

London Advertiser.

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and Editor.

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Anglo-Saxon Superiority.

That a Frenchman should write a book on this subject was a striking thing, and in the book itself there are many things that will "strike and stick." The original French edition caused something of a sensation, and the Canadian edition, issued by the Musson Book Company, Toronto, will no doubt attract attention in this country. Apart from any discussion of the merits of the book we may safely say that the investigation of the subject in this volume shows the courage and wisdom of the author. We are all too prone to adopt the ostrich policy of shutting our eyes to unpleasant facts, and remaining content with the old song that we are "the great nation." It is a truer patriotism, though not quite so popular, to recognize the signs of danger and seek patiently for the remedy. This writer had the boldness to declare in the face of his countrymen that their system of education was all wrong, and would need to be revolutionized if young Frenchmen are to have any chance in the fierce struggle for existence under the conditions of modern life. Very many of the statements contained in this book must have been unpleasant reading for Frenchmen, though, perhaps, they might find a little consolation in the severe criticism of the German schools, and that critic of the German schools, the German Emperor.

The author states the fact of the supremacy of Anglo-Saxon activity and influence in the world. A colored map and a few brief notes are sufficient for that point. Then he traces the history of its growth, and attempts to investigate the causes. Some may think that the problem is even more complex than the author has made it, but the merit is that it puts the salient points of the case clearly and strongly. In proof of this note the comment of Mr. J. Le-maitre, one of France's ablest critics: "An infinitely painful book is that of M. Demolins; but we must swallow the bitter cup to the dregs. The book ought to be read. We know—or, at least, we suspected the things which M. Demolins tells us. But he makes them precise and clear; he puts these things together, and the effect of his work is to convince us of the social, political, commercial, industrial, financial and moral superiority of the Anglo-Saxon race, and of our own weakness, our misery and inferiority. For the superiority of our cooks and comic playwrights is not calculated to save us, and it is just possible that our artistic superiority is but a somewhat useless luxury."

After this the critic proceeds to emphasize, for the benefit of astonished Parisians, the various counts of the indictment. The growth of Anglo-Saxon dominion, the author treats of as a drama in four scenes, as follows: (1) Predominance of the Saxons over the Celts; (2) predominance of the Saxons over the Angles; (3) The predominance of the Saxons over the Danes; (4) predominance of the Saxons over the Normans. He would probably not deny that all these elements—conquered elements as he regards them—have contributed to the general result, but he regards the peculiar Saxon element the individualistic element, the self-reliance which leads men to do things for themselves rather than to depend upon the state as the key to the situation.

This is simply a slight sketch given in the preface of the body of the work, with three more divisions, in three contrasts, the Frenchman and Anglo-Saxon, at school, in private life, and in public life. On all these points he maintains that his fellow-countrymen have much to learn from the Anglo-Saxon. "Ask a hundred young Frenchmen, just out of school, to what careers they are inclined; three-quarters of them will answer you that they are candidates for Government offices." The road to these offices is by examination, and hence the schools exist for the purpose of preparing boys for the purpose of passing examinations, and as the text must constantly be made more complicated, this gives rise to a system of "cramping" (chauffage). This is the definition of cramping. "It consists in imparting, in as little time as possible, a superficial, but temporarily sufficient, knowledge of the programme of the examination." It is shown how this eats into the life of France, and the schools form officials and not men.

The other points are similarly dealt with, and we can but repeat that it required courage on the part of the doctor to administer this bitter pill. The book is well worth reading, but if the only use we can make of it is to minister to the pride of our race it will be a failure so far as we are concerned. In Canada today there are many intelligent patriotic men who think that the same evils are eating into our social and political life—that we are coming to trust too much in the state and too little in ourselves, that we are placing too much reliance on legislation, and too little on character. If it is true that the British flag stands throughout the world for law and order, it is also true that it has only come to stand for this ideal because the Englishman has been able to carry the law in himself, and exemplify it in his life. The outward law is after all only a symbol or an index, and if we make an idol of it and neglect the inward life, the only result will be weakness and decay. We must have loyalty to law, but we must also have self-reliance, individual initiative, and recognition of the rights of others. These have helped to make Anglo-Saxon superiority.

Mr. Choate's Speech.

