

AMERICA'S IDOL.

HENRY M. LACEY, St. Laurent College, '99.

It is an instinct of human nature to render honor to the author of great achievements. From the earliest ages, as far as history can penetrate, we find the records of this universal custom. Archaeologists point to the obelisks of Egypt, the palace ruins of Babylon, and the triumphal arches of Rome, which stand solemn and state-like, paying a silent tribute to the greatness of the infant world. This custom, traced back to the morning of time, has come down from sire to son, and prevails at present with undiminished enthusiasm.

As the year in its course brings around the 22nd of February, a grateful people pause in their mirth and their employment to contemplate the blessings they enjoy, and to weave a wreath to the memory of their greatest hero—the immortal Washington. In every part of this broad Continent we hear his name and his praises sung; while stealing over the waters comes an echo from otherlands where earnest innumerable beat in sympathy with ours.

And ask you why such an ardent demonstration, why such tribute and extravagant honors? Draw aside the curtain that hides the events of a little more than a century—oh! what a stirring picture comes into view! The American colonies have thrown off the British yoke and proclaimed their independence. For days a arguing throng has crowded the streets of Philadelphia, awaiting the decision of a body of patriots. The sentiment is intense. Suddenly the old bell in the tower rings out the momentous tidings. The die is cast. The cry of "Liberty" taken up by the multitude, is echoed and re-echoed throughout the colonies, and men of all ranks and conditions respond to the call. Though lacking in skill and discipline, they nourish in their bosom the flame of patriotism, and every moment reveals the determination to conquer or die. At their head we see General Washington—the man to whom all eyes are turned in hope. The armies meet; history is repeated. Once more the little Spartan and meets the Persian legions. Battle follows battle; the air is filled with the roar of cannon; the smoke grows thicker and thicker. Victory is now with the Briton, now with the colonist. Trenton, Saratoga, and other scenes pass quickly on. The sufferings of the Colonial army are terrible. Yet, despite all the disadvantages of inferior numbers, of poverty, cold and famine, the intrepid Washington is able to re-atropid Washington is able to rep the invading force in awe, and six years after the first blow was struck for liberty came the end. And had a glorious end. Oh, that chilly October morn, while in his home across the broad Atlantic the royal minister rushes to and fro, crying in a mad despair: "O God, it is I over; it is all over!" the army of King George surrenders at Yorktown, and all around from every hill and village, from every hill and dale, arises a despairing shout high goes on resounding from ocean to ocean, through forest and mountain chain, until the whole land rings with the joyful cry: Victory! Victory! Thank God, we are free!

The war is over. The din of battle is died away, and Liberty sends her bright morning beams to dispel the clouds of smoke still hanging over scenes of strife, and to cheer the wily horn Republic as she enters the herd of nations.

"Where now is Washington? Where is the 'guardian genius of the nation?' He returns to his rustic home. On the banks of the Potomac seeks to live in peace. The external foe indeed is vanquished; but within the body all is discord and distress. The government under the confederation is inadequate to preserve the union of the states; the army on the point of revolt; the public debt is almost worthless, and the fear of patriotism is chilling under every star. Liberty seems mere delusion; from all sides comes a clamor for a change.

Washington realizes the import of a crisis. Though domestic tranquility has infinitely more charms for him than the excitement of public life, he hesitates not a moment, but goes home at the call of duty to assume the direction of a national convention. Four months the fathers labored without intermission.

Out of the loose material of the confederation they rear a stately structure, whose strong walls and battlements bid defiance to foreign and inward strife. On its ramparts flutter the Stars and Stripes. Under its protection begins a new era for the Republic. Again the people show their gratitude, and affection for Washington. With one voice they call him to the highest station,

and, unwilling though he is, love of his country and regard for her safety compel him to accept the honor.

No prejudices, no affections, interests are seen to interfere with his great duty. A sound credit is created at home; the public debt is provided for; the existing troubles with foreign nations are promptly settled, and foreign ports are opened to the commerce of the United States. The agricultural and mineral wealth is steadily increasing; internal dissension and jealousy are laid at rest, and the star of promise rises in the heavens and hovers over the land of Liberty. For eight years Washington continues in his eminent sphere, watching with careful eye the growth and progress of the young community, and laying the foundation of our national policy on the basis of morality and religion; and when at last his eyes are closed forever his memory does not die! It is perpetuated in his works and grows more precious as the years glide on.

Among the heroes who have made an impress upon the ages, Washington stands the pre-eminent champion of Liberty. With this grand idea is his fame inseparably united. It was engraven in his heart in boyhood; it filled his noble mind with youthful sentiment; and in manhood it became the polar star that guided his course in storm and calm. To preserve the hard-won liberty to the people he devoted all his efforts, all his influence, all his life.

