

AS OTHERS SEE US

And As We See Ourselves.

(By OBSERVATOR)

ONE OF THE "FINE OLD STOCKS."

On the train between St. John's and Holyrood, last summer, one of my travelling companions happened to be a fine old Englishman whose father had "come out" to Newfoundland from the Mother Country nearly a century ago. He was shrewd, original and cynical more than enough, but good-humored at bottom, and very entertaining. He knew the late Sir William Whiteway and Sir Ambrose Shea very well and had a high regard for both of them. He was in easy circumstances and took the well-to-do man's view of things; but if he had succeeded it had been in fair fight. He had been thrown into the arena of public life, with a good many others whose grandfathers and fathers had made Terra Nova their home in the days of the "fishing admirals" and "West Country merchants." Most of them had failed, or they were undistinguished in the general herd.

He, however, was an illustration of the survival of the strongest, was worth attending to, and was excellent company. In his youth, when he had nothing, and responsible government was on trial here, he had been a Radical. He had become a Tory in his age, because he had property at stake, and did not wish to lie at the mercy of those who thought as he had once thought himself. His political views, however, showed more reading and general knowledge than I was prepared for. He did not believe in the permanence of any form of government. None of them were good for very much, and they were always corrupting and requiring change.

The British constitution he regarded as an accidental result of the struggle between the feudal and popular elements in the British nation. It had been elevated into a principle, as a final solution of the great political problem. He was one of those who took an unfavorable view of the rising generation of colonists. The fathers, he said (just as if he had been an old Roman in Terence's time), had worked hard to make money. The children only thought of spending it. They were idle and extravagant, living beyond their means, a complaint which has been heard before and will be heard while the human race continues. He was sceptical about the value of present day education, or of what we now understand by that unconsidered word. His education had been in work. He had been taught to earn his living with his hands. Leads nowadays he complained, were not taught to work at all; "education" was a mere sharpening of the wits. Suppose a Micmac Indian or an Eskimo to learn to read and write, to be sent to college to learn science, mathematics, languages, and the rest of it; but suppose him to have lost his courage and his sense of honor, and to have learnt to cheat, and to lie, and to gamble, as a good many white men did, had such a Micmac or Eskimo gained very much? In my friend's opinion, the only progress worth speaking of was moral progress. The rest was only change, and often a change for the worse, as every observant man must admit.

OUR LATE GOVERNOR, SIR C. ALEXANDER HARRIS.

While awaiting the arrival and inauguration of our new Proconsul, Sir William L. Allardice, let me make a few observations about his retiring predecessor, Sir C. Alexander Harris. The latter, although not a brilliant administrator, has been successful in a number of little troublesome controversies between the Government and the Opposition—Sir Richard Squires and Sir Michael Cashin having frequently appealed to him to settle their disputes—which, if they had been less skillfully handled, might have been no longer little. He has vindicated his reputation for good sense, caution and resolution. He has never "trailed the flag," nor has he ever flouted it in music hall fashion. He has made us all feel that he was proud of the little country he governed, and resolute and able to defend her interests and to fulfill her obligations. This was no small achievement when it is borne in mind that at least one half of the political cranks and disturbers of the peace here had flattered themselves that Sir Richard's Administration would inaugurate a policy of general stampede.

Ex-Governor Harris has a pleasant art and genial old English humor which makes him fairly popular as a speaker. He does not speak much, never overstates his welcome, and always leaves his audience in a good humor with themselves and with him. The mirth which illuminates his speeches never degenerates into mere purposeless hilarity. He uses his jokes to illustrate his arguments, not merely to set the table in a roar. There is also a subacidity about his humor which in a more gloomy mind might degenerate into the saturnine, but which in his case only lends a more pungent flavor to his speech. Of this his speech at the unfurling of the old Newfoundland Penitential time-honored flag at the Museum last summer was a notable case in point.

The best characteristic of Sir Charles Harris is the least known, and is one of which I hesitate to write. It would, however, be wrong to refrain from any mention of the fact that, although he did not read the lessons in his church on Sundays, he was as much dominated by the religious instinct as, perhaps, any man in the viceregal office anywhere. Sir Charles seemed to be always well informed about important matters outside, and his information by the time it reached him was reduced to the limits of ascertained facts. He was not confused with the perpetual chatter of other people's opinions. Thus what he said was his own and original. He, as well as Sir Ralph Williams, had his hobbies, and when he was mounted on one of them, I could admire his riding without trying to keep pace with him. But, now that "he goes into retirement," I am sure his many friends here wish him a kindly and "long-drawn-out farewell." Any way, in the solitude of private life, he will be able, I trust,

"To husband out its taper at the close, And keep the lamp from dying by repose."

