

THE BLUENOSE.

ON THE VALUE OF
AN ARTISTIC OFFICE.

been made in a bright and cheerful one. The fact that some wealthy man has been a miser is no reason why one should not wear a good suit of clothes. Good clothes give prestige to a man. So does a well-furnished and well-kept office. And someone joins in and says, "We've all seen the young man that started out in a flashy office and landed in the street." The same young man would have landed in the street and probably far more quickly, had he opened his office in a barn. The fact that some dunderheads have failed in handsome quarters is no reason why men should not do business in comfort. There is no logic to be brought against having the handsomest office that it lies in the power of a man to possess. There is everything to be said in favor of it.

There can be no question that our American cousins are a long way ahead of us in their ideas regarding the comfort of business premises. But, even in the Eastern States, which are more generally supposed to be the home of culture, they have to yield the palm in this respect to their brethren of the West; and if we would see nice offices, we must go beyond the Appalachians. We can take a leaf out of their book if we only will, and in so doing will do ourselves great benefit. There is probably nothing that in proportion to the amount spent on it, would advertise us so well abroad. Halifax and Nova Scotia have the reputation of being slow—behind the times. Let us endeavor to make this charge baseless. One way in which we can do it is to impress business men from abroad through the character of our business premises. We cannot do it now. We must spend some money in order to do that. But there can be no doubt that an improvement in this respect would go a great way to place us high in the estimation of visitors.

The moral influence upon the province would be excellent. It would be an example of improvement that would be contagious. The effect would be felt in everything that is improvable. Seeing the benefits of this one forward movement why would people not readily infer similar benefits in others? And once the ball is set a-rolling would it not acquire momentum? Who can foresee all of the great good that would result from a movement in this direction?

The cuts used to illustrate this article were kindly loaned to us by Mr. Oscar E. Binner. Mr. Binner is president of the Binner Engraving Company of Chicago and New York, and the engravings are views of his New York office. The manifold beauties of this model office have been the subject of enthusiastic comment on the part of Mr. Binner's visitors. BLUENOSE readers who live in offices should have reference to these pictures when fitting up anew and we would recommend it as a good plan to keep for reference whatever good suggestions for offices come to hand.

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