

# EVENTS

*Published Weekly.*

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Vol. 6, No. 23. OTTAWA, DECEMBER 3, 1904. Whole No. 298.

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## *Quebec General Elections.*

THE Quebec general elections were held on November 25. Taken with the numerous acclamations the week before the new Legislative Assembly stands as follows:—Liberals 66, Conservatives 5, Independents 1. There are two elections, Gaspé and Magdalen, yet to be held. The Conservatives were asked by their leader not to fight, but they nevertheless put up candidates in thirteen constituencies, and in some other constituencies the government candidate was beaten by another Liberal. In regard to leader Flynn's manifesto of surrender without firing a shot, a writer in the Montreal Sunday Sun who is a strong Conservative has the following:

The seat in Nicolet for the Legislature has fallen into the hands of the Liberals. This constituency was represented in the last Assembly by Hon. E. J. Flynn, the leader of the Opposition. Besides the seat for Nicolet, five others formerly held by Conservatives, have gone to the Liberals as the result of the vote of Friday—Dorchester, Portneuf, Soulanges, Stanstead

and Wolfe. The Conservatives captured Shefford and Lotbinière from the Liberals and held Compton, Laval, Maskinonge and Joliette. This result is a net loss of three seats to the party formerly led by Mr. Flynn. There is little doubt that had Hon. Mr. Pelletier gone into the contest in Dorchester he must have held the seat. In Wolfe Mr. Chocayne, whose tendencies are strongly Nationalist would beyond doubt have polled a vote sufficiently large to beat any opponent in Stanstead, where Mr. St. Pierre was defeated, special causes may be assigned for the result apart from the merits or demerits of party policy.

Therefore, despite the fact that the Conservatives, as a party, gave up the fight, the only losses to be accounted for on broad measures of policy presumably are those of Soulanges and Portneuf, both of which went Liberal in 1890 and were carried by the Conservatives at the subsequent by-elections, in which M. Flynn, by the way, took no part.

This summary of the situation justifies a question as to the value of the Flynn leadership. And the answer must inevitably suggest itself that it was a negligible quantity.

## The Ontario Conventions.

**S**OME people wonder what the two Ontario political conventions were held for. Resolutions emulating each other in pharasaism are adopted with enthusiasm, but beyond working up a certain amount of mock enthusiasm and displaying red light nothing came of either convention. Still the resolutions adopted are worth summarizing, and the liquor resolution especially passed by the Liberal gathering. That resolution read as follows:—

1. Any legislation against the drink evil in the interest of the people of Ontario.

2. In any municipality a vote on Local Option can be brought on by a petition signed by 25 per cent of the ratepayers without reference to or action by the Municipal Council. If desired the people can chose between abolishing the bars, restricting the present license law, or putting the business under Government control.

3. No new licenses are to be issued in New Ontario, the Government to take charge of the sales for medicinal purposes.

4. In license municipalities no new licenses shall be issued except on the petition of 50 per cent of the electors of the polling sub-division interested.

5. Any license holder convicted twice of violating the law shall lose his license.

A clause recommended by the more extreme element of the temperance people read as follows:—

“That in each municipality a vote be taken at the municipal election of 1906, on the questions of abolition of the bar and abolition of the shop licenses, the result to be decisive, and to go into effect at the expiration of the then outstanding licenses and that all necessary legislation be introduced in the meantime to enable this to be done. In municipalities in which licenses are continued, a similar vote may be taken at any time after three years.

This was warmly debated and finally voted down by a large majority. The local option law as at present in force is the basis of the plank adopted by the convention with some amendments. Other resolutions adopted were as follows.—

Moved by Mr. Robert Holmes, ex-M.P., Clinton, seconded by Mr. F. L. Costello: “That this convention desires to place on record, on behalf of the Liberal party of Ontario, an expression of implicit confidence in the Hon. Geo. W. Ross and the government of which he has been for the last five years, and is at the present time Premier. The legislation of the province during his Premiership has been progressive and always in the right direction, even if the majorities have been small. He has never shrunk from grappling with important measures and has been invariably successful in carrying them through. The administration of the affairs of the Province has been able, energetic, prompt and honest throughout the several departments. This convention would regard a change of Administration of the present time as fraught with danger to the best interests of the Province, and however long the record of the Liberal party may have been in controlling the public affairs, the best interests of this Province at the present time demand that its Government shall be continued under the Premiership of one whose name is a household word, not only for this Province, but throughout the Dominion as that of a man of great ability, progressive ideas and sterling integrity.”

The convention was addressed by members of the cabinet. As sworn of office the reconstructed Ross cabinet is as follows:—

Hon. G. W. Ross, Premier and Treasurer.

