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OLIVER CROMWELL.

A Socialist of the 17th Century.

BY JOSEPH E. RAY.

Two hundred and fifty years ago there passed into "that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveller returns" England's first great social reformer—Oliver Cromwell. All his great victories had been won on September 3rd—his fortunate day—and it was on September 3rd that fate removed him from the activities of a strenuous and tumultuous life. By many students of history, Cromwell is looked upon more as a revolutionary than as a socialist; but he was a socialist long before he became a revolutionary. From his early youth socialism ran through the veins of all his thinking, and only when he found it impossible to disseminate his socialistic propaganda by word of mouth did he resort to canon and sword. What is most remarkable about the Protector's socialism is that it should have had its origin in the mind of an aristocrat, for it is a well known fact that the blood of the Cromwells had been "blue" for many generations. Est Oliverius Cromwellus genere nobili atque illustri ortus, wrote Milton. Oliver's godfather had luxuriously entertained the first of the Stuarts at the great court of Hinchinbrook, young Oliver, who was then four years of age, doubtless being present on the occasion. We are not unmindful of Tolstol; nevertheless we are accustomed to look for the rise of social reformers, not among the aristocracy, but among the discontented working classes who have begun to furnish the House of Commons with a party of reformers destined to play a great part in the future social progress of Great Britain.

Cromwell's Inspiration.

The personality of Cromwell has always been a mystery to psychologists. By some he is considered a type of religious fanatic acting under the firm conviction that he was "called of God" to destroy the enemies of

God; if one seemed to do harm, he was hated of God. If they were undecided, they sought God; if they felt confidence, they had found God. If they felt hopeless, they had lost God. Now that which in our day devout men and women come to feel in their earnest moments of prayer, the devout Puritan felt, as a second nature, in his rising up and in his lying down; in the market place, and in the home, in society and business; in Parliament, in council, and on the field of battle."

To prosecute a battle without a conviction that the Lord had authorized it would have been impossible to Cromwell. After his success at Naseby he wrote to the Speaker:—"Sir, this is none other but the hand of God, and to Him alone belongs the glory, wherein none are to share with Him." At the battle of Dunbar he stood on the field in the presence of his men and sang the 17th Psalm through to revive their drooping spirits. And after cruelly putting to death men, women and children in St. Peter's Church, Drogheda, he could still believe that God had made him the instrument of such bloody work. "It hath pleased God to bless our endeavors," he writes.

Was Cromwell's Work Enduring?

It is questionable whether the social and religious revolution of which Cromwell was the dynamic left a permanent impression upon English life. The fields, lanes, and streets of England had been stained with the blood of her noblest sons. It was a terrible price to pay for an unsuccessful attempt to push Puritanism down the throats of the aristocracy, or to attempt the establishment of a social system which the more advanced people of this generation are not yet prepared to embrace. A country cannot be ruled by any little Parliament of "holy men." The profligacy of the Restoration was the reply to Cromwell's patriarchal exhortations.

That Cromwell's socialistic spirit had exercised its influence was apparent in the demands of his army. Republicanism, sovereignty of Parliament, annual or biennial elections, extensions and equalization of the suffrage, local self-government, codification of the law, complete religious liberty, and equal political rights were part of the socialistic propaganda presented to Parliament with all the urgency of a Royal proclamation. At one period it was feared that Cromwell's training of his army would lead to his own annihilation, for their socialism swelled into plots to assassinate both Charles and their stalwart leader.

One Act of Parliament must be looked upon as permanent: the death of the old Monarchy. For one generation the Stuarts returned, but the old feudal rights and political power had departed forever. The Church of England reappeared, but minus the influence of Laud and Charles. Parliamentary government, equality of rights, equity in law, all date from the memorable year of 1649.

It is quite true that England rejected Cromwell's system of government, namely, that it should rest with a Single Person and a Parliament, the Parliament making all laws and doing all supplies, co-ordinating with the authority of the Chief Person, and not meddling with the executive; but it is a great compliment to Cromwell that the American people have adopted it. More than a century after the Protector's death the founders of the United States revived and established his ideal, basing it upon popular election, a thing which, in 1654, was impossible in the British Isles.

Know How To Keep Cool?

When Summer's sun and daily toil heat the blood to an uncomfortable degree, there is nothing so comforting and cooling as a glass of

Iced Postum

served with sugar and a little lemon.

Surprising, too, how the food element relieve fatigue and sustain one.

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Horrible Accident at Bay de Verde.