Does not history tell us that there is nothing so melancholy as the aspect of a great man in retirement, from Nebuchadnezzar in the meadow to Napoleon on the rock? Sir Charles made mistakes, it is true, but one can learn more from some people when they are wrong than from most people when they happen to be right. In the last interview I had with him, he seemed to speak sadly and wistfully of his departure, and I could not help thinking that were it possible for him to return as Governor of Newfoundland, and to act on his own judgment, things would be different and we should have less trouble in the future than we have had in the recent past.

JOHN BARLEYCORN VS. MISS NICOTINA.

The other day one of our prominent city clergymen, as he "enlarged" on the pernicious effects of intoxicants, had the temerity to place nicotine in the criminal category with alcohol. He maintained that one was as bad as the other—an assumption, I contend, that cannot be sustained by available data. Passing in review successively the havoc wrought by opium, morphia, and alcohol, he compared the effects

of smoking with those produced by spirituous liquors. The absurdity of the comparison is too obvious to call for comment. Tobacco has no such crimes as those committed by alcohol to reproach itself with. It has never led astray the reason, annihilated the will, or perverted the sensibility of any one. The most hardened smoker always and at every instant, enjoys the most perfect lucidity. At the very moment when he is under the influence of nicotine, he talks, reasons, studies and works with a freedom of mind which proves that his intellect is entirely unimpaired. One would rather say that tobacco sets it free from physical impressions and that, as the late Dr. Henry Shea once remarked to me, "it only blunts the sensibilities of certain organs to leave more liberty to the evolution of the psychic functions."

Another characteristic difference between tobacco and other voluntary poisons, is that the habit can be easily left off, while the alcoholic and morphia manias are nearly, if not quite, incurable. At the present moment, and after considerable experience, I only remember two or three cases of reformed drunkards, or inebriates, and I would not guarantee their permanence in case the subjects had found themselves in presence of renewed temptations. As to the morphia-maniacs, they are absolutely incurable unless placed under restraint, and the way they are treated in institutions devoted to them in the United States and Canada proves how terrible must be a passion which requires the employment of such remedies.

To cure oneself of smoking, on the contrary, nothing is required but a certain amount of firmness, and we meet, every day, with men who have completely left off the habit. On the other hand, I entirely disagree with those who consider smoking a necessary help to intellectual exertion. It may be of great value as a stimulus, but only to those who have already formed the habit, and even they can usually do it without incurring any great inconvenience. My object in these comments is not so much to defend tobacco as to rebut the exaggerations by which its adversaries have done their cause more harm than good. My position is that smoking in moderation by adults, does no harm, though the actual benefit may be doubtful.

As to delirium tremens, convulsions, epilepsy, hallucinations, dementia, premature old age, melancholy, and other affections, which have been set down as the result of smoking, it may suffice to remark that—smokers being as numerous as they are—it would be somewhat surprising if most of the ills that flesh is heir to did not occur

in their ranks. Again, the abuse of alcohol often co-exists with that of tobacco, and those interested in defecacies. Observations made in colleges and schools have shown that comparatively few students who smoked have distinguished themselves

from the statements made with regard to the effect of tobacco on the mental faculties. Observations made in colleges and schools have shown that comparatively few students who smoked have distinguished themselves

like, no doubt, the happy conditions described by the poet when he says:— "My pipe is lit, my grog is mixed, The curtains drawn and all is snug, Old puss is in her elbow chair, And Tray is sleeping on the rug." Montreuil.

AT THE BALSAM.—The late Mrs. Strong, Hr. Grace; Robt. Mrs. Soddy, London; A. and Pierce, Bishop's Falls; W. Montreal.

Beaver Board is the Best of all Wall Boards

HERE IS THE PROOF:

On the outside of our Store there are two Beaver Boards which were placed there in 1912. These two Beaver Boards have been exposed to the rain, sun, wind and snow during the past ten years and are still in good condition.

No mere substitute has stood such a test as this.

During the past ten years seven substitutes for Beaver Board have been sold to take the place of Beaver Board, but to-day not one of these substitutes is seen, and Beaver Board holds its place as the best of all wall boards.

The back of every Beaver Board is branded with the Beaver trade mark



Look for this trade mark whenever you buy Beaver Board. Unless the board you buy as Beaver Board is branded with this trade mark, you are being cheated. Beaver Board is guaranteed by the Beaver Companies of Thorold and Buffalo and last as long as your house.

