

remarks "Popes ain't infallible,") so I pass Pope. Stubbs says this sort of criticism is not required, and urges me to get on to the cipher. I comply with his request. Of all the many remarkable allusions to the present day there are some so pointedly aimed at this Canada of ours that I am convinced Shakespeare thought of Canada first and last in this comedy. The poet is always a prophet, though the profits of his works are always the publishers. The Sweet Swan of Avon projected his eye (being a seer) into the labyrinthine vista of the world's tomorrow and beheld Canada as she is to-day. He foresaw the Old Man grasping the helm of the ship of state and pulling one way or the other, according as the wind was blowing, and that he plainly discerned the masterpiece of electioneering engineering which gave the Indians the right of voting is proved by the passage of pure Grit feeling in act 2, scene 2,



"DO YOU PUT TRICKS UPON US WITH SAVAGES AND MEN OF INDE?"

Can there be a doubt of the great dramatist's reference to the present wave of Prohibition when he wrote the text of each true temperance man—"My spirits, as in a dream, are all bound up"? (Act 1, scene 2.) Or can we doubt for a moment that the far-sighted dreamer observed in fancy's magic glass the present attitude of Labor and Capital, when he so beautifully refers to the Knight of Labor thus:—



Would I admit; no name of magistrate;
Letters should not be known; riches, poverty,
And use of service none; contract, succession,
Bourn, bound of land, tilth, vineyard, none;
No use of metal, corn or wine or oil;
No occupation; all men idle, all;
And women too." (Act 2, scene 1.)

"He's winding up the watch of his wit; by and by it will strike." (Act 2, scene 1.)

Who would have thought it possible that the genius of this great man could have seen the socialistic societies of to-day looming up in the distance? That he did so is unmistakably proven by the following description of their aims:

"In the commonwealth I would by contraries Execute all things, for no kind of traffic

Even the forthcoming Toronto Exhibition did not escape the poet's eye in fine frenzy rolling, for he plainly put these words into the mouths of all our boarding-house keepers and hotel men:—



"You sunburnt sicklemen, of August weary,
Come hither from your furrow and be merry;
Make holiday." (Act 4, scene 1.)

The modern railway system ran in his mind and he gave them a motto, in consideration of their amalgamating qualities, in the same scene as the foregoing:—"We steal by line and level." Jay Gould might well adopt this for his own.

How his study of nature crops up when he writes apparently of other things is wonderful. There can be no doubt to anyone who has taken a walk in the woods that the exclamation in scene 2, act 1—"Hence! hang not on my garments"—was especially directed to the common burr. It is a by-word among us to-day. Many other beautiful thoughts and consoling passages are sprinkled through the play. For all people who lose flesh in the heat of summer he gives this soothing counsel:—

"Let us not burden ourselves with a heaviness that's gone." (Act 5, scene 1.) For the dude and masher there is this proud reflection:—"Full many a lady I have eyed with best regard." (Act 3, scene 1.)



That bartenders used the same phrases as are current to-day in saloons is evident in this:—

"But three glasses since, we gave out split." (Act 5, scene 1.)

We could duplicate these instances of his profound and prophetic genius; but the last quotation to which the cipher was applied is too much for Stubbs, and he has generously offered to pay the expenses necessary to test the present phraseology of the bartender. As a matter of literary curiosity I shall accompany him. P. QUILL.

SOME one once said that care killed a cat. What we want to know is the exact locality where a goodly quantity of the quality of care above referred to can be procured at any price.—*Philadelphia Herald.*