Mr. Choate has been waking John Bull's rapture by thrumming on the Anglo-Saxon lyre. The British newspapers unite in calling his speech eloquent, witty and altogether electric in its effect. Most American ambassadors in Great Britain seem to achieve great reputation as post-prandial orators. It is probably due to the novelty of the American style of speaking. Public men in the United States practice after-dinner oratory a good deal, and as a rule they are fluent and sprightly at it. English oratory, like the English public dinner, is apt to be heavy, but it is solid nevertheless. The American's speech may be more voluble and diverting to listen to; but the Englishman's speech will look better in print. A critic has said that the American speaks better and the Englishman talks better, meaning that to speak well in public is a knack which can be acquired with very superficial attainments, but that conversation is a stronger test of mental equipment, and is independent of the mere art of rhetoric. In literary merit there is no comparison between English and American standards. The average speech in Congress looks like a schoolboy's essay beside the average speech in the British Parliament. Senator Hoar seems to be the only American in public life who can strike a note of real scholarship. This state of affairs is due to the fact that the educated classes of the United States do not go into public life. Still, if the American has less of the culture, he has more of the temperament of the orator than the Englishman. He is more volatile and emotional. His vivacity of spirit and audacity of expression are suited to after-dinner occasions where the subjects are not didactic, and where the company wants to be entertained and not instructed.

Victoria Park.

Some public-spirited citizen has a chance to do the city a good turn by purchasing and deeding to the municipality the remainder of that wedge of land extending from the site of St. James' Presbyterian Church to the point where Richmond street, Park avenue and Central avenue converge. By tearing down the buildings on this strip of property, and by filling in Park avenue, from Princess to Central avenue, the boundaries of Victoria Park could be carried to Richmond street. It would make a superb addition to that beautiful inclosure, and the cost would be comparatively little. While the City Council are purchasing St. James' Church site it is a pity that their means will not permit them to take over the entire wedge. At present the western side of the park faces a block of backyards and outhouses, which make an unsightly gap in the otherwise handsome surroundings. To have the park fronting on a main thoroughfare like Richmond street would greatly improve the whole neighborhood. The east side of Richmond street would present a fine stretch from Dufferin to Central avenue.

In Toronto they are agitating for the creation of a park by the purchase of a block of buildings in the heart of the city, and it has been suggested that private subscriptions be opened for the purpose. There are few places that can boast a beauty spot like Victoria Park, so centrally located, and every citizen must applaud the wisdom of those who set it aside for public use. As the population grows, so will the necessity for further park area within the city limits. The opportunity to enlarge the size and enhance the appearance of our popular resort, is a very tempting one.

Manitoba's speech from the throne is a paean of prosperity.

The trusts that are formed to "lessen the cost of production" generally end by increasing the cost of consumption.

The Ottawa Government has started the session well. The six new members introduced at the opening were all Liberals. Sir Charles Tupper will now proceed to prove that the Government has lost the confidence of the country.

Some of the American papers are reproaching Canada for the unfortunate scene at the double execution at St. Scholastique, Quebec. We beg to inform them that when Canada wants advice on the matter of hangings she will not go to Litchfield for it.

Ogilvie, the Montreal miller, says that Western Ontario municipalities have deluged him with offers of bonuses, exemptions and other special privileges if he will locate his mills in any one of them. How do the other millers like the idea of subsidized competition? The system is grossly unfair, and the Legislature should put a stop to it.

When Sir Charles Tupper speaks on the address in the House of Commons, if there is not a crowd of his Ottawa ward workers in the galleries, it will not be because he does not tout for it. He addressed a "smoking concert" party on the other evening in the capital, and urged them to attend the House on the evening of his speech. He was confident that he would rout the Government at one charge. Sir Charles, in late years, has become so prosy, and habitually deals with so many back issues, which no one cares anything about, that when he addresses the House, even his party friends on the Opposition benches often go for a walk till he stops. It was probably wise, therefore, for the Opposition leader to arrange with the Ottawa ward managers to at least have a good-sized attendance of outsiders in the gallery to listen to him. But it does not seem a very dignified proceeding for a politician to be appealing to party friends outside the House to attend his sittings that they may hear his annihilating remarks. As Mr. MacLean, M.P., would say, the trouble is that as an annihilator Sir Charles does not annihilate.

Observations.

"A Sister to Evangeline," by Charles G. D. Roberts, published by George N. Morang & Co., of Toronto, is another novel from the pen of this talented Canadian poet, novelist and historian. The scene is the same as Longfellow's poem, and the plot centers around the burning of Grand Pre and the expulsion of the French settlers from Acadia by their English conquerors. The political necessity for the act removes the charge of harshness made by Longfellow. The idyllic peacefulness of the French character in the "Evangeline" is not insisted upon in the novel.

The rapidity of incident has a fascinating interest, and the accuracy of description, familiarity with nature, and gracefulness of style are the characteristics of the story, as well as of his poems. The complications of the plot also distinguish it from Longfellow's work, and the usual devices of the story-teller for holding the reader in suspense, are very skillfully employed. Grule, the madman, and the Black Abbe, who are met with in the author's former work, "The Forge in the Forest," play similar parts in the fortunes of the hero and heroine. The latter, Yvonne de Lamourie, does not claim the same sympathy as Evangeline, as she is only too well supplied with lovers, and her sufferings are never very intense. The story, or, rather, romance, is recommended to Canadian readers, as it is fairly representative of Canadian work, where any lack of power is atoned for by skillfulness in the plot, good characterization and smoothness and gracefulness of composition.

