

A WELCOME TO SIR JOHN YOUNG.

DIOGENES having recently paid his respects to the late Representative of Her Majesty in this Dominion, takes an early opportunity of welcoming his successor:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

There are certain foolish individuals in Canada who have called you "an unknown man." DIOGENES is informed that you can take a joke, and is therefore content to let the assertion pass, contradicted as it is by the most patent facts.

DIOGENES knows how well you served your Queen when a member of her Cabinet. He knows still better how judiciously you steered through the labyrinthine difficulties of the Ionian question. When DIOGENES was young the inhabitants of Corcyra were rather addicted to lying and other evil habits. When you left Corfu the most ardent Phil-hellenist was ready to bid you farewell with an *eis to kalon*.

If there be a good probation for a Governor General of this Dominion, surely it will be found in ministering to the necessities of our great sister colony, Australia. The wisdom and moderation of your Excellency's government at the antipodes is not unknown in Canada. The noble speech which you made on the subject of the burning of the Roman Catholic Cathedral reached us here, and was read by men of all creeds with openly expressed admiration. A statesman free from the chains of morbid religious bigotry is always a valuable acquisition to Canada.

One reason, perhaps, why you are called unknown is, that you do not carry a trumpet in your pocket to blow to admiring nations. You will be rather eccentric here from the absence of this convenient musical instrument—but, perhaps, after all, we have had enough of political boasters and swaggerers. Modesty is not a virtue peculiar to Canada, but a little harmless display of that infirmity is sometimes refreshing.

By the way, Sir John, there is plenty for you to do. We want to enlist your kindly peace-making qualities in making up rather an absurd quarrel between ourselves and the sister province of Nova Scotia. We have called each other hard names till we are both rather exhausted. A little of that soothing unguent which you used so successfully in the Ionian Islands, will, perhaps, answer better. If your Excellency will deign to keep an eye on the Intercolonial Railway, in order to prevent it from becoming a jobbery, DIOGENES will cheerfully lend you all the light of his lantern. He also respectfully suggests that the state of the tariff, the laws regulating trade, our means of defence, the question of emigration, and our relations with our powerful neighbour, are subjects not unworthy of your careful consideration.

EPIGRAM

ON THE VENALITY OF MODERN STATESMEN.

In ancient days,—so Horace says,—
The patriotic cry
Was "Dulce et decorum est
"Pro patria mori;"

And when the gallant Girondins,
The men of '93,
Were put to death, their motto was
"Mourir pour la patrie."

But modern Statesmen have preferred
To change this motto's tone;
They cancel "die for," as absurd,
And read it "live upon."

A BRACE OF ABUSES.

DIOGENES extends to the Dispensing Chemists all the sympathy of which his tub and lantern are capable in their crusade against a dishonorable and dishonoring system,—a system under which Doctors of Medicine demand a huge percentage on the charge for prescriptions furnished to patients. DIOGENES thinks if the Doctors are not satisfied with their legitimate fees, and want to make a profit out of their nostrums, they should, at once, become, as of old, their own dispensers. It might not be quite so gentlemanly perhaps,—there being small affinity between the pestle and mortar, and the high-stepper, brougham and buttons,—but it would be infinitely more honest.

At the same time the Cynic, while sympathising with the minor medicine-men, would express a hope that they will give the public the benefit of the change they wish to inaugurate, and cease charging a dollar for physic which, in very many instances hardly costs them a dime.

While on this subject, DIOGENES wishes to draw attention to a similar huckstering system in vogue with a class of city traders, from whom, perhaps, not so much ought to be expected as from professional gentlemen. He alludes to your money-making, money-grubbing, smug Auctioneers. Some of these gentry, noted for church going and charity, demand fifty and sixty per cent. discount on the advertising which they claim the right of distributing to the city newspapers, and unblushingly charge their customers full rates on accounts made out at the publishing offices—the "discount" being a private "business" transaction between auctioneer and publisher.

DIOGENES resolutely sets his face against this style of "business." He does not fear the knock-down of the Auctioneer's hammer, and not having a blanket on his hands he can afford to speak out. He therefore gives notice to the *bona fide* advertisers of auction sales, *i. e.*, those who have goods to sell, that he will give them the discount which properly belongs to them should they muster the requisite firmness to insist on making him the vehicle of their announcements.

Moreover, by way of encouraging the others, and in the interests of struggling journalism, DIOGENES will give a standing advertisement for six months to the first Druggist and the first Auctioneer who will publicly notify their adoption of the system of business indicated in the foregoing, and proclaim themselves the honest men of whom the Cynic is in search.

N.B.—The Auctioneer must not keep a store for the reception of furniture knocked down cheap to his own dummies in order to be resold at a profit ranging from 50 to 100 per cent.

IMPORTANT TO INVALIDS.

If you entertain doubts as to the state of your health and feel that your own medical adviser hesitates to tell you all he knows, announce yourself as an intending policy-holder in a Life Insurance Company, which, for its own protection, pays the medical fees for every one examined. If, after undergoing the requisite formula and answering all the questions put to you, the insurance is declined, make your will at once, and thenceforth, if you have not done so before, lead a sober and religious life.

N.B.—Out of gratitude to the Insurance Company you ought at least to recommend all your healthy friends to take policies.

A PAIR OF CONUNDRUMS.

When was the pleasantest season in Paradise?
Probably, before *the Fall*.

What is the earliest historical notice of gloves?
When Jacob cheated Esau, *he put kids on his hands*.