Would you estimate the debt of gratitude that America owes Washington? Consider the many blessings that Liberty has brought her. Contemplate the grandeur of our institutions; our bright sisterhood of states like the glowing planets of the heavens, each one moving in its own celestial orbit, yet blending in one harmonious whole; our peerless constitution; our wise and beneficent laws our wonderful prosperity. Then look around you and behold the scenes that greet you on every side. Our virgin forests are replaced by waving seas of golden grain; the noise of machinery proclaims our vast industry; our steamboats plough the waters of every clime; institutions of learning distribute their treasures over the land, and countless spires, turned heavenward, direct man's thoughts to God. This is Liberty; this is the light that enircles fair Columbia's shores. Its rays are taken up by the waves and carried far out into the ocean, and wherever they lap the shores of foreign lands, and wherever the names of America and Washington are heard, there is the love of liberty implanted in the hearts of men, and sooner or later tyranny, dark and gruesome shall roll away before the dawn of a new era.

Oh, noble Washington! We hail you as our nation's hero; we admire you as a dauntless warrior, a devoted patriot and statesman; we love you as the father of our liberty. Your name is our inspiration; your memory is our treasure; your counsels are the beacon lights that guide us on our way to national greatness and prosperity.

With the help of Providence we will listen to your voice; we will heed your warnings, and will strive to realize your ideal; and then we need not fear that our nation will share the fate of ancient empires, that came and went, and left scarcely a relic of their existence; but in future ages the United States may stand like some giant mountain against whose sides the winds and storms of centuries beat in vain—a monument of strength and indestructibility.

A COWARDLY PLEA.

(From the Catholic Universe, Cleveland, O.)

"We must be careful how we express our opinions, lest our non-Catholic neighbors take offence. We cannot be too cautious in this matter." This is the burden of a communication that appears in an esteemed contemporary relative to the outspoken views of another correspondent touching certain public questions.

There is too much of this spirit of human respect displayed among a certain class of Catholics. Why should we be overcautious in giving vent to our honest convictions concerning matters of common concern? Catholic citizens have just as much interest in the righteous settlement of public questions and the adoption of wise public policies, as any other class of citizens, and enjoy precisely the same rights as others to hold and express such opinions as seem good to them, regarding things affecting the welfare and future of the country. Whence then comes the necessity of undue circumspection? Why

should we dread the risk of being out of tune with popular clamor? What difference does it make if individual Catholic opinion differs radically from that held and harped upon by a noisy non-Catholic contingent? Honesty is the best policy. Catholics must be honest not because it is the best policy, however, but because it is the only course compatible with their religious professions and self-respect.

The failure of the Catholic press to abjectly fall in line with the hobbies of yellow journalism in connection with the late war and the present jingoistic outbreak, is deplored by these timorous souls who are appalled by the fear that somehow the attitude of the Church and the Catholic body will be unfavorably misconstrued as a consequence, by those who are hostile to Catholicity. Well, what of it? It is far better to be misunderstood for principle's sake, than to win the applause of our enemies by a cowardly and hypocritical surrender of our honest convictions, as a matter of expediency.

What have we to gain by unmanly subservience to the will of the rabble? What recompense would justify the relinquishment of self-respect which such a course inevitably involves? The Catholic body must of necessity be at variance on many points with public sentiment, dominated largely by an element distinctly inimical to it. Take, for example, the frequent outcropping of anti-Catholic bigotry manifested in our dealings with the religious phase of the situation developed in our new possessions under military rule.

Things that are entirely regular and proper from a non-Catholic American point of view, assume a very different aspect when regarded from a Catholic standpoint. The officious conduct of Gen. Wilson in dictating to the Catholic clergy of Porto Rico what they should and should not do with regard to warning their people against the blandishments of American Protestant proselytizers, affords a case in point. Many similar instances arising from the ignorance of our commanders or their prejudice against the faith of the islanders, might be cited. But we need not go away from home to illustrate the existence of vital and irreconcilable points of indifference that prevent absolute harmony of view between Catholic and non-Catholics.

We must be true to ourselves, defend our rights and maintain our position under all circumstances, no matter what others may think of us. Of one thing we may be absolutely certain, our non-Catholic neighbors and friends will respect as a great deal more for our honesty and courage than they would if we were capable of being influenced by the cowardice of such spineless specimens as the one whose "warning" we have taken for our text.

NEW LABOR LAWS.

A report was received from Albany on Saturday, that the Special Legislative Committee of the State Workmen's Federation had drafted the following bills for presentation to the legislature.

An act to extend and regulate the liability of employers to make compensation for personal injuries suffered by employees in their service.

Providing for the registration of workshops.

Placing the enforcement of certain laws under the jurisdiction of the Factory Inspector.