There is the light-eating theory, and recently we have heard of the big-eating consumption cure. Bismarck had a galloping consumption, but not of the tuberculous kind. In his old age he complained that he could eat only three eggs at a time, whereas at one time he thought nothing of eleven. As to liquids—brandy, claret, champagne—he drank everything with the same mighty thirst. "He liked his tea laced with brandy," and was fond of a mixture of porter and champagne. Bismarck's eating and drinking can hardly be cited for general imitation. It is not everybody who combines the digestion of an ostrich with the maw of a pelican.

A subscriber pays the compliment of saying that in no paper does he find news and comments more interestingly or understandingly condensed than in The London Advertiser. That is the sort of compliment The Advertiser aims to deserve.

An old resident says thunder and lightning in March means a late spring.

What Others Say.

Better Farm Prices.
[St. Marys Journal.]

A very noticeable change in the condition of affairs in this locality is the improved demand for farming land, and the consequent stiffening in farm values.

Consistency.
[Guelph Mercury.]

Before the plebscite certain Conservative journals besought their readers not to make prohibition a political question. Now the Tory press is doing its best to make political capital out of the question. There is consistency for you.

The Early-Closing Movement.
[Brantford Expositor.]

The early closing movement is spreading. The Retail Grocers' Associations of London and Toronto are taking the matter up, and it will not be long ere all the towns and cities will be agitated. The conditions of business life are found to be too exacting even by those who are supposed to be the gainers by the long hours.

Too Many Close Corporations.
[Stratford Beacon.]

We are glad to note that in the bill concerning civil engineers, the Hon. G. W. Ross expressed the hope "that the house would not consent to any legislation which would tend to create a close corporation." There is too great a tendency to hedge in the different lines in life by corporations. There is reasonable ground for some, but for many there is not. We can understand why the doctors' profession should be a close corporation, but there are people who want barbers to be such. If no halt is called we may expect to hear that no man can shave himself unless he belong to the incorporated barbers, or no woman allowed to cook her husband's meal unless she be a member of the Organized Cooks' Society.

Big Profits From Advertising.
[New England Home Magazine.]

A business man of Philadelphia said the other day that Mr. Wanamaker's profits from his Philadelphia store last year were over \$1,750,000, and that those from his New York establishment will run close to that figure. The Saturday before Christmas the receipts in New York were even greater than those in Philadelphia, and exceeded \$500,000. The New York store has paid a profit from the very day it was opened, although two firms which occupied the establishment since A. T. Stewart's death have failed. The reason of Mr. Wanamaker's great success both in New York and Philadelphia is his skillful and extensive advertising. It has been his rule to confine his advertising to newspapers and magazines on which he has spent annually more than \$300,000 in Philadelphia. The advertising bills of his New York establishment exceeded even that sum last year.

From the Plunkville Bugle: "Our literary society and local branch of the C. O. W. has taken up more subjects and discussed them fuller than many a society has done in the large cities. We think it no idle claim to say that Plunkville may fairly be called the Athens of Pawpaw county."

EXEMPT NEARLY ONE HALF

Average Assessment of Thirteen Large Factories in the City—Tax Petitions Before the Finance Committee

The finance committee held a regular session last night, listened to applications for fixed assessments, dealt with a number of petitions for the remission of taxes and passed a batch of accounts. The members present were Ald. Rumball (chairman), O'Meara, Plant, Graham and Carrothers, the Mayor and Secretary Pope.

Mr. F. E. Leonard appeared before the committee in support of a petition for a fixed assessment of the foundry of E. Leonard & Sons. The present assessment is \$83,000, and for the past ten years the firm has been paying only \$70,000, proportionately the highest of similar industries in the city. Rival firms in other cities were relieved, and to enable the petitioners to compete the city should deal liberally with them. The average discount allowed other similar industries (twelve in number in the city), was 45 per cent, and on this basis the petitioners' assessment would be fixed at \$45,000. Within the past three months the petitioners have brought to the city from 30 to 85 expert workmen, as important a consideration as the establishment of a new industry.

As Ald. Carrothers intends moving in council to exempt the machinery in all factories, action on Leonard & Sons' petition was postponed.

It was decided, Ald. Plant objecting, to recommend a fixed assessment of \$22,000 on the realty and \$20,000 on the personality of D. S. Perrin & Co.

The taxes of St. Matthew's Church were remitted.

Hellmuth College was granted \$220 on water rates.

The account of Registrar W. C. L. Gill, arising out of the annexation of London West, was passed for payment.

