

only in the wounded pride of our correspondent. We admire him for it. He has lived in both countries and his appreciation of their virtues makes him jealous of each, especially in the eyes of the other. We suspect that he, too, is using us "as an illustration" of the many hasty condemnations the Venezuela interference brought on Uncle Sam. It is to be expected that the newspapers should be guilty of this rashness, but when such an exponent of higher thought as the *Queen's Quarterly* catches the panic it is time to enter a protest.

It is a fact that Cleveland's message disclosed a fountain of bitterness, widespread and deplorable, chiefly in the United States, though Canada was not without echoes and England was too distant and engaged to be disturbed by this "tempest in a teapot." In a few days the better element was heard from; the firm, calm protest revealed the solid worth of the American people. The better class of newspapers, above all the pulpit, and, unexpectedly enough, some of the leading public men have spoken in a manner that cannot be misunderstood. Practical men smiled at the philosophic optimism of the message of the English Literati; but making the necessary allowance for different standpoints, we hear almost the same answer from America.

Democracy has now appropriated all the divine rights formerly attributed to kings, and the newspaper is so notably a Nineteenth Century triumph, that he would be a bold man who presumes to question either. Yet we believe that he who bases his opinion of the American people on the daily paper or annual vote seeker, must err in judgment. America is a young country; she is materialistic; for her present battles are with the forests, fields and mines of a vast continent: but she is honestly facing great problems, a growing element of her best citizens rightly consider her a coming world power, and clearly perceive that in this great work Britain is her natural ally. The youngest of the nations, she promises to be one of the greatest. She is flushed with the consciousness of this new life; her improprieties are the awkwardness of a Titanic Debutante. In her the Anglo-Saxon race has a bond on the future. The hasty judgment that ignores this mighty undercurrent has mistaken a flashlight for a conflagration. No wonder it stings the patriot. His indignation is proportional to national hope, as well as to national shortcoming.

* * *

The lectures in elocution are over and all too soon; so think the students who took the class. The lecturer, Rev. J. Carruthers, M.A., returned to his work in Halifax last week, after spending a month with us. We are very sorry that he could not remain longer, as practice is not simply the help but

the whole instruction in elocution, but as this was impossible we follow him with our best wishes and hope to see him return for a longer term next year.

While with us Mr. Carruthers succeeded not only in removing from the minds of many students a prejudice which existed against elocution, but in creating an interest in the subject. His presentation of it was rational and exceedingly practical. He endeavored to make each student express himself naturally instead of becoming a stiff, stilted, mechanical imitation of some one else. The tests applied by the lecturer to each individual voice revealed the fact that very few students used the vocal organs correctly, and that improper use caused unnecessary irritation of the organs, if not permanent injury. That this is true, in a general way, is evident from the large number of teachers, clergymen and other speakers who are suffering from various affections of the throat. No doubt other causes are at work besides improper use of the vocal and respiratory organs, but from medical testimony the latter is the chief cause. Now if this be the case, it is of the greatest importance, especially to the students in Divinity, to secure a training in elocution that will enable them to express their ideas with most effectiveness and also avoid injury to the voice. This subject has been unduly neglected at Queen's in the past, much to the loss of some of our graduates. No doubt the mental training is of first importance, but with the average congregation it is of very great importance how a sermon is delivered. If the style of delivery is monotonous or unnatural, the hearers lose interest, and the ideas, no matter how beautiful, pass away unnoticed. Many of the graduates feel that the want of a training in this subject has been a great loss to them.

But there is another side which must not be overlooked. Not only may a man's effectiveness be marred but his usefulness destroyed, and the source of living to himself and those dependent on him cut off by permanent injury to his voice. Unfortunately such cases are too numerous—cases in which clergymen, through injury to the vocal organs, have been forced to abandon the profession and seek other employments for which they are utterly unsuited. This is a very serious matter which deserves the attention of the students and senate. We sincerely hope the senate will take steps to secure for next session the services of Mr. Carruthers, or of another who will give equal satisfaction in this subject.

The manuscript of Gray's "Elegy" remained in the author's hands seven years, receiving touches here and there, and would not have been published then had not a copy loaned to a friend been printed.

Addison usually prepared one of his essays in a day. Bulwer Lytton usually composed a novel in about six months.