

SANDS THIS CLOCK GOES

KIPPLING'S CENSURE OF BRITONS

(By H. Hamilton Fyfe in London Daily Mail.)

When the children of Judah heard Jeremiah lifting up his voice and warning them of the wrath to come, they, no doubt, shrugged their shoulders, and said to one another, with a contemptuous side glance at the prophet, "At it again!"

Cassandra, as it was regarded as a bore, too, and so have been many others endowed with the prophetic gift, whose predictions were derided as lunatic nonsense. Ordinary, everyday people have no imagination. They cannot conceive of anything happening to alter the state of things around them. "Change and decay in all around them," they sing at church; but they do not see anything of the kind. At the more suggestion that change and decay are possible they raise indignant or amused protests against "alarmist exaggeration." Everything will remain as it is always—that is what they really believe.

Among such "comfortable moles," as Matthew Arnold called them, the mention of Mr. Kipling's name is now the signal for a shrugging of shoulders and a chorus of half-annoyed, half-dainty "Ohs."

"He used to be rather good," they say, "but he's never amusing now—always telling us he's developed a bad digestion. Awful place, India, for that you know." The idea that Mr. Kipling's warnings have any seriousness never enters their imperious heads.

His new poem, which was published yesterday by the Morning Post, shows that such criticism is making him despair. In the series of Jeremiahs he has issued during the last eight years he has never quite so sadly given up hope, never lashed so bitterly the tendencies which he sees driving Britain headlong to destruction. The poem consists of some sixty lines of concentrated virulence and contempt. Here is Carlyle's passionate cry of mob rule put into swaying, rhythmic verse. The poet tells of a people who "Ascribed all dominion to man in his factions conferring."

And have given to numbers the Name of the Wisdom uttering."

This people "chose themselves prophets and priests of minute understanding," and this is how they fashioned their laws: They said: "Who has hate in the soul? Who has envied his neighbor?"

Let him arise and control both that man and his labor."

They said: "Who is eaten by sloth? Who untrifles has destroyed him?"

He shall levy a tribute from all because none have employed him."

They said: "Who has tolled? Who hath striven and gathered possession?"

Let him be spoiled. He hath given full proof of transgression."

They ran panting in haste to lay waste and embitter forever."

The wisdom of Wisdom and Strength which are Faith and Endearment."

They nosed out and digged up and dragged forth and exposed to detestation."

All doctrine of purpose and worth and restraint and provision; And it ceased, and God granted them all things for which they had striven."

And the heart of a beast in the place of a man's heart was given. Then when destruction is come upon them."

There was no need of a steed nor a lance to pursue them; It was decreed their own deed and not chance should undo them."

The tares they had laughingly sown were ripe, and the reaping; The trust they had leagued to disown was removed from their keeping."

The eaters of other men's bread, the exempted from shipwreck, the excusers of impotence fled, abdicating their wardship; For the hate they had taught through the State brought the State no defender."

And it passed from the roll of the nations in heading surrender. Here we have no new note in Mr. Kipling's poetry, but only a natural development of the theme which has haunted him for a number of years. We first heard it in the noble stanzas of "Recessional" after the 1897 Jubilee. Instead of adding his voice to the chorus of self-satisfaction which was filling the air, he astonished the nation with a solemn bantished prayer for humility.

If drunk with sight of power, we loose wild tongues that have not Thee in awe, Such boastings as the Gentiles use, Or lesser breeds without the law— Lord God of Hosts be with us yet, Lest we forget—lest we forget!"

The South African war began and the poet's forebodings were justified. Then he wrote this in 1901. The Islanders, a stirring call to England to away from her lethargy. With pitiless hail of stinging phrases he strove to god his countrymen into a realization of the risks of their torpor and stultification. He flung a gibe at the "baneful fools" and "muddled oafs" who thought cricket and football more important than defending their country. Nor did the worshippers at the shrine of Sport escape.

Will the rabbit war with your foe— the red deer here them for hire? Your best cock-pheasant keep you?— he is master of many a shire.

The message of "The Islanders" was plain to read. For a moment it thrilled the country. Then football and cricket and shooting and the other old concerns and amusements resumed their supremacy, and all went on as before.

About this time Mr. Kipling also wrote "The Dykes," which told in wonderful lifting verse of a people who neglected the walls which kept the sea out of their land. With vivid image he described their terror at the storm which threatened to overwhelm them, and their remorse, too late at their neglect.

