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# Queer, but Great in Its Possibilities. CHICAGO AS SEEN BY FRENCH EYES. Pascal Germain : His Impressions.

### HERE IS COSMOPOLIS.

ET us begin, as we say in France, at the beginning. First of all, Chicago makes for unity, te reconciliation of the human fam-y. Seen coolly, it is in European e least provincial of all cities, not

in what it promises, but in its actuality. in Chicago is Cosmopolis. what we heard about their World's "It what we near about their world's 'showhich it pleased the English to call the Yankee Bounce"—impressed us with s audacity, I should not have been sur-rised by a startling query put to me in erfect seriousness by a Chicago man who iscovered that I spoke English.

What are they thinking about God now

You will admit that this was rather a large

I had recovered from the first shock asting surprise and before I leave a I am engaged formally to answer it. viscissitude of chance acquaintance nergy on Lake Michigan.

r, gray, austere, sad, Illimitable. On left, darker than the tête-noir under the clouds, are piles of stone, tall (taller the tallest in our ryć de l'Université), brilliant, rough-hewn as Ossian's s, beautifully carren at times, seldom ever merely alternating with blocks of miculated stone, and a vista of this, con-uous, yet broken into lines of commanding , occasionally serious, sometimes su-



MONEXT

THE ULTIMA

THULE

ANOTHER

HOLD UP

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Stean -----

#### A CITY OF DESTINY. I do not say that Chicago is perfect, but that its possibilities and its probabilities are

Plainly, it shows it has its destiny for the willing. This tortuous, transitory age of Chicago's is a wonderful drama being played before a European audience. For I tell you (above all, the jour distinct kinds of throb-bing motion of the steamer Paris); skim the surface of the big map from the Port of New York to the point of inconceivable as agents of an impelling, irresistible force rather than the creators who have designed as agents of an impelling, irresistible force rather than the creators who have designed from the beginning and are confidently

watching their plan obtain. Yet this is not accurate either, for they have more than one man here who is perfectly well aware that his city will exceed in commercial altitude Venice of the sixteenth century and that the commerce of all nations will do homage in Michigan watersbeyond any command that England ever

They have planned a new Riviera to extend a hundred miles to the northwest, which for beauty and utility is unsurpassed in previous landscape architecture, and beside which all that Le Notre has done seems but

SOCIETY IN EMBRYO. Now, in effect, New York has less charac-ter than any city I ever visited. Take away its magnificent bay and its dreamily beautilace in apotheosis-vicious, ugly, hopeles and despairing. Socially, it is a thing for the aughter of gods and the tears of men. It i he worst mannered city in the world; apolo getic, stammering, ape-like. But I have been wined and dined there and must not "ilustrate." In all New York, a city old enough now to have traditions of good breeding. I know of but three sweet and clear

uman things. One-the noble deeds of two of "Teddy" Roosevelt's slandered policemen. Two-when I saw the pastor of the Churc

of the Ascension go to the altar and remove from it the pure white floral offerings and take them to the entrance, giving one flower to each of his flock with a smiling word of fellowship. Three-When I found that a good priest

Father Ducey, whose heart is breaking, had out of his own private means, now ex-

Entirely? Totte & Pheure. Your eyebrows would mote the deght of this surface. For you have heard of Monsieur Stead (as who has not who has looked at the railway bookstalls from Amiens to Avignon) and you ask me: "Where are the miserables?" They shall have their tym. Mr. Stead has told of the Occident. Let us discover the type. We have seen in flery hue of calcium the Chicago's chiracter. Chicago means future eclecticism, unity, fraternity, and, for a concrete statement, in was right when he called all big cities pro-vincial. Paris, our only darling, is still a vil-lage. We all know what is going on, and the last new man's face. So London, ponderous, stopping place, in which a man may lose every ldeal of the Western republic the humanitarian ever conceived. Distincity, the stopping place, in which a man may lose every ldeal of the Western republic the thumanitarian ever conceived. Distincity, the

shall I. In the deep shadow, in which, like a mistaken artist, Mr. Stead has painted this city for European gaze, Chicago is but a cheaper Babylon—a Babylon in the de-cadence more vividly terrible than Roche-grosse gave it in his masterly salon picture four years ago.

to paint before he has learned how He forgot that a true picture must lso that accent and theme are not one and

