

Sermon From Shakespeare

(Copr. 1909 by Bradley-Garretson Co. Ltd.)

O, good old man, how well in thee appears
The constant service of the antique world,
When service sweat for duty, not for meed.

As You Like It, Act II, Sc. 3.
It is a common complaint that the age of faithful servants is no more. Constantly the good old times, when servants were servants in the highest sense of the word, are recalled. Each age seems to think that immediately preceding it was a species of golden age when men-servants and maid-servants thought more of their master's welfare than the reward they were to receive for their services. The complaint is an old one. Here is Shakespeare, three hundred years ago, writing as though there was an ancient world in which ideal conditions of service existed. So will it no doubt be till the end of time. The eye of the present sees existing weaknesses and defects, and for its own uses frequently takes the isolated and rare cases of the past and generalises on them.

From the point of view of faithful service the world as a whole is better in the twentieth century than it was in the sixteenth or earlier. There is continuous growth. If this were not the case society would fall to pieces. Amiel truly remarks: "Ten righteous men would have saved Sodom, but thousands and thousands of good homely folk are needed to preserve a people from corruption and decay." The good homely folk, like Adam, the faithful servant in "As You Like It," still exist, and are the salt of the earth.

All men are servants, servants of their God, their king, their country, or their fellow-men. To forget this is to make men tyrants or loafers. Duty is urging every man to be a faithful worker. The very word duty is significant. It means something due,—a debt owed some being. Duty is three-fold in its nature. There are natural duties,—duties owed parents, children, or one's self; legal duties, duties owed society; moral duties, duties owed the Infinite. The truly dutiful man is the one who combines all three as a guide to conduct. Old Adam was a splendid example of the dutiful man. Shakespeare has produced no more excellent character. In his duty towards himself Adam had saved five hundred crowns to be his foster-nurse in old age; in his duty towards God he had kept his body pure; in his duty towards society he had ever been a faithful servant, and in his old age he was ready to sacrifice all from a sense of duty towards the son of his master. He still felt himself his master's debtor. The tender care the father had bestowed on him was remembered. He had been clothed and fed by a kindly master from infancy. He had attained old age without having to take thought for food or raiment. He had been well rewarded for his service and he was not ungrateful.

Adam evidently had had a good master. Therein is the secret of good service. If men are suspicious of their

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employees, tyrannical over them, only seeking to get as much profit as possible out of them, they must expect cause for suspicion and occasion for the exercise of tyranny. A good master makes good servants; a good master is a good servant himself. There are factories and estates from which it would be difficult to drive the employees. When the slaves were freed in the South thousands remained faithful to the old masters who had tenderly watched over them.

Many men live as though they had no duties. They dream of gigantic tasks to be performed while they neglect the work that lies at hand. It would be well for such men to take to heart the words: "To do my duty in that estate of life unto which I shall please God to call me." There is no position in life so humble that the voice of duty cannot reach, none so lofty that should not heed it. When a king rules as though the eye of the Divine were upon him his people cannot but be happy. The hedger and ditcher should likewise have an ideal before him in his work. What was it made the sculptors of ancient Greece so great? A sense of duty towards their gods and their art. Perfection was their aim, and every line and curve was chiseled with the feeling that the eye of an Apollo or an Athene was on them. What made the art of Michel Angelo and Raphael so enduring? Their overwhelming sense of duty to God and man. They worked not for meed but from a stern sense of the greatness of their mission. Shakespeare, Milton, Tennyson, Browning, Emerson, all achieved greatness by seeing there duty and promptly doing it. The time-servers in literature and art have had but an ephemeral existence.

The voice of duty is "the pole-star of a wandering humanity." It solves the most difficult problems of life. The only truly independent and free man is the one who heeds it. Friends, property, life itself, often tyrannize over the soul. At duty's voice a man can sacrifice all earthly possessions, and like the martyrs of old rejoice in the act. Modern society, with its freedom, has been erected on the graves of men and women who have heeded the voice of duty, often to their temporal loss, always to their eternal glory.