Mrs. Geo. Coish and her two little children, aged 12 and 5 years respectively, met with a horrible experience at Bay de Verde last Friday which ended in the death of the younger child, who was practically broiled to death. The other girl and the mother have a fair chance of recovering. Two of Mr. Thos. Moore's men were boiling cod oil in the factory when the boiler exploded and burst the end out of the building just as Mrs. Coish and her children happened to be passing that way. They were struck by pieces of the boiler and knocked prostrate, a deluge of boiling oil falling on them at the same time. The two men who were working in the factory were not hurt and made their escape through the side opposite to which the boiler and oil were driven. The cries of the victims soon drew a crowd to the spot, and everything that sympathy and kindness could suggest was done to relieve the sufferings of the victims of such an unprecedented and horrible fate. Dr. Pickard, who was early on the scene, applied emollients and bandaged up the wounds, but in doing so realized the younger child could not possibly live as the flesh was eaten from her poor little body by the boiling oil. She lingered in terrible agony till yesterday morning when her pure soul winged its way to Him who said: "Suffer little children to come unto Me and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." The terrible casualty has caused a deep gloom over the whole community of Bay de Verde, and deep sympathy is expressed on all sides for Mrs. Coish and family.

Emperor of the British

The Mayor Wishes to Obtain an Expression of Public Opinion.

Dear Sir,—I received the enclosed letter a couple of days ago, and I ask if you would kindly publish same in the columns of your paper with a view of eliciting from the public an expression of opinion thereon and oblige,

Yours respectfully,

W. J. ELLIS, Mayor.
St. John's, Nfld., Aug. 4th, '10.

22nd July, 1910.
Dear Sir,—The Daily Express has suggested that His Majesty King George should, on the day of his Coronation, proclaim himself Emperor of the British. It is not necessary for me to elaborate on this point for the purpose of explaining the situation to you.

Canada, Australia, South Africa and New Zealand have ceased to be Colonies. They are not under the Parliament of the United Kingdom; they are free and independent, making their own laws, ignoring ours; the sole remaining link between them and being the person of the Sovereign.

What we suggest is that King George at the moment of his Coronation should take to himself and for his descendants the title, rank and dignity of Emperor of the British. The King will not do it if he thinks such an action on his part will be contrary to the wishes of his people, and I shall be glad if you, as Chief Magistrate of one of the Empire's great cities, will let us have your views on the subject either by letter or by cablegram. I am, sir,

Faithfully yours,

(Sgd.) P. D. BLUMENFELD,
Editor
His Worship the Mayor
of St. John's, Newfoundland.

Will Play the Brilliant.

The Star football team has decided to accept the challenge of the football eleven of H.M.S. Brilliant sent them last week. The contest will take place next Wednesday night on St. George's Field and will no doubt be witnessed by all the lovers of football in the city. The Brilliant's eleven are said to be a husky lot and have already distinguished themselves on the field in Canada and England. Their names are Barnes, Burry, Jones, Loft, Peck, Molyneux, Harrison, Hatley, Kearns, Elkington and Ashton.

Fell Over Cliff.

A boy named Hiscock, son of Mr. Edward Hiscock, of Carbonara, fell over the cliff at Cox's Cove, Venison Island, Labrador, last week while searching for bakeapples. He was seriously wounded in the head, and his recovery for three days was doubtful. Dr. Shankel, on the Invermore, attended him at Venison Island when the ship was coming up, and when he left him had good hopes of his recovery.

RAILWAY APPOINTMENTS.—Mr. J. Pumphrey has been appointed Locomotive Foreman at Bay of Islands, in the R. N. Co's. service, and Mr. A. Hartley has been given the position of Travelling Engineer in place of Mr. Pitt, deceased.

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DRESS MUSLINS.
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Striped Zephyrs, fine quality and 32 inches wide. Regular Price, 15c. Clearing Price12c.
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Pink Mercerized Lawn, very wide. Reg. Price, 25c. Clearing Price19c.
Colored Costume Linen. Good 30c. value. Clearing Price22c.

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This, the largest Furniture Showroom in the city, is now a panorama of Bargains in useful household goods, new and up to date in every particular—Bedroom Suites, Bedsteads, Springs, Mattresses, Couches, Chairs, Rockers, etc. We have also just added to 3rd Floor Extension A NEW DEPARTMENT, embracing many of the lines recently carried at our central store (now vacated). This department will be specially devoted to Crockeryware, Glassware, China-ware, Household Requisites, Fancy Goods, Pictures, etc. It is next to impossible to tell in detail of all the money saving opportunities to be found on this vast floor; but large as it is, every available inch is utilized in the display of useful merchandise, unmatched in variety and value, novelty and beauty of styles. You can only tell by coming. A close-range study will reveal bargains, the like of which are unknown elsewhere—prices in some cases below the cost of production. It but emphasizes the buying and selling power of this store, its helpfulness to St. John's shoppers, the broad, just and liberal system that shares every advantage with you. Drop in any time this week and spend a pleasant and profitable half hour going through. It will be a pleasure to us to show you around and point out where you save.

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