HERE IS ANOTHER TEMPLE



CHICAGO

THENEWSDADER

PAILY CONFIESS

## There are tragedies here that throb-deep nd high and terrible as the shadows in

Dante, misery as pinching, as degrading as -our own in the Rue du Temple and the barriere of the Balignolles. Blouet, Bourget, barriere of the Balignoles. Blouet, Bourget, Paul Deschenel only the other day have spoken and written and gossiped vividly. But they were not frank, and each (but the clever young Diputé) was under the stout thumb of his "Shouman." Besides, Paul Deschenel speaks no English. Here they know what Bourget wrote. In Paris we know what Bourget said. But Bourget has no philosophy. Even his religious sentiment is thin enough to see

Simply, Bourget is "in the mouroment," and has discovered what all Paris knows, that before 1900 the Lord God will be " the fashion " in France. Bourget's mo pulseless; hence, he has no provision. Bourget's morale is

Fortunately I owe no dinners in Chicago nd may write frankly. "Is Chicago, then, awake and aware?" Chicago is awake, but not aware. I have to pinch myself for fear I shall believe my-self dreaming. But since I have taken to probing Chicago for facts I find that Chiagoans are the somnambulists, the dream

ers, and I am the prophet, or, let me say, at least, interpreter. It is at once grand and squalid, but never pretty. In spite of its slums, its penilous dives, its sinister lean-tos, its man traps of

sidewalk, its dangers within four walls, its terror to life and purse on the roadways—as

the newspapers daily keep on confessing— Chicago is great. It is heterogeneous, and sometimes without sufficient reflection one may say unwelded. I have had to find my best data unaided. For I had to endure looks of incredulity when I expressed words of warm suproval when I expressed words of warm approv. and hope. I abandoned my self-appointed task. Irritated at the indifference and dis-bellef of Chicago men (who ought to know better) that New York socially is not su-perior and that I was not a farceur, I sought efuge in records and observations-blue facts, and the human n the kaleidoscopic panorama that make ts moving world. So now I am prepared to ite with any Stead of Fleet street or Pall

In New York, for instance, no one much In New Jork, for instance, no one much heeds a man so passionately animated with the saviour instinct as Father Ducey. In Chicago they would carry him on their shoulders, if not from love of the heroic then for the desire for novelty.

TEAS ARE

PASS ÉE

### AWAKE. BUTNOTAWARE | A WHIRL OF CHANGE.

Chicago is ancient Athens all over again in its passion for news. The women are To please the men journalis

chicago has lifted the misery and poverty Chicago has lifted the misery and poverty of Europe into its Blue Island avenue and its Polk street, it has appropriated the solidity of Mayfair Mansion, the dinners of Lady Derby, the laces of De Grammont, and the odors of Houbigant. Chicago has even imported our dear old humbug of the Des de Tréduce All the wonderfully won-Trévise. All the wonderfully won-Mervieulleux are obtaining in this town The Paris founder of the Martinistes, the t the heart to tell them the gossip in dear

Christ, then, is in Chicago, do you say? Is what you write me? At all events, God is.

Eu somme, by Jew or by Christian, his work is done. There are the critics, the dis-contents, the floating contingent, the top of fiber of Chicago is moral. Wait and believe

FOLLOWS QUEER GODS.

It is a fact that we in Europe and American people have never really fac All this is owing to the insularity of

special correspondent and the idee fixe he European tourist. The newspaper ma has elected to harp on small faults, and s he abuses England for America, or he abuse

for England-acc

Chicago is more than cosmopolita has one institution that Paris, the I

outdoes us in its Temple of Fa

every fad, hucksters of ideas, mi

regretting that he made the earth-so pathetically funny that I so Minerva spares them out of her

Here there are furnished as m

And these men

numor, that is always akin to mercy

netics and pomade



the greatest of all

(m) (m)

# CHICAGO'S MOST UNHEALTHY SPOT. # Infant Mortality "Back of the Yards." \* PLACE OF SMELLS AND POISONS.

and the known cities of China the figures are still four to one in your favor. "Back of the Yards" they are two to one that you will live six months, and on two streets there they are two to three that you will not succeed in living at all. If the de-gree of civilization of a community is shown by the value it puts on the lives of children this neighborhood must some day come to speak strangely of ours. It is impossible to divide the responsibility in the world outside the cities cursed with epidemic plagues. In 1895 there were in this narrow strip 99 deaths, of which 50 were those of infants under 1 year of age. In 1897 there were 84 deaths, of which 41 were those of infants under 1 year of age. Thus in the last three years more than

F you are an "average child," born in Chicago, the chances are about 67 to 10 that you will cut those dreaded first teeth and be launched safely into your second year. In some parts of Russia and the known cities of China the figures are till four to one in your favor.

mortality by streets, it increases from the

COSMOPOLITAN

er thousand; Marsh field avenue, 74.01 Paulina street, 150.70



bash at the conter and houses, often back up under many houses. On the books of the Health department is recorded the finding of the Coroner's jury on the death of Johnnie Doyle—found in the

basin at the corner and in the spring they | blotch of red calico lying face down in the

exclusive of those malformed.