Hon. F. R. Latchford, Attorney General.

Hon. Richard Harcourt, Minister of Education.

Hon. W. A. Charlton, Commissioner of Public Works.

Hon. John Dryden, Minister of Agriculture.

Hon. A. G. Mackay, Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Hon. George P. Graham, Provincial Secretary.

Hon. J. M. Gibson, without portfolio.  
Hon. F. E. A. Evanturel, without portfolio.

The following is the platform of the Conservatives as enunciated by the resolutions passed by the convention which met at Toronto Nov. 24:—

That the general policy of the Conservative leader, Mr. J. P. Whitney, as stated in his speeches and in journals of the House be endorsed:

That his refusal of the Government's offer to form a coalition Government, expresses the unanimous opinion of the Conservative party of Ontario.

That settlers in new lands shall have the timber and minerals thereon subject to proper restrictions, and that nothing shall be done to prevent bona fide settlers coming in, or the development of mineral lands.

That in every mining district there shall be a local office of the Crown Lands Department with an officer in charge who shall allow locations in the order of application.

That the Conservative party endorses the principle of public ownership of public utilities.

That the conference favors better inspection of factories and labelling of prison-made goods as "prison-made," and that it endorses the proposal of Mr. Whitney to enact legislation for the settlement of labor disputes.

That the conference places itself on record as being in full sympathy with all well directed efforts to promote temperance and moral reform.

That the sphere of the Ontario Agricultural College should be enlarged, and an earnest effort made to diffuse more widely the benefits of agricultural education.

That the respective funds created to encourage drainage be enlarged as necessity might require, and that the interest on the moneys exacted by the Government shall not exceed the interest the Government must pay.

That Orders-in-Council should not be passed injuriously affecting the prospector, miner or settler, and that fixed and stable mining laws should be enacted.

That confidence be expressed in R. L. Borden as leader of the Conservative party in the Dominion.

Approval of Mr. Whitney in his efforts to rescue Ontario from its present intolerable and dangerous situation, and a pledge to support him.

## EVENTS

*Published Weekly.*

ARNOTT J. MAGURN, Editor

VOL. 6. DECEMBER 3, 1904. No. 25

**T**HE proclamation calling the Dominion Parliament to meet for the despatch of business on January 11 appears in the last official Gazette. With one exception—1896, this is the earliest date in the new year that parliament has ever been summoned.

**T**HE Manitoba legislature has been summoned to meet on Tuesday, December 6. It is announced that the government are about to establish a small mounted police force to patrol the boundary to prevent cattle stealing and other thefts.

**C**OL. THE RT. HON. LORD AYLMER, Adjutant General of the Canadian Militia, has been appointed Inspector General with rank of Brigadier General, and a British army officer, Col. Lake, chief staff officer. These officers will, under the minister, control the force. The Lord Donald cavalry and infantry drill books have been discarded by the department. The books to be adopted for the future training of the militia will be those in use for the different branches of his majesty's army.

**N**OTHING could be more resolute or straightforward than the temper in which the Duke of Devonshire and Lord James of Hereford, when speaking Nov. 12, faced the realities of the situation in the Unionist party. The Duke of Devonshire said that if he were a voter nothing would induce him to give his vote and support to any candidate who refused definitely to pledge himself to the repudiation of Mr. Chamberlain's policy. Both the Duke of Devonshire and Lord James of Hereford have felt before now the wrench of breaking off political associations, and evidently speak strongly from deep conviction.

**M**R. GIBSON BOWLES, Conservative member of the British House of Commons, has written a treatise on national finance in which he makes the startling statement that the national and local liabilities of the United Kingdom have been raised in four years by the enormous sum of over 2,000 million dollars.

**T**HE by-elections for the seven vacant seats in the House of Assembly of Nova Scotia will all be held on Thursday Dec. 15th. Nomination day will be December 8th, and polling a week later. Already the Liberals have several candidates in the field and so far no opposition has developed. Dr. Kendall has been nominated for the county of Cape Breton; C. N. Mader, of Mahone Bay, for Lunenburg; Dr. J. E. Ellis, of Sherbrooke, for Guysboro; E. B. Paul, of Springhill, for Cumberland; A. J. Boyd, River Bourgeois, for Richmond, and yesterday Mayor Laurence, of Truro, brother of the late local member for Colchester, was nominated for that constituency. For the Pictou seat, vacated by the retirement of E. M. Macdonald, a candidate was nominated on Thursday, but we go to press too early to learn his name.

