

PROGRESS.

EDWARD S. CARTER, EDITOR

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A RELIGIOUS VIEW.

Very naturally religious papers seek to avoid partisanship in their discussions of politics, for however harmonious their readers may be in religious sentiment they are discordant in political views. Accordingly these papers usually undertake to treat politics as apart from parties; and in this effort thus to separate the inseparable they distort and violate the principles upon which the government and all representative government is founded. They proceed in the false assumption that the important questions in politics concern the moral characters of men nominated to office, rather than the political and partisan opinions they represent. The Outlook, edited by Dr. LYMAN ABBOT, is one of these papers which most frequently and most largely enter into the field of politics and its method of treating the subject is indicated by the following remark: "Elections are idle forms unless the electors know or can easily ascertain, something of the personal character of the candidates for whom they are voting. It is because in so many cases this is impossible that they vote the regular ticket which unscrupulous managers have prepared for them."

Elections would be idle forms if the electors proceeded on that principle. They would decide nothing so far as concerns the political views and convictions of the voter. If the important matter in an election were "the personal character of the candidates" it would make no difference whether the candidates were Liberals, Conservatives, Prohibitionists or Socialists so long as they were proved to be the best in personal character. A man might possess a spotless reputation and yet have no executive ability or idea of careful financing. The people of the country, in their own interests, might prefer something in addition to moral perfection.

A BRIGHT OUTLOOK.

Despite the efforts of the Women's Rescue League to dissuade young women from bicycling, and despite similar endeavors on the part of other well meaning persons the present year promises to eclipse all others in the number and variety of its wheeling enthusiasts. And why not? Never before was the sport of cycling so well understood; never before were its healthful advantages so thoroughly appreciated; never before were wheels so well suited in strength, weight and equipment to persons of distinct or unusual requirements. In short it is safe to conclude that experience has enabled the manufacturers to greet their customers with better looking, easier running, and we believe, more serviceable wheels than were ever before produced.

What new makers may do in the way of furnishing cheap wheels is largely a matter of conjecture but it is known that the older manufacturers have been wide awake to the necessity of supplying their machines with every device and attachment and every change in construction which seems likely to meet with the approval of wheelmen. For example, larger and better tubing will be used in the frames of bicycles where it has been found desirable; better chains will be employed; brakes will be of styles more welcome to the rider; and saddles, the source of so much discomfort, will be offered in greater variety and more pleasing shapes, and at lower prices than formerly. There will be wide saddles and narrow saddles, those that are hard and those that are soft, some that tilt and some that don't, and there are others, all designed to satisfy. In the new wheels, patent devices will be introduced to prevent the accumulation of dust which it has caused annoyance in times past. Many minor changes, also, will be made in the new models, which, while scarcely notice-

able to the eye of the purchaser are intended to add considerably to the general qualities of the wheel. As regards tires there will be very little radical change. It is voted that gears will probably be higher this year than heretofore. Whereas five or six years ago gears of 54 inches and thereabouts were not uncommon, those ranging from 85 to 90 inches are expected to prevail in 1897.

The prophecy last fall that chainless wheels were to rule the day during the coming season, seems to have missed the mark. While machines of that type will be made, the product to all appearances will be small. The indications at present point, prophecies to the contrary, to little or no decrease in the number of wheels of the new models. In other words a million or more wheels will probably be made between now and next fall.

Precisely what effect the numerous failures of last fall will have on this year's output remains to be seen. At all events the influence of low price bicycles has already done much toward bringing the price of wheels down to an up-to-date figure; and it is to be hoped the day is not far distant when \$40 or \$50 will buy the best bicycle in the market.

In cultured Boston, too, arms yield to the toga. Once Boston delighted in the knowled gethath the mightiest-swatting of the sons of men was a citizen of hers. Once she smiled for pride in the fame of the most agile of the ball compelling gods of the diamond, men skilled alike to smite or stay, to fly around the trembling field or leap into the arch of heaven and there "gobble a fly." New times, new pursuits. Now Boston prides herself on the fact that the poultry show for which she is solemnly preparing is to be the biggest poultry show on earth. "Will break records in all respects. Number of hens exhibited will be 200, against New York's 113." It is good to see talent, smothered at one point breaking out at another but the gloating over New York seems just a trifle cruel and uncalled for.

The New Orleans Picayune prints a novel article setting forth that a certain private controversy which had threatened to result in a duel, had been settled by the advice of four prominent and disinterested gentlemen sitting as a Court of Honor. If private Courts of Honor can avail to check dueling in the South there is no reason why such tribunals might not be utilized with equally happy results to settle innumerable quarrels, all over the continent, which now make work for the law courts or for the Coroners. Arbitration among nations is just now being hailed as a blessing. It might prove equally beneficent in the settlement of individual disagreement.

