



"OCEANA" AND AFTER

It is now many years since Froude's brilliant description of his Australian wanderings was published, and at once captivated the imagination of those who read it.

"My dear Sir—Your verses on 'Oceana' are very good indeed, though perhaps I am not the person to compliment you. I do not suppose that you have received the following characteristic letter, which amply repaid him for the castigation his 'rimes' had undergone:

"But alas, I fear very much that, as far as English is concerned, we are whittling a dead horse. The crowded population of this country will never rouse themselves to see what they are losing till hunger drives them, and then it will be too late.

"At the moment when the Institute is sending out Sir Rider Haggard, and affixing distinguished man of letters and affairs, to the Dominions, to inquire into the possibility of finding homes on the land there, when the war is over, for some of those who follow from the old country who have been fighting side by side with their comrades from overseas, it may be not uninteresting to revive the echoes of a long-forgotten controversy aroused by the publication of Mrs. Stevenson's 'Oceana'.

"O frame of a happy tale Of marvels strange and manifold, Of fields that know not how to fail, And hills that teem with hidden gold, In the great England overseas

"Who, giant-like, our race renews Its youth, and stretch'd in strenuous ease, Puts on, once more, its manhood's robe

"We thank thee for thy fervent hope That our dear land, in days to be, May orb herself to fuller scope

"Knit, heart to heart, in bondage free; Till all the peoples of our Queen One undivided Empire knew, And round the world, in strength serene, Our peaceful fleets unchalleng'd flew.

"To thank thee, too, for preaching fair To those sad millions, grind'd with smoke, Who yearly, daily, hourly bear The bitter load of Mammon's yoke,

"A glad evener of release, Of less'n'd cares, and lighter toil, Of grave-wad mellowing age, at peace Upon its plot of kindly soil

"Who fears the venture? Who would stay To stifle in our murky streets? Who would not faint escape away? And change the town's sullied retreats

"For that bright air, that boundless blue, Where Britain draws a deeper breath, And patriot souls create anew The England of Elizabeth."

"Not long after the verses had been printed, there was published a small volume by Freeman, containing a couple of lectures, 'Greater Greece and Greater Britain,' and 'George Washington, the Expander of England,' the one delivered to the Students' Association of Edinburgh, and the other as a public lecture in the University of Oxford.

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LEO HANDY GREATEST OF SCHOOLBOY SWIMMERS

Speed swimming is becoming more or less a fine art among schoolboys of the United States, and the greatest of them is Leo Handy, the 19-year-old student at the Brookline high school.

He has shown conclusively on several occasions that at the 100 and 200 yards that no schoolboy in the country, or college man, for that matter, has a chance against him.

Handy began to win championships when he was 14 years old, his first title being the quarter-mile of the New England A. A. U. From that time his annexation of New England and national interscholastic titles at distances from 100 yards up to a half-mile have been expected by most of the followers of the sport.

Handy is not the person to compliment you. I do not suppose that you have received the following characteristic letter, which amply repaid him for the castigation his 'rimes' had undergone:

"THE MOLT, 'SALOMBE, 'May 19 [1886]. 'MY DEAR SIR—Your verses on 'Oceana' are very good indeed, though perhaps I am not the person to compliment you. I do not suppose that you have received the following characteristic letter, which amply repaid him for the castigation his 'rimes' had undergone:

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News of the Sea

—London, March 5.—Lloyd's reports that the British steamer *Rothsay* has been sunk. Her crew was saved.

—Plymouth, Mass., March 7.—The British schooner *A. J. Sterling*, lumber laden from Liverpool, N. S., to New Haven, Conn., was driven ashore yesterday on the southern end of Brown's Island. The vessel struck in soft ground and was pulled off undamaged at high tide, early today, by a crew from the Currier coast guard station.

—Leghorn, Italy, March 4.—The steamship *Giulia*, which left here on February 29, has been sunk by an Austrian submarine. There were no Americans on board.

—London, March 6.—The British steamship *Masuda* has been sunk. All her crew were saved.

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News in Brief

—Washington, March 6.—Newton D. Baker, former Mayor of Cleveland, has been selected by President Wilson as Secretary of War.

—St. John, N. B., March 6.—Fire on Saturday night caused a loss estimated at \$35,000 to \$40,000 in the Prince William street building of Dearborn and Company, Limited, wholesale spice company. Mr. Dearborn's loss will be the heaviest, \$30,000. Insurance covers the loss.

—Peking, China, March 4.—Official announcement was made here today that the City of Suifu, in the southern part of Szechuan Province, has been recaptured by Government troops. Suifu was taken by rebel forces which advanced from Yun-nan Province, and held by them until the 28th of February.

—Ottawa, March 6.—Lieut. Coderre, who left Canada with a French-Canadian overseas regiment and who was convicted of killing a sergeant in England, has had his sentence of death commuted to imprisonment for life. The news reached the Department of Justice this morning.

—St. Stephen, March 6.—A convention of fishery overseers of this county was held here this afternoon in the Windsor Hotel. Fishery Inspector Calder, of Campbell, presided.

—St. Stephen, N. B., March 6.—A fatal accident is reported from Woodland, Maine, today. A crew of men were at work on a brood of logs when they started rolling. John Tripp was caught in the rolling mass and lost his life, the body being badly mangled. The unfortunate man belonged in Bangor, and was about 45 years of age.

—Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother of Roumania, and as formerly under her own name of 'Carmen Sylvia,' died March 2 from pneumonia. The late queen was born at Neuwied, Germany, in 1843 and was married to Prince Charles of Roumania in 1881. She was a member of the Academy of Sciences and was the author of many poems, novelettes and fairy tales, and was also a dramatist of note.

—Ottawa, March 6.—The big drop in immigration to Canada since the war started is shown by the figures for February in a letter to relatives of the commander, Thomas Christopher Williams. No previous intimation that the *Viking* had been destroyed has come from the *Viking*.

—Halifax, N. S., March 6.—After a four thousand mile voyage the topsail schooner *Lauretta Frances*, Capt. Spangole, came into Halifax harbor and ran aground on Point Pleasant shoal yesterday afternoon. She was hauled off by a tugboat and swung free of the rocks.

—Halifax, N. S., March 6.—A message from Cape Race received by the agent for the Marine and Fisheries last night tells vaguely of the abandonment of the New York schooner *Cora A.*, and the rescue of the crew by a British steamer, the name of which was not given. The message was as follows: "British steamer reports picked up crew of schooner *Cora A.*, of New York, Latitude 36, 42, Longitude 57. Drifted, abandoned schooner is dangerous to navigation."

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NOT SUCH A FOOL

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