**A**T the Welland assizes the other day the grand jury in its presentment stated that in its view the time was ripe for the abolition of the grand jury in the investigation of criminal charges. In receiving the presentment, Chancellor Boyd, who presided, is reported as stating that he fully agreed with the view expressed by the grand jury. He thought that under the present system of administering justice the idea of having a grand jury to protect the subject from the Crown was ancient history, and no necessity existed at the present time for such an institution. The Chancellor is right, and agrees with many other eminent authorities. Originally contrived to protect the subject from the Crown the grand jury has been used in Canada as a political instrument by governments acting in the name of the Crown.

**T**HE most important of recent British political speeches was that in which the Liberal leader declared what is the attitude of the Liberal Party in South Africa. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman described the maneuvers by which Chinese labour was introduced and proceeded to say:

"The position of the Liberal Party was that this enterprise was not and could not come to good. Their hands were free and their conscience was clear. They never sanctioned the war, and they had given no sanction to this last and culminating step. If and when the time came for them to take over the responsibility of government he would only say on this confused matter that they would approach the question from the point of view of the permanent interests of the country, and not merely from the point of view of the temporary exigencies of those who financed the gold mines. For his part he saw no light in the Transvaal until a full and encouraging measure—an honest measure—of self-government was guaranteed, which would enable the white men of all races to join hands in restoring the fortunes of what was now their common country."

**T**HE Baltic fleet is presumably attempting to reach Vladivostock; but its effect on the campaign will be felt long before it arrives at that place, and perhaps even before its concentration in the Indian Ocean, for the moment it approaches Japanese waters Japanese commerce will cease until it is disposed of. It can only be disposed of by Togo's whole fleet going out to meet it, for the four line-of-battle ships remaining to Japan are but just a match for the four brand-new Russian line-of-battle ships, even without counting the three others. Togo's sailing will leave Port Arthur free to receive aid of all kinds, and will temporarily imperil the communications of the whole Japanese

army in Manchuria. It is quite evident, therefore, that on the issue of a naval battle to be fought at some period between the New Year and the end of February the campaign will turn, and if that battle is indecisive or unfavorable to Japan she has lost the campaign. If she destroys the Baltic fleet and retains, say, half her fleet intact she has won it. Our cover portrait this week is that of the admiral of the fleet.

**M**R. LOCKIE WILSON hung round Ottawa last winter looking for a job that he had picked out for himself. He discovered no one else sharing his opinion of his fitness, and now we find him up at the Toronto conference denouncing the Liberals. Of such is Mr. Whitney's following.

**T**HE Ottawa Electric Street Railway Co. has offered to sell the road to the city for a few millions. If the socialists start to run the city it will soon be a good place to quit. The proper policy would be for the government to take over the district and run it by commission. That would not necessarily involve the adoption of anything socialistic. Then the town would be in a fair way to become "the Washington of the North."

**I**T would look as if some one persuaded two Liberal candidates, Messrs. Shibley and Lott, to import false ballot boxes with the design, of course, to use them in the election. One of them is said to have skipped his bail. It would do no harm if he never came back. If found guilty he would certainly go to penitentiary where all riggers of that kind belong.

## The Anglo-French Agreement.

THE French Chamber was occupied early this month discussing the Anglo-French Convention, and nothing could have been better than the tone and quality of the debate. M. Delcasse's speech was a reasoned defence of the details of the agreement from the point of view of French interests. He examined and analysed thoroughly the several advantages gained by France. What France had given up, he argued, was particularly coveted by England. What England abandoned was particularly precious for France. Other notable speeches were made by M. de Pressense, M. Denys Cochin, and M. Jaures. M. Denys Cochin said that although England's Imperialism had lately been aggressive, he welcomed the agreement because he regarded it as favourable to the peace of the world. M. de Pressense made one of his eloquent speeches, and said it was the ideal of the French Socialists that France should become in the eyes of the foreigner the eldest daughter of the Revolution after having so long posed as the eldest daughter of the Church.

M. Jaures made a singularly interesting speech, in which he entered on a general and rather daring discussion of French relationships. He said it was most important to realise the significance of the Anglo-French agreement, because that agreement was meant to strengthen the guarantees of the peace of the world. The essence of that agreement was that it had no aggressive aspect and implied no secret distrust of others. If ever Germany renounced her selfish policy France would have no question prealable a lui opposer. This did not mean that France abandoned the right violated by force thirty-four years ago; only that it was not by force that that wrong would be redressed. To support this argument M. Jaures appealed to the memory of

Gambetta, and read to the Chamber from unpublished manuscripts of Gambetta a series of passages to show that Gambetta had hoped for a peaceful readjustment. Turning to the interests of Europe in Asia M. Jaures argued that the right way to combat the Asiatic peril was to harmonize Europe. If the Asiatic peril were real it was another reason for abolishing reciprocal distrust among European nations. "Instead of them violating Asia let them try to create a Europe."