The chief thing in looking for an era of prosperity is not to use green glasses.

Sleighs for Good Sleighting.

The first real snow storm and the first real sleighing came Thursday. The "beautiful" came with a rush and flurry and made many wish to see it descend in a less tempestuous fashion. But sleighing is here and Messrs Edgecombe & Sons of Fredericton remind PROGRESS readers that they have a splendid lot of sleighs and pungs, Gladstones, trotting sleighs and all that owners of horses care to use. Their warerooms in this city are at the corner of Brussels and Union streets.

The King of Scurchers.

We desire to draw attention to the advertisements of E. C. Hill & Co. of Toronto, Dominion agents for the English King of Scurchers, and the Crawford Speed King and Queen. From the reputation earned in the past by the firm and the goods, agents who handle them, will have an easy selling, and permanently satisfactory cycle trade. We would recommend any firm who intend entering the field or taking on a new line, to write the firm.

Bargains in a Big Store.

Messrs. Waterbury & Rising are reducing the prices of wool stockings with rubbers attached from \$1.25 to 80 cents and the same for Misses from \$1.10 to 70 cents; those for children from 95 to 60 cents. There are only 100 pairs of the above left. Another great bargain is 30 pairs of 2 1/2 and 3 Dongola Oxford tie shoes formerly \$2.50 now 99 cents.

Passion Flower.

The passion flower has its name from the Latin words signifying "suffering flower," referring to the filaments or rays and other parts, being likened to the circumstances of Christ's crucifixion. In the various parts of the flower the fanciful find the crown of thorns, the cross, the spear, the scourge, the nails, the hammer, the lance and the drops of blood.

You Have Made Them.

What new resolutions for the year? You have certainly heard about us. Well, why not give us a trial. Beautiful work and prompt delivery is our motto. Ungar's Laundry and Dye Works. Telephone 58.

VERSES OF YESTERDAY AND TODAY

Calla Song.

I mind a calla golden gemmed,
A flower sweet and true;
It grows not in a meadow green,
Nor valley's sparkling dew.
It seeketh not the dark copse lone,
The shady wildwood way;
It blooms upon a sunny hill,
Beside a blue sea bay.

The balmy breath of spring time loves,
To find her cheerful face;
To shrove the beauty treasured there,
Of loveliness and grace.
To that fair flower, summer winds,
Their fond caresses bear;
And o'er the waters sing their love,
To one forever dear.

I envy all the golden scene,
Along the bright waved deep;
The pathway leading up the hill,
Where dreaming roses sleep,
The love the lily, true the love,
As their's must ever be;
They know her step they hear her voice,
Her passing by they see.

Ah would that I were blest as they,
When her sweet self is nigh;
And softly in the twilight still,
Perchance they hear her sigh.
O dream light of a tender time,
Steal back and take me there;
And let her hallowed presence be,
An answer to my prayer.

O lily sweetest of the name,
The fairest one of all;
In dear home life remembered well
How often I recall;
Fond memories that ne'er can fade,
Or wither ever more;
While moonlight lingers on the hill,
And down the sea washed shore.

Be thine my soul the lily's life,
O flower sweet and true;
As if from that sweet flower's heart,
Went up a white winged dove.
Be thine the robe of excellence,
As blooms that deck the sod;
Are clad in vestments beautiful,
The purity of God.

CYPRUS GOLDBE.

Courage.

Because I hold it sinful to despond
And will not let the bitterness of life
Bind me with burning tears, but look beyond
Its tumults and its strife;

Because I lift my head above the mist,
Where the sun shines and the broad breezes blow,
By every ray and every raindrop kissed
That God's love doth bestow.

Think you I find no bitterness at all?
No burden to be borne like Christian's pack?
Think you there are no tears ready to fall
Because I keep them back?

Why should I have life's ills with cold reserve,
To curse myself and all who love me? Nay,
A thousand times more good than I deserve
God gives me every day!

And in each one of these rebellious tears
Kept back He makes a rainbow shine.
Graciously I take his slight gift. No fear
Nor any doubts are mine.

Dark skies must clear, and when the clouds are
past
One golden day redems a weary year.
Patient I listen, sure that sweet at last
Will sound his voice of cheer. —Celia Thaxter.

Pictures in The Fire.

By the firelight, at the gloaming,
In the evening of the year,
As my thoughts go idly roaming
Yon and thither, far and near.

And come back the bright days olden,
One thing lacketh my desire;
For I miss the pictures golden
Painted in the glowing fire.

