

The Carleton Sentinel

F. B. CARVELL, PRESIDENT.

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THE MYSTERY OF IT ALL.

Yesterday a thousand preachers sought for fitting words, as mourners seek for crepe and weeds, in which to wrap and hide a people's grief. It was a melancholy business, most melancholy when it handed out the stale solutions which never solve the vexed and age-long problem of human pain. The shallow optimism, babbling on and on that "all's for the best," is matched in empty mocking only by the stagnant pessimism that neither hopes nor fears. In the face of hopeless sorrow and suffering it may be hard to believe in Infinite Benevolence, but the problem remains hard, hurting, merciless, if back of it all there is only Law or Chance, or a passionless Sphinx. The mystery of it is not less, and the anguish of it is more, if there was nothing other than the dark, rolling river, the enshrouding fog, and the fatal crash. The stately ship went down: a thousand human lives, each crammed with a thousand hopes, and throbbing with a thousand loves, were suddenly and without warning swallowed up: the quick-returning current smoothed out every ripple and swept onward unheeding to the sea. For the Atheist, for the Theist, and for the Christian, the problem remains—what Wordsworth calls "the burthen of the mystery," and Browning, "the pain of finite hearts that mourn."

And the problem is not solved by philosophic observations that the mystery of the Empress is the mystery of the average human life, and that "never morning wears to evening but some heart doth break." Neither is the fog lifted by the pious assurance that God knows. Lessons may indeed be drawn from the darkest tragedy: the lesson of courage, of heroism, of self-sacrifice, of trust. But those lessons do not explain or justify, or make the anguish easier to bear. Nor is it enough to be told that moral character is more than physical enjoyment, and that all history shows moral character disciplined to worth and beauty through suffering and loss. At best these are but consolations: at worst, but "dull narcotics numbing pain."

In the presence of that persistent Why? of human grief, chill and gnawing as the night-fog on the St. Lawrence, there is no answer; none that lightens the nethermost depths and none that lifts the weariest weight. Perhaps the teacher was right in finding no answer, nor even the hope of any solution, except in the quivering thought that at the heart of the universe is, not Force, not Law, not placid Indifference, but the infinitely suffering One, who, in a very intimate and personal way, beyond our finite powers to explain or comprehend or understand, bears our griefs and carries our sorrows, and throughout the travail of human pain is himself a fellow-suffering God. Perhaps Browning held the clue: "Would I suffer for him that I love?"

So wouldst Thou—so wilt Thou! He who did most shall bear most; the strongest shall stand the most weak.

'Tis the weakness in strength that I seek for! My flesh that I seek In the Godhead! I seek and I find it. O Saul, it shall be

A face like my face that receives thee; a Man like to me, Thou shalt love and be loved by forever; a Hand like this hand Shall throw open the gates of a new life to thee! See the Christ stand!"

—Toronto Globe.

TO THE JUNE BRIDEGROOM

You still think she is an angel of course. At her best, she is; that is, as near like one as mortals can be. But don't let that scare you, for, after all, she's human. She will need three meals a day, a surprising lot of clothes, much affection, more forbearance and your constant steadying.

She won't always look or talk like an angel. Sometimes she will seem a fright, and act the part.

Then, young fellow, is when if you are wise, you will get right down out of the clouds, cease to worship, and with a smile on your face take her into your strong arms, put a kiss where nature intends it and lay down the law.

We say this, not in the least approving of masculine tyranny. There will undoubtedly come times, very many of 'em, when she, to balance the account, will also lay down the law. You'll obey without a word, if you're wise.

But as this is addressed to the June bridegroom, we needn't pause to consider her law-giving—it's yours we're discussing now.

The point is, do it smilingly and with a smacking kiss.

It all depends how you lay the law down whether you are a tyrant or not. If you do as we say, we'll guarantee that, nine times in ten, she'll like you the better for it; and if, the tenth time she gets or stays huffy, well, that ought to be a good enough score for one who isn't an angel in fact.

And now we want to state a bold fact. In spite of eugenics heredity and all that sort of thing, your wife is likely to be pretty much what you make her. You can make her a slave, a doll or a comrade. Better try for the latter.

THE WATER PROBLEM

There is still typhoid fever in town, and occasionally new cases arise, mostly of people visiting the town. In view of the analysis of the water by Dr. Harrison of MacDonald College, which showed the presence of the bacillus coli in all the samples, the warning of the Board of Health that drinking water should be boiled is still to be heeded. It is not safe to drink the water from the river or from the condemned springs. Residents of the town are not so likely to catch typhoid from the water as visitors. The town authorities might well study the case as it is being dealt with at Montreal.

A paper states that—"It has been found that until the city's filtration plant is completed all water pumped into the city's mains whether from the river or the canal will have to be chemically treated. Analysis of several samples of untreated water showed traces of B. Coli, the typhoid germ. After treatment with heavy doses of hypochloride, however, the Bacilli Coli had disappeared, making the water perfectly safe for drinking purposes."

LOCAL AND GENERAL

WARNING—The Board of Health urges citizens that water for drinking purposes should be boiled.

BOARD OF HEALTH.

Rockabena Lodge I. O. O. F., Houlton, has invited Carleton Lodge No. 41, to unite with them in their memorial service to be held Sunday, June 14th. The Woodstock brethren have accepted and will probably go over by autos.

Rev. Fr. Silke of St. Mary's Catholic Church denounced the two dark complexioned gentlemen wearing a clerical garb and purporting to be missionaries, as imposters, and the public should govern themselves accordingly when approached by them for funds.—Houlton Times.

The two "missionaries" were here Wednesday and collected quite an amount of money.

St. John Presbyterian will meet in St. Paul's Presbyterian church on Wednesday and Thursday, June 17th and 18th. The first session will open at 9.30 a. m. on Wednesday. Members of local missionary societies are cordially invited to attend meetings. There will be a public meeting on Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock, at which the speakers will be Rev. Jas. Ross, St. John, Maritime Superintendent of Home Missions, and Rev. Mr. Janvier of Somerville, who will give an address on work in India.

Boston Grand Opera Stars

By far the most important musical event of the entire season, if not of several seasons, will be the engagement in Hayden-Gibson theatre, Saturday, June 13th, of the remarkable company of Boston Grand Opera Stars which created such a sensation throughout the country. The public is familiar with the great world famed artists who will appear Maria DiGabbri, the brilliant prima donna soprano, the season's big sensation as a coloratura soprano, Giovanni Gatti and Luigi Mianiero, two wonderful tenors, Nikolai Oulukonoff, the famous Russian baritone, Ernestione Gauthier, the charming prima donna contralto, Edgar Littleton, the splendid American basso, and Maestro George Hurst, assistant conductor of the Boston Opera Company. All of these are in particularly fine voice and prepared to furnish the musical treat of a lifetime. There will not be a single disappointment either in the artists advertised, or in the program which has been announced. This program will consist of three parts, the concert part, the ballet dancing part and the opera. The concert numbers eight in all, will be sung in evening dress, while the opera of Martha will be sung in English with costumes and scenery.

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EDGAR W. MAIR The Rexall Store

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(The only Exclusive Optical Parlor in Carleton County)

Main Street, Woodstock

Opp. Stevens' the Druggists

Potatoes are bringing \$1.75 a barrel in Houlton.

E. W. Mair is offering for Friday and Saturday, a 25c. Tooth Brush for one cent. See his window.

Rev. Mr. Haig who has been appointed to Richmond parish, will hold service there Sunday at 10.30 and at Jackson Falls the same day at 3.30.