



"A CYCLE OF CATHAY."

SUSANNAH AT OTTAWA.

OTTAWA, July 14th, '94.

WE'VE had a curious lot of things happening here lately. One of 'em is a kind of house-cleaning muss—whitewashing, only this political whitewashing don't make the Parliament any cleaner, which is a pity. It seems this Mr. Turcotte he wiggled around the Act they passed to keep themselves clear of money-grabbing, and he didn't get clear around it. Mr. Edgar was after him, and he got right down to the truth and shewed it to the members, and you'd wonder how they could help doing their plain duty. Seem's ef this Turcotte man was a kind of secondo (as they say in duets) to the Postmaster General, and the duct wouldn't go, if he wasn't let play. Sir John said up and down and crosswise that he'd hev to git out, and Sir Adolphe Caron said he'd got to be whitewashed, (leastways that's what the little birds say) and the funny thing is he got whitewashed, and folks is wondering who's the premier, as they call the head man. Mr. Edgar kinder thought the government ought to be called the Caron-Thompson one, and I guess he knew.

I've heard tell a good deal about solid votes which go all one way, and that was the kind of a one that the Quebec members gave about the French treaty. Some folks seemed dreadful surprised, but I guess they'd kinder forget how the English members are about things concerning England, and how the Irish folks cut up about Oirland forever when Irish doings is brung up. Bein' a good Liberal's a pretty good thing, but bein' a real Liberal 's a sight more fair and accordin' to charity and all that.

Politics don't usually have much feelins. They're supposed to be dreadful practical things, but my sakes, they've got up some plan that's goin' to cost \$750,000 a year and extras, just for nothing but feeling Canada's boats is as fast as the American ones. Mr. Foster said folks would argue as how's they might divide the money up among the farmers, but that wouldn't be done of course. Seems like 's if he never thought o' leavin' it in their pockets, which it would be if it was took off the taxes. He says thinking of the money 's a dreadful narrow way to look at the question, and he takes the broad way. I guess he does—the one that goes clean to destruction.

There's a good deal left undone this session what might have made good fighting if it had got took up in the House. Mr. McMullen was going to see about this superannuation business which wants fixing so bad, Mr.

Mulock was for tending to the passes on the cars what got charged up in the members bills like's if they cost money, stead of being for value to be received, which aint let be forgot. Mr. Mulock had other things too, and Mr. Charlton had something to do about the voting, Mr. Dickie was going to see about us women voting, and Mr. Kent had a temperance bill. All of 'em got tramped under for this time anyhow, and it ain't fair. Mr. McCarthy's got a very mischievous way of talking. I like to hear him tell what he thinks right out and answer back when Col. Amyot or Mr. Foster or any one wants to know anything. He don't seem to take his politics to heart somehow, but he's got them in his head dreadful. Mr. Mulock now he's different. He's most awful in earnest, and he's got the aggravatingest way of talking I ever heard. It's real fun if you're on his side, but the folks what he's agin, get red in the face or pale whichever way their tempers acts.

Politics is things that you get a good deal of fun out of, pretty cheap. The stage-fixings of politics is pretty fine, the actors get pay and glory mixed, and the great big mob of tax-paying people pay to keep 'em acting. It don't sound fair, but I guess it's as fair as most other things, which ain't bragging.

SUSANNAH.

MR. ARNOLD HAULTAIN has secured the entree into *Blackwood*, and seems to have taken his place amongst the dainty critics of society. As to the prosaic world of hard fact, it appears to be something like Haultain's monicle—he hardly ever has occasion to look into it.



THE FUNDAMENTAL DANGER.

Uncle Sam hopes that this strike, boycott and tie-up difficulty has been safely set at rest by his energetic measures, but he doesn't seem to be aware that he is standing on a bombshell!