Now we can only wait till the day, wait and apportion our shame. These are the dykes our fathers left,

but we would not look to the same. Time and again we were warned of the dykes, time and again we delayed;

Now, it may fall, we have slain our sons as our fathers we have betrayed.

More Cheerful Strain. In "The Lesson," he sang a more cheerful strain. He saw things of hope in the blow that our pride and self-satisfaction received from the Boers:

We have spent two hundred million pounds to prove the fact once more, That horses are quicker than men afoot, since two and two make four;

And horses have four legs, and men have two legs, and two into four goes twice, And nothing over except our lessons— and very cheap at the price.

The effects of the lesson Mr. Kipling hoped to see upon all the "obese, unchallenged old things that stifle and overlie us." From his latest utterance he seems to have come to the conclusion that our lesson has not done us any lasting good after all.

Things more dangerous in its extent. The man whom he looked for in "The Song of the Man" (1904), has not appeared. Mr. Kipling has all Carlyle's beliefs in the Hero, in the one strong individual soul that shapes the destiny of a people.

Thrones, powers, dominions block the view With episodes and underlings. The meek Herod deems the true angel with the crown that Clio sings— The simple central truth that stings

The mob to boo, the great to ban; Things never yet created things— Once on a time there was a man.

But the Hero has not arisen. Instead we have rulers "of minute understanding," "foresworn in the past and blight, which has settled in England" (as Mr. Kipling wrote last year) has evidently in his view become more dangerous in its extent. There is no Reformer.

To be his nation's sacrifice, To turn the judgment from his race.

We are slipping down the broad easy decline which will lead to our extinction as a great power with an influence to exert on the side of the world, with a civilizing tradition to plant all the world over. That is the burden of Mr. Kipling's cry.

How many people think of him as a Jeremiahs warning us of the slippage in which we stand? Very few. Memories are short in these busy bustling days. The connection between his various "lamentations" is forgotten. What shall we say of them? Have we a type poet, who cannot be content to fashion dainty trifles while he sees his country heading, as he believes, for the rocks. He has a message to deliver and he may not hold his peace.

APPOHAQUI. Apohaqui, July 14.—A large number of persons from this place and vicinity attended the big Orange demonstration in St. John Monday.

The cultivated strawberry crop in this section is the best for many years. Messrs. Jones Bros., of this place are shipping large quantities to eastern Nova Scotia, the North Shore of New Brunswick and Montreal.

Mr. John B. Armstrong, of St. Martins, spent Sunday with friends here and returned yesterday.

Mrs. S. W. Burgess and family, who have been visiting relatives in the village returned home yesterday.

The soldier boys are home from Sussex, and to say they are in an ugly state of mind is putting it mildly.

Men who have been drilling for years and received \$1.00 per day were paid off this year at 50c, 70c, and 80c per day. Very few were lucky enough at the range to make \$1.00 per day.

"The Government had their innings, we will have ours at the polls" is a common remark. Their complaint is reasonable enough in light of the fact that they were asked to make an unreasonable score. They were marched west to the range, without any practice, and a Ross rifle placed in their hands and asked to make 28 points out of a possible 35. They were not allowed to shoot with the Lee-Enfield, the rifle they drill with and know something about. Anyone who attends the P. R. A. meet knows that 50 per cent. of the rifle shots who attend this meet cannot make 28 out of a possible 35. Yet the Government ask the soldiers to do this when they do not see a Ross rifle from one year to another. At least 75 per cent of the men who attend these meet will not go back again. Even the poor soldier is asked to sacrifice part of his pay to swell the enormous amount which is being paid into that cesspool of public funds, the G. T. P.

Judge McLeod, of St. John, lived in the village and is the guest of Geo. E. Foster.

LAST CARD OF THE LATE GOVERNMENT.

(St. John Telegraph, Feb. 1908.) The "report" of the accounts of the late Government, as prepared by Premier Robinson to give the local government a certificate of character on the eve of election is the administration's last card. It may be played any day now, and electors in every constituency should be prepared for it.

The hard-hearted people of this province are not to be turned from their purpose by any device so flimsy as this attempt to whitewash the tottering government during the closing hours of a campaign in which it has been on the defensive in every constituency since the first gun was fired.

The expert will do what he was paid to do. The taxpayers will pay the expert, but they will not be influenced by what they are paying for. This government has had its chance, and now it must allow the people to pass upon its acts under the secret ballot law.

No expert's report can alter the honest vote of the work done on the trust, the railway, the business of the expert, in fact, is simply another confession of the government's desperation.