Providing for an eight-hour day, the payment of the prevailing rate of wages on public works.

Providing for the appointment, in industrial counties of special officials, under the jurisdiction of the District Attorney, for the purpose of enforcing such labor laws as do not properly come within the province of the Factory Inspector Department.

Increasing the working age limit of children employed in factories.

Making claims of wages a first lien upon the premises.

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MRS. PIERRE FORTIN

Was So Sick and Weak, She Nearly Died—Was Dizzy and Could Hardly Walk—Now She Does Her Own Housework and is Perfectly Well.

The noblest, grandest duty of a wife is the bearing of children. The ordeal ought not to be accompanied by fear or pain. Recovery ought to be quick and complete. If a mother breaks down after her child is born, it is because she did not take proper care of herself during gestation. Nature never intended that the bearing of children should wreck the health.

There is a most wonderful medicine that gives comfort and strength to women before and after the little one comes. The following letter from Mrs. Pierre Fortin tells about this medicine, and every woman who reads this paper can do just what this lady did. Mrs. Fortin writes as follows to the Franco-American Chemical Co., Montreal, Canada:

"My sickness began after the birth of my last child, four years ago. I became so weak that I had a great hemorrhage, from which I nearly died. I was a long time in bed, and could not regain my strength. I was dizzy, and could hardly walk. I had palpitation of the heart, and my body ached all over. I saw in the newspapers how so many women had been cured by Dr. Coderre's Red Pills for Pale and Weak Women, and I resolved to write your specialist. He gave me most valuable advice. Then I faithfully took Dr. Coderre's Red Pills and Dr. Coderre's Purgative Tablets, and followed the hygienic rules of your specialist. The result is that today I am perfectly cured of all my troubles. I eat and sleep well, and can do all my work without the help of anybody. No one could induce me to take any other remedy than Dr. Coderre's Red Pills. I recommend them



to a great many of my women friends, and know of a large number who are already much better." (Signed) MRS. PIERRE FORTIN, Wahiapitac, Ontario.

Dr. Coderre's Red Pills for Pale and Weak Women are for all female complaints and troubles. They give girls robust constitutions at the time of puberty. They completely banish leucorrhoea, or whites. They give new strength to the whole system and radically cure falling of the womb. They are the best medicine in the world for thin blood, disordered nerves, sleeplessness, bad digestion, headache and backache. No case ever existed which

they did not relieve. After all other medicines fail, these grand Red Pills bring about complete recovery.

Dr. Coderre's Red Pills are just what nature needs to help her. They reach the distinctly feminine organs alone. They act upon that part of the body only. They are far better, cheaper and easier to take than liquid medicines sold at \$1.

Sick girls and women are invited to write for the best professional advice, to our celebrated specialists, as Mrs. Fortin did. We give all advice absolutely free by mail. Personal consultation can be had at our Dispensary, 274 St. Denis street, Montreal.

In buying Dr. Coderre's Red Pills, always beware of worthless imitations. The genuine are always sold in 50-cent boxes containing fifty pills. A box lasts longer than \$1 liquid medicines, and the pills are sure to cure. Never take red pills sold by the dozen, the hundred, or in 25-cent boxes. They are dangerous counterfeits.

All honest druggists sell Dr. Coderre's Red Pills for Pale and Weak Women at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50. Or you can send the price in stamps, or by registered letter, money order or express order to us. We mail them all over the world; no duty to pay.

The greatest book ever issued for mothers, wives and daughters is entitled "Pale and Weak Women." It will be sent free to all readers of this paper who send their names and full post-office address to us. Address all letters for medicine, for advice and for the free book to the Franco-American Chemical Co., Medical Department, Montreal, Canada.

MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS BEFORE THE COURTS.

"This is my busy day," might have been heard outside the door of Mr. Justice Meredith's room at the Court House on Thursday last, and one who visited the building would have realized its fitness. During the day His Lordship disposed of a large number of important and interesting cases, and not content with his daylight achievements, the Judge ordered the dust-covered chandeliers in the musty old room to be lighted, and then sat on into the evening.

An action of a most peculiar and interesting nature was tried during the afternoon. The point involved was how far doctors may go in making post-mortem examinations without the authority of the law. The action arose out of the examination by Drs. A. H. Garratt, H. B. Anderson, and W. H. Harris of the body of Mrs. James Davidson, wife of a restaurant keeper at 112 York street, after her death. The woman died after only a fall from her illness, without any apparent cause of death, and a warrant for an inquest was promptly issued by Dr. A. J. Johnson, one of the Coroners in the city. The warrant was subsequently withdrawn, but, nevertheless, the doctors mentioned went to the home on York street for the purpose of holding a post-mortem. Davidson was away at the time, and when he returned he found the doctors at work, with the body cut open. The bereaved husband, who had in his absence learned of the withdrawal of the warrant for the inquest, was very angry at the discovery he made, and threatened the doctors with arrest. He asked them to produce their authority for their actions, but they did not do so.