Castles rose more brightly gleaming
Than the moral hero won,
Flags of flame above them streaming
Fair as banners of the sun.

Here a cliff and there a gully;
Drearily I watched the while
Sins had in the diamond valley
Crases on his lonely sle.

Now a sledge, and now a sortie,
Christian in the giant's hold,
All and his bandits forty,—
I could see their cave of gold.

Every marrel eye may ponder,
Every gory heart desire
Lay, a realm of wealth and wonder,
Painted in the glowing fire.

Still I seek them vision-haunted,
But my sight they ever flee:
Let me in O realm enchanted,
Open, open sesame!

Naught avail—my eyes are holden,
Lost the charm, the spell is vain;
Vanished are the visions golden
Never to come back again. —T. S. Ferry.

How Soap Cleanses.

The healthy skin is constantly excreting substances injurious to the body, and secreting an oil which serves to keep it smooth and supple. Its surface is covered with a tiny film of oil, and particles of dust readily cling to it. When ordinary soap is used for cleansing purposes it removes the dirt, but also, by the liberation of free alkali attacks the oily accumulation and thus destroys the natural emollient of the skin. This fact explains why many people suffer from rough stockings and faces or from rough hands and faces or from chaps and dryness of the skin after using bad soaps. The case is different when Lano-line Toilet Soap is used. This soap contains unsaponified Lano-line, the fat natural to the skin. The cleansing portion of the soap cleanses away the dust and the impurities excreted by the skin, while the free Lano-line supplies the loss of natural fat, which keeps the skin in a smooth and healthy condition. It would seem that Lano-line Toilet Soap is the perfection of all toilet soaps.

He Anticipates

Mrs. Wallace—I do believe that a woman could wear her dresses almost to rags before her husband would notice it.

Mrs. Ferry—That is not the case with Mr. Ferry. He notices the dinginess of my clothes before I do. I can tell when I'm shabby by his beginning to talk about how scarce money is and how necessary it will be for us to economize.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Chairs Re-seated, Cane, Splint, Perforated Duck, 17 Waterloo.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

Royal Baking Powder ABSOLUTELY PURE

A LITERARY GEM.

A Vivid Description of a Ball in Elgin Albert County.

I cannot help thinking that the following society item will be of interest to the readers of PROGRESS, and even if it should fail to call forth a passing smile it will at least be valuable as a literary curiosity, and perhaps cheer the heart of some trembling novice who yearns to start out upon the thorny path which leads to the glittering temple of fame—I mean of course the path of literature—but shrinks in self-distrust of his ability, and hesitates to take the first step. It will at least prove conclusively how very slight are the qualifications required to secure the position of correspondent to some newspapers. Style, idiom, correct English, even common grammar—all these are at a discount. This paragraph appeared in a newspaper which is published in close proximity to the city of Moncton, and was a source of much innocent enjoyment to the readers of that paper, at the time of its appearance. I have been careful to hold it until I ascertained beyond doubt that the lady to whom it refers had returned to her home in New York, lest her feelings should be harrowed by a second perusal of this most flattering tribute to her "qualities for entertaining" but as Mrs. Blank left Canada just before Christmas, I feel free to display the gem that I have hidden from the full light of day for so long. Here it is—

ELGIN, Albert Co., Nov. 21.—[Special.] One of the most brilliant parties ever known in this village was given last evening by Mrs. Francis Blank, who is of New York city but has built a beautiful residence here where she spends her summer months and intends leaving for home in a few days. The party was given to her many friends before leaving. More than one hundred and eighty guests were present, quite a number from Moncton, Petitcodiac, Havelock and Sussex. A special train was run at her cost to accommodate those who came from points along the line. The hostess received in a beautiful black brocade satin and decorated with a charming bouquet of chrysanthemums. Mrs. Blank's qualities for entertaining is seldom equaled. Music, whist, with other games was the order of the evening. A very elaborate supper was participated in before retiring, by which every one left the table with a mark of pleasure on his countenance. Mrs. Blank's friends extend to her their heartiest and best wishes for their pleasant evening.

I refrain from comment on this masterpiece of journalism, but I confess to a burning curiosity concerning the "mark of pleasure" which appeared on the countenance of every male guest as he left the table. It must have been strictly confined to the members of the sterner sex, as the chronicle states explicitly 'his' countenance—What can that sign manual have been? Surely—but no, Elgin is a strictly temperate place, and I am sure Mrs. Blank could never have won the esteem of so many friends, and the unstinted praise of the correspondent in question, had she been in the habit of serving anything of a nature to "make glad the heart of man" at her entertainments. So it must have been simply the joy of the occasion which illuminated their countenances, and made them shine. The ladies, having their feelings under better control probably showed less of the happiness they felt, hence the distinction which seems a little strange at first. May Mrs. Blank long be spared to return to the shores of Elgin and gladden the inhabitants with her generous entertainments, and may the chronicler of Elgin society events long continue to flourish, and to report the same, for the city papers.

