



"YOU WOULD, WOULD YOU?"

Barney's Speech.

ERINGOURAH TERRACE, OCT. 12, 1881.

DEAR MR. GRIP:

Accordin' to promise, here's me spache. Gintlemen, (barrin' the ladies, an' more's the pity for that same) it's many's the way has bin suggested fur settlin' the grate questions of Capital Varsus Labour, an' the improvemint av the condition av "the workin' man;" but it's never to me knowledge been wance mentioned that the true way av helpin' the poor is by educatin' the rich. Don't yez be aftlier glowrin' at me that way! Did none av yoz ever see a young fruit-tree, how it shpreads, an' shoots, an' shpreads, till bedad it ud all run to branches and laves intirely, if ye'd let it. But a man comes to yer dure wan foine marnin' airly, an' asus yez if yez wout be aftlier havin' that tree pruned, an' begorra, the way he goes fur that tree! cuttin' an' sawin' an' snippin' relentlessly; till the poor tree, bicedin' at every limb, howlds up the few arrums it has left in a silent appale fur mercy. But oh! the plentiful showers av funder tinted blooms it sheds on the warm breeze av summer, an' the loads av luscious fruit it bends under in the autumn! Now, gintlemin, this is exactly the case wid the young tree av society growin' up in our midst, it's all runnin' to laves an' suckers wid extravagance an' pride, an' folly, an' ivery description av shain, trucklin' to empty titles, office-huntin' an' money-worship generally. It wants prunin' if it's to produce fruit worthy av the comin' 20th century. The first to be luck't aftlier is the young, the future voters an' legislators av the country. They should be educated rich an' poor together in the common schools, the same to be attinded barefooted from the 24th May till the 1st av Siptimber, first for the good av their own health, an' second, so they wout' be aftlier luckin' down on poorer childer' whose parents can't afford shoes all the summer round. Thin, all jewelry, real or sham, that comes in be the school dure, I'd pitch out av the window. The sight av an on-fortunite child av twelve, shportin' a goold watch an' chain, an' rings, an' locket, an' puttin' on airs over her poorer sisters, is a sight to make angels wape. In the churches I'd have the richest an' safest cushioned seats set aside for the very poor who might come shlippin' in to hear a word av comfort, so that they might have

a saft sate for wance in the week, and by-an'-by, maybe, perhaps, they'd begin to believe that the words "brother" an' "sister," as used by the professed followers av the meek and lowly, had really some meanin' in them aftther all. An' I'd make it a bye-law av this Dominion, that ivery young man who was a capitalist an' an intended employer av labour, should live and take pat-luck for not less than three years in the family av a man who has a dollar or a dollar an' a half a day, wid all the rainy days and weeks av sickness, an' holidays an' odd hours kept off. At the end av that time to be made Chancellor av the household Exchequer for one year. Out av the income to feed, clothe, and educate with a common school education, from five to eleven childer', to pay as he goes, owin' no man, not even the doctor, an' show at the end av the year how much he has for rent, fuel, pew rent, mission money, money to help the owd folks a little, and surplus in savings banks. Failing to do this well, undergo the discipline of learning to listen meekly an' patiently to innumerable lectures on the wastefulness and improvidence of the "working classes," and the plain duty of layin' by something for a rainy day. This four years' apprenticeship to hard-handed practical poverty will, when he becomes an employer, greatly simplify to him the meaning of strikes. The best M.A.'s are those who have graduated with 1st honours in the school av Adversity, an' I'd never spend money on a University education for a young man, who could not shew himself capable av workin' his way there some time or other, alone an' unaided if necessary. An' in this day av resthetics and sunflowers run to seed, I'd suggest as a subject for the art students, "Haroinism in humble life." Subject, "A widdy woman wid a string av young wans behind her, thryin' her level best to keep an ugly lantern-jawed wolf from the dure, an' she a latherin' the daylight out av him wid a wash-board and scrubbin' brush." There are hundreds av haroins av this stamp that'll be fightin' unnoticed, like this, all through the bitter winter, sometimes wid success, but oeh! oeh! how often will the wolf conquer an' the poor childer' be destroyed body an' sow! An' fur yer young capitalists in the dry-goods line, I'd make it compulsory for them to earn their own livin' for at least two years, makin' shirts at \$1 per

doz., or heavy-lined tweed pants at 18 etc., an all the time hear his employer's praise in all the churches for his Christian liberality; or make them and their sisters stand behind the counter from 9 to 13 hours a day, nor dare on peril of reproof or dismissal to wance sit down though faint an' waken, an' all the time to unshakenly believe their employer to be a sincere and humble Christian. Aftther this manner, gintlemen, would I train the rich, by practical expyanriance, an' I venture to predict that a revival av Shpartan trainin' ud revive a grate dale av the owd Shpartan nobility an' purity av life. As for the thavin' there is no need to be aftther tachin' them that, they are already to the manner born. What is grindin' the faces av the poor but thavin'? (an' that av the meanest kind.) Yez neen't trouble yourselves thinkin' ye'll evangelize the world while the foundations av yer churches are laid in blood, in the tears av the half fed orphan an' the failin' health av the overworked widow; built up wid the profits av whiskey sellin' an' the money made from a business which is no business, but the blight an' bane av our young Dominion. Oeh wirra! wirra! the barefaced sham it is anyway. Lastly, gintlemen, now that that soine Canada av ours has outgrown her long clothes, an' can run alone, (aye, an' flirt like a born coquette wid owd Uncle Sam over the border.) I don't want to see this owd head av mine laid under the turf, until she stands up an' independint Dominion, tellin' Uncle Sam to be off wid himself, an' declinin' wid respectful thanks all further guardianship av Dukas an' Lords, shall offer the 1st prize av a four years' Presiding Governourship, to the very best boys, born or naturalized in the Dominion, who shall by their capability, industry and trustworthiness, have won the confidence av the people so as to be elected by them to that high office. An' win ivery bye av thim knows—"Mother av Moses," says Nora, howlin' in my ear, "are yez aware that's its writin' in yer sleep yez are! Sure I missed yez out av bed, an' there yez are scratchin' in ycr night-gownd, an' grindin' yer teeth like yez had the wurrums." An' sure when I woke up there was this letter written to ycrself, Mr. Grip. Musha! what quare ideas comes in sleep to yours wide-awake,

BARNEY O'HEA.



"IT'S AN ILL WIND," &c.

G. B.—Kicked you out, did they? And you want to know what I think of it. Well, I have no hesitation in saying it served you jolly well right, if that's any satisfaction to you!