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CHARACTER SKETCH.

HAROLD BARRETT,

PRESIDENT THE DOMINION MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

"Time and patience change the mulberry leaf to satin."—Eastern Proverb.

A LITERARY critic has said of the biography of Dr. J. G. Holland, founder, and until the time of his death, editor of Scribner's Magazine, as well as author of such commonsense and widely read works as "Timothy Titcomb's Letters," "Lessons from Life," etc., that it is lacking to some extent in interest because Dr. Holland's career was, for the most part, one of uninterrupted success, which was steadily cumulative—his life wanted the necessity for battle with the world, which has given zest to the lives of so many successful men.

We may envy those who have been born, as the saying runs, with a silver spoon in their mouth, and who are permitted to spend their days on a bed of roses, but after all such lives are often wearisome itself.

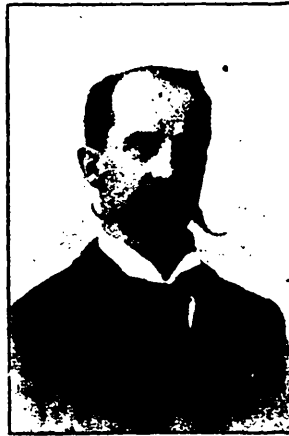
Mr. Harold Barrett, of Port Hope, Ont., who at the last meeting of the Dominion Millers' Association, was unanimously chosen president for the new year, was early obliged to shoulder the responsibilities of life, and with innate energy and pluck, he has steadily fought its battles ever since. Mr. Barrett was born in Port Hope, Sept. 9, 1858, of English parents. His father was the owner of the local flour mill, and at the age of 13 the younger Barrett went to work in the mill. So that it can be said of him—as of many others prominent in milling circles in Canada—that he was to the manner born. At the age of sixteen the death of his father occurred, and within the next year young Barrett took over the milling business from the executors of his father's estate. A result has been, as a friend has well said: "Mr. Barrett has acquired a varied experience of business vicissitudes from fire, flood and fluctuating markets, and had passed through these long before many young men think of undertaking a business on their own account."

It is sometimes said that this is an old man's age, from the fact that Gladstone, Bismark, Caprivi, Crispi, Pope Leo XIII, Sir Oliver Mowat and others far advanced in years have continued in the lead of public affairs. This from one point of view is true, and yet one cannot exercise their observation without being impressed with the fact that at the head of many of the greatest enterprises and most successful business undertakings of the day are men, who in every sense of the term may be known as young men. This has indeed been the case with men successful in many undertakings. In literature the originators of the Edinburgh Review—Sidney Smith, Jeffrey and Brougham—were young men. Burns and Byron had accomplished their work before they were 37. Newton's best work in science and Watt's in mechanics were placed on record while these men were young. And was not William Pitt Prime Minister of England at 24? Mr. Barrett has in his career, whether as a business man or in a more public way, furnished another illustration of the success that may come to a young man before he has reached 40, for it is to be remarked that Mr. Barrett has little more than turned his 36th year.

In his own town perhaps no citizen is more highly respected than Mr. Barrett. That he holds a high position in the confidence of his fellow-townsmen is shown by the fact that for several years he has held a seat on the council board and to-day occupies the important position there as chairman of the finance committee. He is also one of the Board of Harbor Commissioners who control the Port Hope harbor. The same diligence and business capacity that for 20 years he has brought to bear in the management of his own

business, he has thrown into the affairs of the town, where he was born and has during his lifetime lived.

From the early days of its organization Mr. Barrett has taken an active and intelligent interest in the affairs of the Dominion Millers' Association. He has ever been known for his unassuming and modest demeanor, and he has required just a little pushing by his friends sometimes to place him in the positions of responsibility for which his talents well fitted him. A year ago he was elected vice-president of the Association and in this position he showed himself throughout the year to be a valued member of the executive. Aggressive in his stand against any wrong bearing against the milling trades, he was able to give good service in fighting extortionate freight rates and the furtherance of other reforms during his period of office. At the meeting of the Association last month his fellow members showed their



MR. HAROLD BARRETT.