Beaver Board is real board made with long fibres of selected Spruce and necessarily will outwear such imitations as consist of several thicknesses of cardboard glued together.

Beaver Board is the best of all Wall Boards.

Ask us for price—Samples are free.

COLIN CAMPBELL, Ltd.
St. John's, Newfoundland

oct17.19.21

THE BEST of RUBBERS for EVERYBODY at LOWEST PRICES



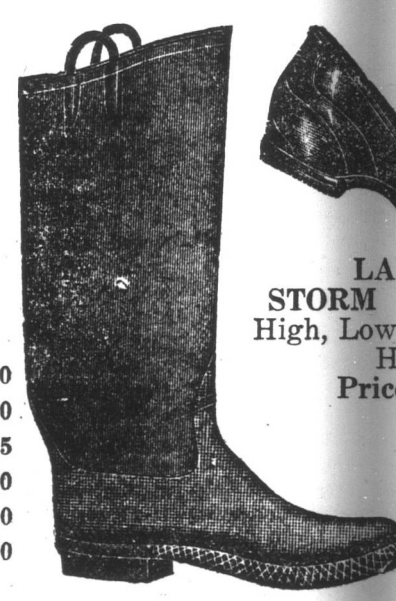
Men's Stormking "Vac". Price ..\$8.20
Men's Stormking "Sea". Price ...\$6.75
Men's Stormking "Redman". Price...\$6.00
Boys' Stormking "Sea". Price ...\$5.70
Boys' Stormking "Redman". Price...\$4.80 (Sizes 1 to 5.)
Youths' Stormking "Redman". Price \$4.20 (Sizes 9 to 13.)



MEN'S RED BALL VAC. Price \$7.20
MEN'S REDMAN. Price ...\$4.75
BOYS' REDMAN. Price ...\$4.00 (Sizes 1 to 5.)
YOUTHS' REDMAN. Price ...\$3.20 (Sizes 9 to 13.)
BOYS' SEA. Price ...\$5.00



CHILD'S LONG RUBBERS ...\$2.70
CHILD'S TAN LONG RUBBERS ...\$3.30
CHILD'S THIGH RUBBERS ...\$3.75
GIRLS' LONG RUBBERS ...\$3.30
GIRLS' TAN LONG RUBBERS ...\$4.00
GIRLS' THIGH RUBBERS ...\$4.50



Men's Sea Rubbers
Price \$5.50.

The Rubber with the white sole. The Fishermen's Friend. Double wear in every pair.
FISHERMEN! BUY SEA RUBBERS and be happy ever afterwards.
HIGH IN QUALITY! LOW IN PRICE!



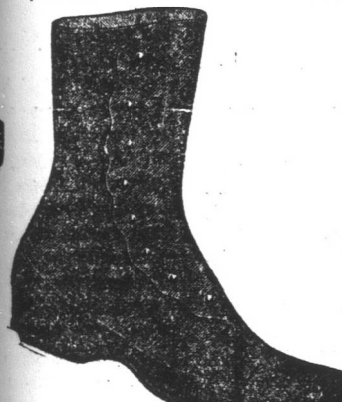
LADIES' STORM RUBBERS.
High, Low and Medium Heels.
Price \$1.25.



MEN'S STORM RUBBERS Price \$1.75.
MEN'S HEAVY ROLLED EDGE STORM RUBBERS Price \$2.00.



MEN'S DOUBLE SOLE RUBBERS. Price \$2.60.
LADIES' LOW RUBBERS. Narrow, Medium or Pointed toes; High, Low or Medium heels. In Black or Tan. Price \$1.30.



MEN'S 4-BUCKLE GAITERS. Price \$5.50.
MEN'S HEAVY ROLLED EDGE 4-BUCKLE GAITERS \$7.00.
MEN'S 1-BUCKLE. Price \$3.00.



WOMEN'S BUTTON GAITERS ...\$3.20
WOMEN'S BUTTON GAITERS ...\$3.50
WO'S. HIGH BUTTON GAITERS ...\$5.70

Send the Boys and Girls here for GOOD RUBBERS, we stock the finest brands. Double wear in every pair. STORM RUBBERS, LOW RUBBERS, HIGH, LOW and MEDIUM RUBBERS.

ALL MAIL ORDERS RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION.

F. SMALLWOOD

The Home of Good Rubbers
218 and 220 Water Street

oct21.a.m.th.t