

Sa boutonnière est dessinée!
Voici venir la jeune année:
Bonsoir, hier! Bonjour, demain!

Maigre, dans ton habit râpé,
Et ce soir, sans avoir soupé,
Cherchant le sommeil sur la paille,
O! pauvre gueux! comme tu dois
Rêver, en te léchant les doigts,
De quelque céleste ripaille.
Ton corps, sec comme un parchemin,
Danse une gigue irraisonnée.
Voici venir la jeune année:
Bonsoir, hier! Bonjour, demain!

Et toi, pauvre amant délaissé
Qui, dans notre siècle pressé,
Crois à l'Amour, cette folie!
Rêve, O! rêve suavement,
Don Quichotte de sentiment,
A l'infidèle qui t'oublie,
Regarde, elle te tend la main,
Elle t'aime, ta Dulcinée!
Voici venir la jeune année:
Bonsoir, hier! Bonjour, demain!

PATRONAGE SELF-DESTRUCTIVE.

Mr. F. Kuhn, of Ottawa, calls attention to the following taken from the Hamilton Review:

"Mr. Middleboro, of North Grey, voiced an opinion quite common among serious public men, when he said the other day that it would be a great relief to members of parliament if they were not compelled to make recommendations for positions under the Government. Practically any man big enough to be a member of parliament, is disgusted with the petty worries of "patronage." Only 'street-corner politicians,' who live and flourish by such means, like the personal importance that it gives them. 'Patronage' is a weakness to any party in power. There probably never has been a government which would not have been stronger if it had been wholly deprived of this 'privilege.' Governments do not get into power through the efforts of the little fellows who want some picayune office or other, but by a wave of public opinion aroused by some striking issue. Then, once in

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power, every piece of 'patronage' becomes a means of sterilizing one friend and creating a dozen enemies. The man who is satisfied retires from politics and the others work harder than ever—and against the Government. It is a truism, known to all politicians, that a Government gradually surrounds itself in this way with a circle of malicious enemies who only await a safe chance to drag it down. Real Civil Service Reform, which would cover most of the appointive public positions, can only be achieved by an agreement between the parties. If one party breaks through the agreement, the other party must. But it would seem as if the two "front benches" could easily come to such an agreement in a spirit of mutual self-defence. The task of the leaders of every Government would be greatly simplified by such an arrangement: and the standard of the rank and file would be automatically raised."