The account of St. John's Industrial School for the maintenance of Richard Kerwin, at \$2.50 per week, was again considered in connection with a report by the city solicitor. Further information will be obtained and the matter was laid over.

The case was as involved as a chancery suit. One petitioner for the remission of his taxes, \$2.50, stated his trouble in a long letter and concluded with the statement that "he was English and didn't let anybody know his affairs."

The committee decided on hearing the letter that the petitioner's "affairs" were such that he should pay up.

The application of John Cambridge for the refund of a fine of \$50 for selling the "pure juice of the apple" was filed. No power.

The great lung healer is found in that excellent medicine sold as Bickel's Anti-Consumptive Syrup. It soothes and diminishes the sensibility of the membranes of the throat and air passages, and is a sovereign remedy for all coughs, colds, hoarseness, pain or soreness of the chest, bronchitis, etc.

Chloroform was discovered by Samuel Guthrie in 1831.

Juvenal, in one of his satires, celebrated the British oyster 1,900 years ago, and ever since that day we have believed the luscious bivalve to be an invertebrate. It remained for a Virginian to discover recently that it possesses a well-developed backbone.

Koladermic Skin Food is what its name implies—a food for the skin—builds up the wasted and worn places restores it to a natural color and imparts a baby-like softness and delicacy.

Removes pimples and blackheads, and the defects of the complexion caused by indigestion and stomach troubles At all druggists. Price 25 cents.

Old People's Health.

MILBURN'S HEART AND NERVE PILLS THE REMEDY TO KEEP PEOPLE PAST MID-LIFE STRONG AND VIGOROUS.

Any person advanced in years who is troubled with palpitation or any heart weakness, nervousness, sleeplessness, impaired memory, lack of energy and



vitality, will find nothing equal to Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills for restoring the health and strength and keeping the energy and activity unimpaired.

Mrs. C. H. Dobson, a fine old lady living on Steadman Street, Moncton, N. B., made the following statement: "I am 70 years of age, and do not like to exert myself very much, but it is a pleasure to tell how much I value those wonderful Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills. I have been troubled for some time with a pain in my left side and a fluttering around my heart, which weakened me so that I was scarcely able to move."

"The least excitement would jar my nerves, and my heart would almost leap into my throat. My appetite was poor and I was very miserable indeed. "I took Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills and got great relief and am still continuing their use. They have allayed the fluttering sensation around my heart, improved my appetite very much, and I do not hesitate to recommend them as an excellent remedy for all heart and nerve troubles."

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NEW SPRING CLOTHING..

INNOVATION and improvement is the order of the day in our CLOTHING department. People do not fail to recognize our leadership in Men's, Youths', Boys' and Children's Clothing of every description. With a free lance in the world's markets we're able to buy to exceptional advantage. Compare our prices and qualities. No argument half so strong.

Men's Suits and Overcoats.

MEN'S SUITS—In all-wool Tweeds, light and dark colors, Italian linings, well and strongly made. Very special at.....\$5 00
MEN'S SUITS—In fine All-wool Tweeds, light and dark colors, Italian linings, etc. Special at.....\$7 50
MEN'S SUITS—In fine All-wool Tweeds, plain and fancy Scotch tweed effects beautifully made and trimmed. Very special at \$8 90 and.....\$10 00

MEN'S SUITS—In extra fine All-wool Tweeds and Worsteds, Italian linings, in plain and fancy patterns, newest styles, silk sewn, well and strongly made, equal to any ordered garments. Special at \$12 00 to.....\$15 00

Bring Your Tailor With You.

MEN'S NEW SPRING OVERCOATS—In Fawn-colored Whip Cord, beautifully made and trimmed, French facings, latest styles. Special at \$10 00 and.....\$15 00

Boys' 3-piece Knicker Suits in light and dark colored tweeds, plain and fancy, well and strongly made and trimmed; special at.....\$3 50

Boys' 3-piece Suits in all-wool tweeds, plain and fancy, newest patterns, Italian linings, etc., beautiful assortment, ranging in price \$4 to.....\$6 50

Boys' 2-piece Suits in light and dark tweeds, Italian linings and good patterns; very special at.....\$2 00

Boys' 2-piece Suits in fine all-wool tweeds, light and dark colors, plain and fancy, also in extra fine all-wool serges, beautiful assortment; see this range; special at from \$2 75 to.....\$4 50

Boys' Vestee Suits

In all-wool tweeds, trimmings, etc., to match, light and dark colors, newest styles; special from \$2 75 to.....\$3 50

Boys' Vestee Suits in extra fine all-wool tweeds (Scottish effects), plain and fancy patterns, latest styles, very special at \$3 50 to.....\$5 00

Child's Blouse Suits in fine blue serge with large sailor collar, beautifully trimmed and strongly made; very special at.....\$1 35



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