it the Mississippi flowed, and its mouths opened into the Gulf of Mexico near its chief city, New Orleans.

The absolute control of the mouth of a river differs little from the control of its whole course; if the nation owning the mouth is sufficiently powerful to maintain its claim, it holds the key to the whole position. This was precisely the position of France in relation to the Mississippi. Louisiana was French, and France was a powerful nation, but fortunately for the young American Republic, was friendly. America was under a deep debt of gratitude to France and Lafayette for assistance in their struggle for independence; there can be no doubt, however, that if the French Government had not consented to the sale of Louisiana to the United States, war would inevitably have broken out sooner or later. The importance of controlling the outlet as well as the course of the great river would have obliterated all sentiments of gratitude in the mind of Americans for past favours, and they would have endeavoured to wrest the coveted control from France even at the cost of a war. In fact their permanent existence as a nation would have been seriously imperilled if deprived of it; it was an absolute necessity to the stability of the Union.

The transfer of Louisiana to the United States was the last step in the retirement of France from her long-cherished dream of founding a great empire in the West. That dream embraced the whole continent; from Cape Breton, where Louis XIV. constructed at an enormous cost the vast fortress of Louisburg, on to the historic citadel of Quebec, and so down to the city of New Orleans on the Gulf of Mexico, France had not only set her heart on establishing a great

French dependency, but she had gone a long way towards the fulfilment of her gorgeous dream. The thought will arise unbidden to us all, What if her dream had been accomplished? Had it been realised the history of the world would have been changed. The United States, as we now know them, would not occupy their present position among the nations of the earth; in short, without giving the reins to our imagination, we can readily see that the whole course of history would have been greatly modified. It is doubtless well, then, not only for the people of the United States, but for the peace of the human family, that France, in transferring Louisiana to the American Government, should have bid adieu for ever to the Western continent.

What conflicting claims grow out of divided ownership of territories through which a great river runs its course, the statesmen of Europe know well. The international commission which, after protracted negotiations and amid much jealousy and heartburnings, is now engaged in the task of dredging the mouths of the Danube, is simply the outcome of divided riparian sovereignty. A similar condition would inevitably have been the result in America if France had retained the control of the mouths of the Mississippi. From all this, however, the Government of the United States is free. It is the only Government of any civilized country that practically has no debt; in fact, the Treasury at Washington is suffering from the burden of an immense surplus, for the appropriation of which rival schemes are already contending; one of these schemes is for the dredging and improving of the navigation of the Mississippi. A gigantic undertaking! But it is one which a great nation, possessing undisputed sovereignty of the river from its source to its outlet, and having also unlimited financial resources at its command, is well able to carry into execution.

It is somewhat difficult to know why the river bears the name of Mississippi. The Missouri, which flows into it at St. Louis, far exceeds it in length, having a course of nearly three thousand miles before it falls into it, from which point the character of the joint stream is essentially that of the Missouri until it empties itself in the Gulf of Mexico. The Missouri is a very turbid stream, while the waters of the Mississippi above the junction are clear; after the confluence, however, the river never recovers its clearness, the vast deltas deposited at its mouth affording indisputable evidence of the fact. By right of origin, therefore, the Missouri would appear to be the proper designation of the united rivers; but, like many other usurpers, the Mississippi has by some means obtained an advantage over its rival, and maintains its ascendency to the end.

From any point above the confluence the voyage up the Mississippi is delightful: the scenery is in many portions very fine, the "bluffs" rising in great grandeur. No traveller on the Upper Mississippi can have failed to notice the terraces on either side of the river, which so exactly correspond to each other and which have all the appearance of being the result of successive subsidences of a mighty stream in ages long past. The Falls of St. Anthony are twelve hundred miles from the mouth of the river at New Orleans, and the great city of St. Paul has sprung up at this head of the navigable waters. The cataract is a magnificent sight, the whole of the great river pouring over a cliff sixty feet in height in an unbroken line. If it were not for the superior attractions of Niagara, the Falls of St. Anthony would draw thousands of visitors to gaze upon them every year.

The romantic Minnehaha, the Laughing Waters of Longfellow's poem, are easily reached in a morning's drive from St. Paul, and no tourist should fail to see them; they are, or were at the time of my visit, very picturesque, and were still in all their natural beauty; this was some years ago, and whether they still retain their original charms, I know not. The patent medicine vendor and his tribe have managed to disfigure and debase nearly every scene of natural beauty on the American Continent; probably this lovely spot has fallen into their remorseless hands, and the Laughing Waters are now chiefly devoted to the announcement of the virtues of some all-healing pills or matchless soap.

Some years since, when the Mississippi formed nearly the most western boundary of the advancing line of civilization, it possessed an unenviable notoriety for the reckless racing of steamboats and the frequent resultant explosions, and for the wild character of those who chiefly travelled on its waters. They were a peculiar class of men, springing out of the abnormal and transitional state of the region; they were seen on every steamboat. They usually had a greasy pack of cards in one pocket and a bowie-knife in the other, and were adepts in the use of either. The Hoosiers, as they were termed, were a terror to all peaceably disposed people. They were distinguished by their appearance; one distinctive feature of their dress was a slouched hat, very like that now affected by the clergy in this country.

In whatever aspect we look at this great river we shall find much to interest us; it is to a large extent an untrodden field, if I may be allowed to use so mixed a metaphor; it has little in common with the well-known and beaten tracks of European or African rivers; as the traveller ascends it, not only the transition from climate to climate, but from one type

of men to another, from tropical to semi-arctic forms of life, presents attractive features peculiar to the "Father of waters."

The wonderful progress of civilization, the contest between man and nature which may be witnessed in all its stages, the magnificent scenery of the Upper River before its confluence with the mud-stained Missouri, all combine to render a voyage up the Mississippi one of the most interesting and instructive now accessible to travellers.

P. CARTERET HILL.

ART. IV.—THE WELSH CHURCH QUESTION FROM AN ENGLISH STANDPOINT.

THERE may be those who think an Englishman guilty of something like audacity who ventures to write on the Church in Wales. In the face of such a possibility among readers of the CHURCHMAN, I fortify myself by three considerations. In the first place, I met with the other day a charge brought against English Churchmen, as a body, that they had just discovered the Church in Wales, and that, recognising in the organized attack upon her a danger to themselves, they had determined to defend her. To that charge I do not plead guilty. The Church in Wales is no new interest to me. Her story, her difficulties, and her gallant struggle to overcome them have long had a peculiar fascination for me; and if any words of mine can increase the sympathy which ought to exist between the Church in England and the Church in the Principality, I shall indeed feel grateful to the Editor of this Magazine for permitting me to set them down. In the second place, I am encouraged by the language of Lord Selborne, when speaking at Lampeter, last October, before a Welsh audience and in the presence of the four Welsh Bishops. "I do not," he said, "plead guilty to the charge of being an outsider. I hold that there is what the French would call a complete solidarity between the Churches of England and Wales, and no English Churchman, in or out of Wales, can, I believe, feel indifferent to the efficiency, to the fortunes, to the position or prospects of the Church in Wales." And lastly, I have before me a letter from one of the most eminent dignitaries of the Church in Wales, in which he expresses his opinion that the defence of the Church is more properly to be undertaken by those who are not actively engaged in its work.

My interest, I would submit, is no new thing. I am not an outsider because an English Churchman; and yet I am not an active worker in that part of the Church which is attacked. On such grounds I excuse my seeming audacity.