This was the story told by Davidson in the action yesterday, by which he sought to recover \$5,000 damages for "unlawful entry and cutting and mutilating the body of his wife." Mr. T. C. Robinette acted as counsel and Mr. J. M. Godfrey as solicitor for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. F. B. Johnson, Q. C., for the three doctors who were the defendants in the action.

In cross-examination, Davidson said Dr. Garratt had attended his wife during her brief illness. He had asked Dr. Garratt if an inquest were necessary, knowing that they were held only when there were suspicious circumstances. The witness admitted giving the doctors permission to sew up the body after he found what they had done. He said he did not know they were there to find the cause of the woman's death.

Mr. Justice Meredith—What were the doctors there for?

"For their own ends," replied the witness. He said he had asked Inspector Stephen to arrest them, but he would not do so, advising him that if he felt aggrieved he had recourse to an action of damages.

James Carroll, the next witness, had been in the Davidson home when the doctors arrived. He said they "walked right in" and sat down in the sitting-room.

James Lee testified to having seen the doctors in the sitting-room. He

told of the quarrel between Davidson and the physicians, and said it became so violent that he had to act as a peacemaker. After Davidson's protest, Dr. Anderson had refused to go on without the husband's permission which the latter would not give.

This concluded the plaintiff's case, and Mr. Johnson moved for a dismissal of the case, but this was refused by the judge. His Lordship said the doctors were in the house against Davidson's will, and they had not shown any authority for so doing. That alone would constitute a trespass in the case of land.

The evidence for the defence began with the calling of Dr. Garratt. He said Coroner Johnson had telephoned him to make a post-mortem of the body. He then described the work of the doctors. He said they were shown in by the Davidson children, who made no objection to their entrance, and presented all the articles for which the doctors asked. Dr. Anderson had done the work, Dr. Garratt held the lamp and Dr. Harris took notes. The examination went far enough to show that the heart was all right, but they could not finish, on account of the protests of the late husband.

In cross-examination Dr. Garratt admitted he had not got a written notice from the Coroner. He said he did not know if Mr. Johnson had the right to issue an order for an inquest. He admitted that if the inquest had been continued and he had held a post-mortem he would have received another notice to attend.

Dr. Anderson corroborated the previous witness as to what took place at the post-mortem. In cross-examination by Mr. Robinette, he admitted they had not their instruments there for a post-mortem. He also admitted that he did not wish to continue their examination after Davidson had made his protests.

Dr. Harris' evidence was similar to that of the other doctors. He said he had gone to the place at the instance of Dr. Garratt. He said they had wrapped at a side door and some one had said, "This way doctor."

This concluded the defence. Mr. Johnson renewed his request for a non-suit, but was again refused. He then addressed the jury, laying stress on the demands of the public for a clearing up of any suspicious surroundings such deaths, and said that would be to the advantage of the family as well. Mr. Robinette put the case of the plaintiff before the jury at considerable length, and with a good deal of force after which the Court summed up in an impartial manner. The jury, after an absence of a couple of hours, returned a verdict for the plaintiff, with \$500 damages.—Toronto Globe.

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LEGAL NOTICES.

NOTICE

Is hereby given that application will be made to the Parliament of Canada, at the next session thereof, for an Act to incorporate "THE LAURENTIAN ASSURANCE COMPANY," for the purpose of carrying on the business of Fire and Marine Insurance, and having its chief office in the City of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec.

Montreal, December 20th, 1898.

WHITE, O'HALLORAN & BUCHANAN,
23-9
Solicitors for Applicants.

DISTRICT OF MONTREAL,
No. 384.

SUPERIOR COURT.

Dame Annie Rebecca Barker, of Chambly Canton, in the District of Montreal, has this day instituted an action as to preparation of property against her husband, James Gibson, Book-keeper, of the same place, and his Curator ad hoc William J. Pearson, of the City and District of Montreal, Merchant.

Montreal, 30th December, 1898.

SICOTTE & BARNARD,
Attorneys for Plaintiff.

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PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, DISTRICT OF MONTREAL, No. 1816.

SUPERIOR COURT.

Dame Ellen O'Brien, of the City and District of Montreal, wife, common as to property, of William Albert Arnold, commission merchant, of the same place, duly authorized to enter an action, Plaintiff, vs. the said William Albert Arnold, Defendant.

An action for separation as to property has been instituted, this day, against the said defendant.

HONAN & PARISEAULT,
12 Place d'Armes,
Attorneys for Plaintiff.
Montreal, 5th January, 1899.

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