ASTRA.

THEIR ANNUAL POWWOW.

Kent County Councilors Discuss Affairs of State.

RICHIBUCTO, Jan. 19.—There is nothing on this planet that can equal the Kent county council. Talk about the World's Fair eh? There is more sport in one day listening to the Kent parliament trying to do business than you could get out of ten world's fairs. This greatest show on earth was open for five days here last week and the attendance was large. When Warden Pineau of Acadieville reached the chair he delivered the following address: Honorable Councilors of Kent, the English and French languages together do not contain enough words to express my thanks for the high position you have placed me in. Such positions as President of the United States, Prime Minister of England and Emperor of Germany sink into insignificance when compared with such an exalted state as warden of the Kent county council. As you are doubtless aware, certain parts of the world are in a very much disturbed state at present and it is a good thing for the world in general that this body has met.

Such minor things as concern our own country will have to be laid aside for the present until we settle this Cuban disturbance and quiet the Turks. It will now be in order for this honorable body to suggest the best means of carrying out the measures I have spoken of.

Councillor Wathen—I move that the sum of fifteen dollars be taken out of the Richibucto parish poor fund surplus and devoted to war purposes.

Councillor McKee—I will telegraph Captain Gogain to have the Cocagne militia in readiness by tomorrow.

Councillor Barriean—England puts on a little too much side—France can settle her if necessity requires it.

Councillor Comeau—This council is just the same as France.

Councillor Peters—I will notify Jude Finnegan immediately to drill the village volunteers.

Councillor Murray—I would like to ask Councillor Murphy if the Big Cove reserve force are in good condition.

Councillor Murphy—I think they would require an application of Prussian oil before marching.

Councillor Cormier—I move that the sum of ten dollars be taken out of the Richibucto parish poor fund surplus to purchase Prussian oil for the Big Cove reserve force.

Councillor McMaster—I move that all the delinquent tax payers in the parish of Carleton be pressed into service.

Councillor Daigle—Keep the matter quiet or they may pay up.

Councillor Frank Richard—I have just received a telephone message from Mosie Barriean, who has charge of the St. Louis cavalry, that they will be ready to leave tomorrow.

Councillor Atkinson—The Harcourt infantry have plenty of sand.—

Councillor Bourgeois—I can assure the council that the St. Paul navy will do their duty now as in the past.

Councillor Poirier—I move that the liquor dealers be provided with a gatling gun and twelve repeating rifles to resent the attack that the liquor inspector intends making on them shortly.

Councillor F. P. Richard—I move this council adjourn "sine die," which means to rush to the treasurer's office to collect two dollars and a half per day.

COLONIAL GRANDEUR.

Adelaide Scenes in the Early Days of Australian Prosperity.

The Rev. H. R. Haweis, in his book, 'Travel and Talk,' tells some amusing stories of the levees held at Government House, Adelaide, in the early days of South Australian prosperity. The government of the period—a very early one—decreed that all who presented themselves at his court should wear court dress.

The number who aspired to the honor of presentation in those days was very small, and among them there was but one who possessed a tail coat. The difficulty was not insurmountable nevertheless.

The lucky owner of the coat went in, made his bow and came out and then hung the coveted possession on a tree for the next comer to array himself in. This process was naturally slow, and the governor grew impatient and inquired the reason of the delay.

It is said that the ludicrousness of the situation struck him at once. He burst out laughing and suspended the oppressive regulation until such time as the colony should be sufficiently advanced to live more generally up to tail coats.

It must have been a little later on that another amusing scene was witnessed at a presentation, for a colonist's lady had then arrived at the dignity of a real Irish car purchased in Dublin. It was the only one in the colony, and the lady was proportionately proud of it. She drove in grand style to government house, the cynosure of all eyes. But her joy was damped, when, after her own presentation, she happened to look out of the window in time to see another party arrive in an exactly similar Irish car. Her pre-eminence was gone and her mortification was extreme.

But what was her angry and disgust at seeing a third, and a fourth, and even a fifth car arrive, all at due intervals. She made her way down in a terrible state of disappointment—just in time to see her own car, with her own driver, arrive with a sixth party.

So far from not having created a sensation, the car had been too popular, and her man had not been proof against the money offered him to allow other people to ride in it.