

carried them on was the force of passion working in those who had but a dim idea of the end they sought. A timely shibboleth—the more meaningless and mysterious the better—is often worth more to a cause than the simplest and most forcible demonstration. What wonder that Carlyle should discern an utter lack of hope in an extended franchise, finding in the voice of the people the very reverse of the voice of God, and be constrained to call out for the “able man” to come forth and govern the people? What wonder that Sir Henry Maine should find in Democracy the most unstable form of government?

Partyism then is not some unnatural outgrowth in our political life. It is the natural expression of crude human nature when left to govern itself. Only so far as men lay aside the element of passion or prejudice, and consider questions of public interest through laborious thought, can they rise above partyism and recognize that there is absolutely nothing in it to afford a basis of action. Only so far as men have no ideas to guide them or no ability to discover ideas is their any need that they should tie themselves down to follow certain men who constitute the leaders of a party. The only occasion for the existence of a party is found in the agreement of a number of citizens as to the advisability of adopting certain measures for the general good. But such parties could never remain fixed; and there is no necessity why they should. Matters of public interest can be judged on their merits and not on grounds of party interest. It is not necessary in Parliament to pass bills against one's conscience because they are supported by one's party, or to vote against good measures simply because they have been brought forward by the opposition. Yet the fault is not so much with the members of Parliament as with the people. The members are in most cases fair repre-

sentatives of the majority of the electors. Any one seeking to enter Parliament as an independent candidate will find but small support.

That the people are content with the existing conditions is obvious from the tone of our ordinary newspapers. The great majority of these would cease to exist did they cease to be mere party organs given up to vilifying their opponents and defending their allies.

The simple fact of the matter is that the people generally don't know even approximately what their best interests are and don't take the trouble to find out. They find it easier to be political partizans because they don't need to know even what their creed is. All they require to know is that their opponents should be overcome, and that in overcoming them there is victory and glory.

WE begin with this number the publication of the names of those who have subscribed to the Jubilee Fund. Naturally enough we begin at home, giving the Kingston list first. Others will follow in due time. The statement has been circulated in some of the papers of the past week that the minimum amount had been secured. We find on enquiry that such is not the case. There are still lacking five or six thousand dollars to complete the quarter of a million. It is a small sum in proportion to what has been raised and many appear inclined to suppose that the Fund is secure now and the balance must fall in of its own accord. This makes the task of securing the last five thousand about as difficult as that of securing the first fifty thousand. There are friends who have so far stood aside. Can they not put their shoulders to the wheel?

Since the above was printed the needed amount has been promised. Well done, Queen's!