

A FOREWORD

¶ MR. BLUE'S ARTICLE, "THE WOODEN WALLS OF CANADA," WHICH HAS FIRST PLACE IN THIS ISSUE, WAS WRITTEN AFTER LONG AND DILIGENT SEARCH IN THE ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT AT OTTAWA. IT IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTING AND VALUABLE JUST NOW, FOR IT CONTRIBUTES IMPARTIALLY TO THE NAVY CONTROVERSY AN ASSEMBLAGE OF IMPORTANT HISTORICAL FACTS. ¶ WE DO NOT HEAR OFTEN ENOUGH FROM MR. HAULTAIN. HE IS IN ENGLAND JUST NOW ENGAGED IN COMPLETING A WORK ON THE LIFE OF THE LATE PROFESSOR GOLDWIN SMITH, BUT IN THE MIDST OF HIS LABOURS HE HAS FOUND TIME TO GIVE US THE ADMIRABLE APPRECIATION, "OXFORD AND THE OXFORD MAN." ¶ NO GREATER NATIONAL NOTE COULD BE SOUNDED THAN THAT OF MR. SUTHERLAND'S IN "A NATIONAL PURPOSE IN EDUCATION." ON THE WHOLE, OUR SYSTEMS OF EDUCATION ARE CONFUSING. WE NEED A COMMON AIM AND A COMMON FOUNDATION. MR. SUTHERLAND POINTS THE WAY. ¶ THE HONOURABLE MR. RIDDELL IS A PROFOUND STUDENT OF OUR EARLY HISTORY, AND IN HIS SEARCHES HE CAME ACROSS DR. HOWISON'S BOOK. EVERY READER WILL THANK HIM FOR ABLY TRANSMITTING ITS FLAVOUR TO THESE PAGES. ¶ ONE TURNS WITH A RELISH TO MISS BELL'S EXCELLENT FANTASY. "THE SHADOWS" IS AN ARTFUL SKETCH; ITS SYMBOLS ARE SUBTLE, AND IF ONE MISSES THEM ONE MISSES ALSO THE PURPOSE. ¶ MR. ARMBRUST'S GLORIFICATION OF THE BEECH WOODS IS THE RESULT OF YEARS OF INTIMATE COMMUNION AND OBSERVATION. OTHER SEASONS AMONG THE GRAY BOLES ARE EQUALLY IMPRESSIVE, AND WE HOPE, THEREFORE, TO HEAR MORE ABOUT THEM LATER ON. ¶ IT IS GRATIFYING TO SEE THAT THE MUSE HAS NOT FORSAKEN MR. DUNCAN CAMPBELL SCOTT. HIS BUOYANT LYRIC AND THE OTHER VERSES BY MRS. MACKAY, MR. MACKINNON, AND MR. PHELPS COMPOSE A CREDITABLE OFFERING FOR THE MONTH. ¶ SO IT IS WITH THE FICTION. MRS. LOW SPENDS A PART OF EACH YEAR IN THE CHAMBLY BASIN, AND HER STORIES CATCH THE ATMOSPHERE OF THAT CHARMING PART OF QUEBEC PROVINCE. PETER MCARTHUR REMAINS ON HIS MIDDLESEX FARM, BUT SOMETIMES HIS THOUGHTS WANDER AFIELD—INTO TOWNS AND CITIES—AND THE RESULT IS A STORY SUCH AS IS PRINTED IN THIS ISSUE. --:-- --:-- --:-- --:-- --:-- --:-- --:--