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County Council

(Continued from page two)

but it seems different these two years with some councillors, as if there was something back of it all. As to Florenceville I will speak of that; I have no authority to seize liquors imported for medicinal and personal use, and which have the man's name on the package and are marked "for personal use." At times people write to me anonymous letters, and then seem to think I can go and without process of law put the offender in jail; I would sooner that ten guilty men should go clear than that one innocent man should be fined. I always prefer to see the accused with a lawyer to watch his interests. Proceeding the Inspector gave a review of his work and spoke of the number of rumsellers who were driven out from about Florenceville; I think matters have been fairly well looked after. As we look over this county and contrast the difference between now and fifteen or twenty years ago, who will say no work has been done? I cannot get the name of one single man who is selling liquor at Florenceville, although it may be that it is brought in by private individuals. At the lines eleven or twelve men have been driven out of the business. As to the Phillips and the Cullens matter I take credit for keeping Phillips under some subjection. I think I had a good deal to do with making him change his course and becoming a better man. He thanked the council for their attention.

Coun Williams—During the years I have sat at this board I have always been a friend of Mr. Colpitts and I

believe he has done good work, but it seems to be the general opinion throughout the county that he is now too old and is not capable of doing the work he should do. Two years ago my colleague and I went to a Temperance meeting at Centreville and we were asked to vote for the dismissal of Mr. Colpitts. I did not so vote, but I voted for a resolution to ask for his resignation. Ever since the Scott Act has been in force the various inspectors have upon request of the temperance people, handed in their resignations. The people will look at the financial end in spite of what is said, and think it should be self sustaining. As Mr. Colpitts will not resign I will have to vote for his dismissal. I would suggest if we cannot get a man at once that the Council adjourn for two weeks to get a man.

Coun Bell (Richmond)—Last night I rang up Mr. McLean in Richmond and I asked him how it would be if there was an opening. He says, I am not after the job but ring me up again. I did so and he says, if Mr. Colpitts is put out I will leave it to you. I can make you sure that this man will do as well as he can, but he will not come in here and force himself into Mr. Colpitts' place. He is a man with a good reputation. He was before this Council some years ago, with a petition from the Temperance people. I believe the man would be all right.

Coun Shaw—Mr Colpitts has been inspector for 19 years, and Coun Williams says that for a few years he gave almost perfect satisfaction. When I first came to the Council, Inspector Colpitts had held the position five years, and at that session there was a determined effort to get rid of him and I think at every annual meeting since there has been an attempt made to dispose of Mr. Colpitts, and on every occasion we have heard that the Temperance people are dissatisfied. Things have arrived at a stage where we must look for a deficit in the administration of the Scott Act. No man questions that Mr. Colpitts has been an efficient official. From Kent down, I don't think anyone claims liquor is being sold all the way down the river. In the parishes adjoining the boundary line attempts are still made to sell liquor. Also along the railway there is some brought in. But this is brought in to men, personally, and the Inspector cannot stop that. It now comes that you have decided that Mr. Colpitts has outlived his usefulness. Is he less competent this year than he was in 1911, 1910 and 1909? I can't vote against Mr. Colpitts till there is a better man in sight.

Coun Phillips—I have been a little undecided in the matter and at first I thought I would vote for the dismissal of the Inspector if a better man was in sight, but I think the Council had better go a little slow. As Coun Williams says, every former inspector has been found fault with by a certain section of the Temperance people. Mr. Colpitts has been tried in the town, dismissed, and reinstated. I think the time has

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A PROMISING COACH

Young Field Chosen Number One Coach at Yale Is Rated a Capital Athlete.

John W. Field who was this year chosen to head the Yale football coaching staff, played the game first at Washington High School. He was graduated from the high school in 1906, and entered George Washington University the following autumn. Here again he was the same quiet, unobtrusive John Field, not a brilliant student but always a sincere man. Field played quarterback. He could kick some, but was not very fast on his feet. From George Washington, with his "pal," Frankie Miller, he went to Yale unheralded, and there ever since he has overshadowed all prep school stars. He made his varsity letter in his sophomore year, playing on the eleven against Princeton. Since that time he has been a member of the football team, and it was his stonewall defence as much as any factor which was responsible for keeping Harvard from crossing the Yale goal line last fall.

The new field coach has other interests. His adaptability is shown by his perfection as an oarsman. Yale was crying for a fighting crew, and this year Coach Kennedy and Captain Frost took a look around and drafted some of the heavy football man, among them Field.

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