How strongly the current of aroused public opinion sets against it, and it is grasping at a straw.

The expert produce that \$9,000 surplus when the people know there is a \$400,000 deficit?

Can the expert extend the Central Railway to Glenora before March 3rd, and restore to the public treasury the difference between \$1,260,000 and the cost of the work done on the incomplete railway, which Mr. Morse of the G. T. P. tells Mr. Pugsley is unfit for heavy traffic?

Can the expert restore the roads of this province to their normal condition? Can he blot out the ruinous effects which a blundering law and a rotten administration of that law have had upon the highways? Can he indemnify the residents of this province for the loss, damage, discomfort and annoyance which the government has inflicted upon them through its stupidity in passing the Highway Act and its folly in sticking to that law until it has become untenable? Can the expert lead its leaders into a change of front? Can he remove in a month the havoc wrought by three long years of government mismanagement and incompetence? Can he cause the people to forget what sort of roads they will have when the frost comes out of the ground in the spring?

Can the expert replace in the people's pockets the money this government has taken therefrom by its policy in regard to the railway? Can the expert lead a new value to the before-election promises of an administration which has broken every promise, but whose promises have been tested before and found worthless?

Mr. Robinson, in this matter, is not doing the people much credit for intelligence. Let us look at his proposal on an every-day standpoint. He and his fellow ministers have a government in their hands. There is trouble over the management of the people's vast estate. Distrust is everywhere. A reputation is charged. Let us see what he proposes to do to make clear, what questions to answer, over how many years to carry his examination? By no means. Mr. Robinson, this is a trust, mark you—selects the expert. The people have no voice in the transaction. Does the Hon. C. W. Robinson really believe that he can save himself and his government from political extinction by a proposal of that sort? With him, of course, it is any port in a storm.

Let no man doubt that the people of this province are prepared for this last card of the government has to play. The other cards it had in its hand have been placed upon the table, one by one. There was not a strong one in the lot. This last one, we may depend, will be a two-spot.

CANADA'S BEEN COWARDLY.

Montreal, July 14.—(Special)—L'Action Sociale, the Quebec clerical organ, does not take kindly to the proposition to erect a monument in 1912 to celebrate one hundred years of peace between Canada and the United States.

"True," says L'Action Sociale, "there has been no war, but no European nation would have ever endured what Canada has endured from the United States without flying to arms."

Settlement of the American and Canadian.

THE GREATEST MOVEMENT FORWARD

The following appears in a recent issue of The Firemen:—

At the convention of the National Board of Fire Underwriters held at New York last month, the president, Mr. J. Montgomery Hare, said that while since 1880 the population of the United States has increased by 73 per cent., the fire loss for the same period had increased by 14 per cent. The cost of fires per capita had increased from 1.88 in the decade ending 1890 to 2.53 for the last nine years and \$1.10 for the five years ending with 1908. The average annual fire loss in the United States for the last five years (which included two unusual conflagrations) was \$53,840,982, a destruction of \$148,507 daily. Taking the last two years by themselves there was a loss of about \$43,000,000 each. In Mr. Hare's opinion, a "recklessness as against the care and wise supervision in Europe is the main reason for the superiority of the United States in appliances for the extinguishing of fires in the greater fire losses of America compared with the countries of modern times—the adoption of the modern system for fire brigades service—has scarcely touched America at all. American fire departments, almost without exception, being still provided with engines of the type nearly ten years behind modern European practice. London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Portsmouth and a dozen other towns in Great Britain are in the main ten years ahead of the much-blathered fire departments of New York, Chicago, or any other great American city—a fact which should be well known to the President of the National Board of Underwriters.

Other countries have brought about the loss of territory to Canada quite as large as the Province of Quebec. We have lost the greater part of the Valley of the St. John River, most of the whole of the present State of Maine, vast stretches of territory along the Manitoba frontier, and that of the new provinces which today is a part of Oregon and lately a part of the Yukon."

BATHURST.

Bathurst, July 14.—Among those registered at the Robertson Hotel are: Hon. J. H. H. Flagg, Brookline, Mass.; W. P. Wharton, Groton, Mass.; F. Parsons, Springfield.

Our local Orangemen celebrated the Glorious Twelfth by having with their wives and sweethearts an evening social at Mr. Carter's over the river. "Cake and ice-cream were much in evidence throughout the Empire today. No one who has come into contact with these milds can doubt that Kipling has put just what they have been feeling. Here is a true poet, who cannot be content to fashion dainty trifles while he sees his country heading, as he believes, for the rocks. He has a message to deliver and he may not hold his peace.

