

she would not expect to be repaid. Finally, she would be glad to have a rowboat at the steamboat landing to meet him, as the route lay two miles from her retreat.

Everything satisfactorily explained, nothing remained for the popular Senior and would-be applicant to do except to formally notify Mrs. C— of his acceptance. This he did as follows:

"Mrs. C—, — Landing:

"Toronto, June 2.

"Dear Madame,—Yours of the 29th to hand, and contents noted. In reply, I would express my deep sense of gratification at the highly philanthropic method your have adopted of affording indigent students an opportunity of placing themselves in a financial position to continue their pursuit of knowledge. Your altruism, indeed, in behalf of the class to which I belong touches me deeply. I gladly avail myself of your assistance, and in faithful attention to the attractive work you offer me, I shall endeavor to attest the gratitude my poor words so miserably fail to express. With each stick of wood deposited in its appointed receptacle behind the stove, with each potato divested of its unpalatable covering, with each gyration of the softly running washing machine, I shall breathe a blessing on your head. Your devoted servant,

"B. S—."

"P.S.—Do not bother sending the rowboat. It would be ungrateful on my part to permit such additional favor. I can swim those two intervening miles. B. S."

"BUT WHAT GOOD CAME OF IT AT LAST?" QUOTH LITTLE PETERKIN.

A little matter—no matter what—a trifle light as air called my attention the other afternoon to the identity between our microcosm and the great world outside.

Great nations have been involved in deadly struggles; thousands of lives have been lost and thousands of families ruined for a mistake, a misapprehension, a little brusqueness here, a little impatience there; the difficulty of receding from a position taken, and by want of forethought in taking a position. By trifles such as these, nations quite able to appreciate each other have been impelled, as by some malicious spirit, to take each other's lives. The American war, which everyone regrets, was ascribed to a slight suffered or imagined by a British ambassador; the Franco-Prussian war to an intrusion ascribed (falsely) to an ambassador of France; the Mason-Slidell incident would have had the same result but for the peace-making spirit of our late Queen, who re-wrote half a dozen words, and by half a dozen verbal alterations in a letter altered history forever, and saved half a dozen nations or nascent nations from patricidal war.

What a farce and what an absurdity seem often these unintentional collisions when the scale is small; what a tempest in a teapot; and what a tragedy when the tea is spilt in Boston harbor, or when the pot becomes a planet, and the leaves nations, and the tea blood.

There is no art, said Robert Louis Stevenson, equal to the art of language: of expressing what one means, and only what one means, and in a language which shall mean no more to the other man. If only we had a course in Greek ethics, in the virtue of or "honorable diplomacy" or "considerateness in language," and every student had to take it, and no stars and no supplements, and all the first-class men to be advanced to

delicate and diplomatic duties. It would not be Christianity, but it would be the next thing to it, and for an imitation not a bad one.

M. H.

POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB EXCURSION.

Under the guidance of Dr. Wickett, the Political Science Club, about fifty strong, visited the works of the Canada Cycle & Motor Company at Toronto Junction. The trip was made in a private car placed at the disposal of the members by the Street Railway Company.

Upon reaching the works the Club was met by Manager Russel, who kindly arranged that the men should be conducted through the works in parties, with members of the company's staff as leaders.

The students were forthwith conducted to the machine room, where were massed a large number of drills, punches and lathes. The most remarkable machines here were the gang-drills, which drill the same block of steel in as many as three and five directions at once. Saddle-brackets and such pieces are drilled out by this machine.

The tool-room was interesting. In it are made all the tools used in the factory. Some beautifully fine work is done here. The tools are all kept in the tool crib, from which they are given to the workmen upon the surrender of a metal check, which is hung up on the front of the compartment from which the tool has been removed.

In the polishing of the parts as they come from the machine-room a large number of emery wheels are used. These are generally made up on wooden disks, and are kept in condition by the use of pumice and a sort of emery paste.

The foreman of the nickeling plant explained the process with almost professional care and skill. The parts are first put into an alkali solution, and then are further cleansed in sulphuric acid, and again in a solution of cyanide of potassium. From thence they go to the hot copper bath, where they remain about half an hour. They then are sent to the buffing-room, and are polished with rapidly revolving wheels of felt. They are afterwards returned to the nickeling-room, and are put in the nickel bath for from two and a half to three hours.

A number of fine automatic machines owned by this company were next seen. The spoke machines were turning out spokes at the rate of 2,000 a day, with very little attention.

The automatic nipple machine is very ingenious. It feeds itself with the nipples; puts them in place, and makes five distinct modifications in them before they are discharged.

It takes some thirteen operations to make the ordinary bicycle chain, with its hundreds of parts. The drill which bores the holes in the side pieces of the chain is of the gang variety, and drills 6,000 pieces a day.

In the leather-room the leather is cut out, put in water, and pressed into shape for saddles and grips by means of dies. It is then assembled with the appropriate wooden and felt padding, sewn together, and the seams pressed down, and the saddle or grip is complete.

In one room, some parts of the bicycle are made in huge drop forges, while in an adjacent room other parts are brazed by dip-brazing. They then go to the sand-blast, where they are cleansed and given a smooth surface. The sand-blast saves filing and the use of emery cloth. The sand is very fine, and is brought from Toledo. A pressure of fifteen pounds is used for the blast. When more or less polished by the sand-blast, the frame of the