appreciation of these services by at once electing him to the office of president. He will be known as the youngest president of the Association. Not at any time is he given to much talking, and yet when he discusses any question it has been shown that he has obtained a good mastery of the subject under consideration. His paper on "Doubtful Milling Patents," read at the August meeting, showed very clearly the thorough manner in which Mr. Barrett prepares himself for any particular undertaking. The paper was full of carefully collated information on the subject dealt with, while its suggestions show the practical and common-sense turn that Mr. Barrett gives to any subject that he touches. Following in the footsteps of Thomas Goldie, E. Peplow, M. McLaughlin, and N. H. Baird, though a younger man than any of these, Mr. Barrett may be expected to represent in a creditable and able manner this Association, which is perhaps the best organized and business-like managed millers' organization on the continent.

De Maistre says that: "To know how to wait is the great secret of success," and an Italian proverb has it: "Who goes slowly, goes long and goes far." Mr. Barrett has that strong element of hanging on, or to use a more modern phrase, sticktoitiveness, that it has well been said is the true spirit of genius, and that brings certain success wherever exercised. Mr. Barrett from boyhood days has always "got there," and as the executive head of the Dominion Millers' Association this year his record will no doubt be one of equal success.

RUSTING OF BOILER SHELLS.

IN a paper read in Germany on the rusting of boiler shells, the author concludes that the most serious cause is the introduction of air with the feed water. If the feed water enters the boiler near the low-water level he concludes that it will soon be expelled with the steam, unless it has a chance to accumulate in pockets. Such pockets rust rapidly. The feeding, he advises, should be completed before stopping for the day, so that the water standing in the boiler over night shall be as free from air as practicable. Faulty construction, the author believes, is the frequent cause of internal rusting. For preventing rusting he recommends: First, while the boiler is working—(1) Removing the air from the feed water before it enters the boiler. (2) Removing air from the water while in the boiler, and preventing its accumulation in pockets, etc. (3) Addition of chemicals to the feed water. (4) Protective coatings applied to the inside of the shell. Second, while the boiler is standing idle—(1) Removing all moisture from the boiler, (2) by blowing it off while hot, (3) by producing an air current through it, (4) by placing hygroscopic bodies inside. (2) Direct protection of the shells, (a) by painting with tar, varnish, etc., (b) by covering with protecting the shells from varying temperatures by keeping the draft in the flues constant, and so as to prevent moisture alternately depositing and evaporating on the shell. (4) Protecting the shell by completely filling the boiler with water from which all air has been expelled.

MICROBES IN BREAD.

DOCTOR Trotzki, writing in the Russian medical periodical *Vratch*, states that he has found that new and uncut bread contains no micro-organisms, as the heat necessary to bake the bread is sufficient to kill them all. As soon as the bread is cut and is allowed to lie about uncovered, not only harmless, but also pathogenic, microbes find in it an excellent nutrient medium. White or wheatmeal bread is a better medium than black or rye bread, as the latter contains a greater percentage of acidity. Dr. Trotzki's experiments with pathogenic bacteria gave the following results: *Streptococcus pyogenes aureus* retains its vitality on the crumb of wheatmeal bread for 28 to 31 days, on the crust for 20 to 25 days; the bacillus of anthrax (without spores) remains alive on the crumb for 30 to 37 days, and on the crust for 31 to 33 days; the typhoid bacillus remains active 25 to 30 days on to the crumb and 26 to 28 on the crust, while the bacillus of cholera lives 23 to 25 to 27 days on both.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF WHEAT.

THE following table exhibits the approximate exports of wheat from the following countries for the twelve months ending July 31:

	Bushels.
United States and Canada	157,280,000
Russia, Poland S. E. Europe	138,400,000
India	20,000,000
Austria-Hungary	8,640,000
Argentina	48,000,000
Australia	8,800,000
Chili, North Africa, etc.	11,200,000
Total	392,320,000

The imports into the following countries for the same period was as follows:

	Bushels.
United Kingdom	176,000,000
France	56,000,000
Northern Europe and Switzerland	80,000,000
Italy, Spain and Portugal	42,400,000
Scandinavia	10,000,000
Greece	2,800,000
China, etc.	20,000,000

Total 387,200,000