As the deaths from infantile cholera and diseases of the stomdiseases of the stom-ach and intestines in-crease towards the dump, showing the highest death rates there anywhere re-corded, so the deaths from lung diseases in-crease towards the yards to Ashland ave-nue, which is here un-doubtedly the most tuberculous street in tuberculous street in the world. There is said to be a consumpsaid to be a consump-tive in every house. This is not proved, but it is certain that there were nineteen deaths from pulmon-ary tuberculosis in three blocks in the last three years, and that the patient is us-ually unable to build, up a large consolida-tion, his lungs break-ing down early with pus infection, and death is accompa-nled by a high tem-perature and the symptoms of septicsymptoms of septic-emia.

one farther down the street. Next to cholera in-fantum the principal taker-off of infants is means a coming into life too weak to live. Eleven per cent of all bables are born there exclusive of those melton means a coming into structure is string to the string to the

ing impossible. Speaking of the barren results of the fight

four years, no attention was ever paid to the complaint. "In regard to the dump, we first tried Speaking of the barren results of the fight thus far waged against these enemies of the people, Mr. Simons, agent of the Stock-Yards District Bureau of Charities, says: "People 'Back of the Yards' are getting



almost hopeless as to any relief being ob-tained from the nuisances that abound there. We have tried reporting them to the city authorities, but with absolutely no efinjunction was granted, prohibiting the positing of any organic matter and order the use of disinfectants. A slight impr nent was observable for a few "The smoke, hair fields, and river v

come to look upon almost as fixtures, withstanding that the two former purely through the neglect of duty by p purely through the neglect of duty by p officials. In fact, the most aggrav thing about the whole terrible situati that it is almost wholly created by a inal official reglect that would not b erated for a minute in any of the privileged portions of the city." When his attention was called to the of affairs the Mayor said: "If any one imperimes that Chicago

"If any one imagines that Chic. going to become a paradise in this ac tration he is mistaken. The garbage be dumned semathers. be dumped somewhere. be dumped somewhere. There is on tain amount of money in the Treasun disposal. It is better to dump it ' the Yards' than let it accumulat wards. If the five-year contracts overthrown the problem will be solv Concerning the smaller the Money in the Concerning the smoke the Mayo t is impossible to enforce the law So far as the business

#### "CAREY'S ROW."

for child mortality between industrial, social, and sanitary causes, especially when pov-erty, vice, and the guitter are filtered through a healthy foreign-born parentage before reaching their effect in the second genera-tion. But the fact that the \$6,000 spent is year in this little community of 5,500 per-sons in mitigating the social and industrial conditions did not affect in any degree the infant mortality there goes to prove that the meanitary conditions are chiefly responsible. Speaking of a little one across the street who came into life too weak to live, as many do "Back of the Yards," a friend said: "I am glad of it! It is a sorry thing to be born in a place where it is a rally certain that you can make no fign.."

The unusual mortality of the part of the old Twenty-ninth Ward west of the Stock-Fards is confined to two plague spots, the nothing surprising about the adult death te of the whole district, except its lowness, even in the dump and guitter regions grown Bohemians and Poles offer ef-tye resistance to the dangers of the e. The mortality of their children there-

must be remembered that this is not a

for child mortality between industrial, social, | half the deaths have been those of bables

youngster old enough to walk. These gui-ters are the common And this is a community composed mostly | cut off from the catch- Lin

drain for all houses in the block unconnected with the sewer. they are

Beginning at the A s h l a n d avenue et. At one time a table giving the exact slime. "We are of the opinion," say the jury, "that if this ditch had been drained the deceased would not have met his death in the manner described." He would have like the deceased would not have met his death in the manner described." He would location of every house unconnected with the sewer, every unsanitary vault, every clogged catchbasin, and every foul sewer street sewer last June, a 2-year-old have lived to fester his little legs in the the wash from the was prepared at great expense of trouble