FLOOD AT OTTAWA.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, July 13.—Four houses are two miles from Bathurst across the Nepequin river. So far the disease has been of a mild type.

Hon. Judge McLatchey came from Campbellton for usual county court on Tuesday. There were no cases; Court therefore adjourned.

MOTH PARASITES ARRIVE

Dr. Howard receives a Large Consignment. New York, July 14.—An interesting consignment of about two thousand parasite-bearing caterpillars arrived yesterday on the American line steamship New York. They are consigned to Dr. L. O. Howard, chief entomologist of the Agriculture Department, who got back from abroad a few days ago. While abroad Dr. Howard gave some time to studying the extermination of the spruce or brownish moth, which has caused such serious ravages here, and especially in the New England states. He found there are 62 varieties of moth-killing parasites in England, Germany and Austria, but how to get the parasite to this country was another question. It was decided that the only way to import them was to bring in the parasite-infested caterpillars, and so the importation of them has begun. Since May they have been arriving at the rate of about two thousand a day. There were ten cases on the New York. They were kept in a steerage compartment forward. It is some way a case broke when the consignment was being taken on board at Southampton, and the caterpillars, it is said, set out to explore the vessel soon after she got under way. The caterpillars were put in nearly every part of the vessel, and it was noted that they always travelled down wind. The remaining cases were put in a steerage compartment in the stern of the New York, so that if any more caterpillars escaped they would work down wind and over the stern.

NO DIVISION ON FRANCO-CANADIAN TREATY.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, July 13.—The Trade and Commerce Department today received the following cable message from Mr. Poindon, Canadian Trade Agent at Paris: "Treaty voted this morning without division. All parliamentary stages required before ratification now fully accomplished on this side."

Another Veteran.

The name of John Irwin was omitted from the list of veterans of '49 who were in the city on Monday in connection with the Orange celebration. Mr. Irwin, who is eighty-seven years of age, resides at Lower Golden Grove, and is able to do a hard day's work on the large farm which he owns.

PREPARING FOR THE AIR-SHIP TESTS

Ottawa, July 13.—P. W. Baldwin, who is preparing for the airship tests at Petawawa, arrived in the city by the early train from the west this morning, and left again for Petawawa by the 1.15 train. He was accompanied by Mrs. Baldwin.

When questioned, Mr. Baldwin stated that the airship Motor, specially designed and constructed for Prof. Graham Bell, by one of the greatest gasoline motor experts of America, will be discarded at the approaching tests in favor of an ordinary motor similar in all respects to those used in automobiles and motor boats. It is a 90 horse power motor and in total weight will be 350 pounds. The use of an ordinary motor is thought to be unprecedented in the history of aviation. In all their experiments the Wright Brothers have used motors specially made for their aeroplanes. "It will be about three weeks yet before we have the first flight," said Mr. Baldwin. "We can't put the machines together until the large shed is completed. This is the cause of the delay. They are short-handed up there and we can't possibly have the first flight for three weeks at least."

Is it true that the Silver Dart will not be used in the official tests? "Yes, just the one. It differs in a few minor points from the Silver Dart but the principle is the same. However, we have reason to hope that it will prove better than the Silver Dart. The new machine has not left Baddeck yet. It is being completed down there now, under Mr. McCurdy's supervision."

Mr. McCurdy will not arrive at Petawawa for some two weeks yet. Prof. Bell has not gone to Petawawa on the occasion of his recent visit to Ottawa. He is now at Baddeck, keeping an eye on the construction of the new aerodrome.

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FOR SALE

FOR SALE—One large oak refrigerator, built by Quinn, of Portland, Me. 18 ft. long, 7 ft. high, 5 ft. deep, with space for ice in center. Can be delivered later part of June. H. H. PICKETT & CO., 85 Prince William St.

FOR SALE—Freehold property corner Prince and St. James streets, with a 3-story brick building thereon, containing 3 stores and through all rentable. Apply to H. H. PICKETT & CO., 85 Prince William St.

WANTED—A First Class Male Teacher for the Advanced Department and a Second Class Female Teacher for the Primary Department of the Haverhill District No. 1 School. Apply to the undersigned, GEO. A. COONAN, Sec'y to Trustees, Haverhill, N. B.

WANTED—A Housemaid Apply to Miss Thorne, 15 Mecklenburg street.

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