

creation of man, animals and plants were populating and beautifying the barren plains; preparing it for the use of him who was created in God's own image. We cannot say that the world has been marking time. If we were able to see and compare the condition of this globe, from the period which Moses called "in the beginning" and the present time, we would not be able to comprehend the advances that have been made.

Taking the liberty which we enjoy as freeborn Englishmen, what gigantic steps have been made! Commencing with the Magna Charta; The Petition of Rights, and The Habeas Corpus Act, we see that liberty has not been marking time. When the Barons demanded protection from their king, they marched onward a step; when Charles II, signed that Act, securing the liberty of the subject, another step was added; and so on, until we enjoy more freedom than any nation in the world, except the United States.

John Wycliffe led the army of reformers and we know well how far they marched. Luther next took the command, and he made his soldiers march double quick time. Since Luther's death, such men as Latimer, Ridley, and John Wesley, have led the mighty army. Looking back to the place from which they started, we are surprised to see what a journey has been accomplished. It is evident these soldiers did not mark time.

Let us watch the army of literary men. Stern old Geoffrey Chaucer led the van, and the code of laws laid down by him for the safe guidance of his regiment, have been revered and followed by every commander since. When he laid down the sword, Spencer and Shakespeare took it up; but the wonderful genius of Milton left a shining record, which no one has been able to surpass. These old warriors have not been tramping, tramping in the same place, as the work they leave behind proves. So in commerce, science and art, advances have been made at every tramp.

Could the noble-minded Columbus visit America again, and see what has taken place since the fifteenth century,

he would count the murmurings of his mutinous crew and the jeers of his enemies as nothing compared with the great progress of the New World. A very few years after Columbus had landed a nation had grown into existence and it seems but yesterday when the Declaration of Independence was signed.

Our Canada is fast growing up and taking her stand in the front ranks of the nations, and but few years are needed to develop the resources of the vast country in the North West.

Woman suffrage has engaged the attention of a large number of people and as a result, women have in many places received privileges equal to the men. They are filling public offices and taking the situations in most occupations once filled by men. It is estimated that there are nine hundred thousand more women in America than men; therefore a large number will be thrown on their own resources. Those who have comfortable homes cannot depend on that for life as we know the fickleness of fortune. The only conclusion that can be drawn then is, to improve all our faculties in case of necessity. How frequently we hear students say: "I am only studying this subject because it is on the curriculum, for I don't expect to look at it after I leave college," as if we could afford to lose any knowledge gained. So many students too, manage to make a respectable appearance in the class, not studying because they love to search out the hidden things, but doing just as the soldiers do—marking time. Let us imitate the grand old heroes and make a stride forward every step we take. It may take some time to learn the step and keep pace with the army, but we dare not become deserters. We do care to become fossils to be dug out in the ages to come as a specimen of this age.

Fern.

"Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in.
Blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out."