A Yellow-book entitled "Agreements concluded on 8th April, 1904, between France and England on the subject of Morocco, Egypt, Newfoundland, etc." was issued by the French Foreign Office. The principal document it contains, besides the text of the Agreements, is a circular dated 12th April addressed by M. Delcasse to the French foreign Ambassadors, to the Minister at Tangier, and to the Diplomatic Agent and Consul-General at Cario. It begins as follows:

The great interest of a moral, as well as of a material order, which are attached to an understanding between France and England called for a friendly settlement of the questions which divided the two countries, and from which, in certain circumstances, a conflict might have arisen. In London, as in Paris, the Governments were aware of this fact. The visits exchanged last year by King Edward and the President of the Republic showed that public opinion on both sides of the Channel was favorably disposed.

M. Delcasse adds that in the course of the conversation which he had with Lord Lansdowne on 7th July the British Foreign Minister and he examined in turn all the problems they had to deal with. They recognized that it was not impossible to find for each of those problems a solution

which would be mutually advantageous. The remainder of the despatch consists of explanations as to the nature and significance of the different Agreements. As regarded Newfoundland, France had only abandoned privileges which were difficult to defend and in no way necessary, while the essential feature—the right of fishing and purchasing bait along the "French Shore"—was preserved. Moreover she had received other concessions of considerable importance in West Africa. He deals next with the Moroccan question, with which none could be compared in importance, and describes the declaration secured from England as "a result on the importance of which it would be superfluous to insist." Referring to the question of Egypt, M. Delcasse points out that there has been no change in the political situation, and

notes, "with special satisfaction," in reference to the clause as to the free use of the Suez Canal, the adhesion of Great Britain to the execution of the Treaty of 29th October, 1888. In conclusion he says:

Thanks to mutual good will, we have succeeded in settling the various questions which had for too long burdened the relations between France and England. Already the demonstrations of opinion abroad shows the importance which is attached to this settlement. It is looked upon as another precious guarantee of general peace. The favourable way, moreover, in which these arrangements have been received both in England and in France is a sufficient indication that they fully protect the essential interests of each, which is the necessary condition of a lasting and fruitful entente.

## *Help the Hospital.*

**T**HE following announcement has been sent to us by Mr. John Ross Robertson whose name will be always associated with one of the most benevolent enterprises in Canada:

The Hospital for Sick Children, College street, Toronto, appeals to the fathers and mothers of Ontario for funds to maintain the thousand sick children which it nurses within its walls every year. The Hospital is not a local institution—but Provincial. The sick child from any place in Ontario who can't afford to pay has the same privilege as the child living in Toronto and is treated free.

The Hospital had last year in its beds and cots 761 patients. 267 of these were from 106 places outside of Toronto.

The cost is 98 cents per patient per day and there were 129 sick little ones a day in the Hospital.

Since its foundation the Hospital has treated 10,371 children—about 7,500 of these

were unable to pay and were treated free.

Every dollar may be the translator of your kind thoughts into the Hospital kind deeds.

Everybody's dollar may be the Friend in Need to Somebody's child.

Let the money of the strong be mercy to the weak. The Hospital pays out dividends of health and happiness to suffering childhood on every dollar that is paid by the friends of little children.

If you know of any sick child in your neighborhood who is sick or crippled or has club feet send the patient's name to the Hospital.

See the example of what can be done for club-foot children. There were 14 like cases last year and hundreds in 28 years.

Please send contributions to J. Ross Robertson, Chairman, or to Douglas Davidson Sec.-Treas., of the Hospital for Sick Children, College Street, Toronto.

## . A Canadian Work.

**"R**ANCHING with Lords and Commons," is the title of a book which has had a remarkable success both in this country and in Great Britain. It is written by a Canadian, Mr. John R. Craig, whose experience amply demonstrates his ability to write on the subject. Many Canadians have been out in the west and in the ranching country and have felt its fascination, but the majority and many if not most of our kins across the sea are strangers to the attractions of the ranch, and therefore this narrative will be read with keen interest by both Canadians and those living in the United Kingdom. To show how the book is appreciated we propose to quote two notices, one from an English and another from a Scotch source, as follows:—

Scotsman, Edinburgh, Feb. 11, 1904

An attempt to clear up a mystery is always interesting, and the author of this book has put together within its pages the story of how he was taken in and done for by a big ranching company, composed for the most part of English noblemen. The yarn is sarcastic as to the qualifications of title persons to run a ranching company, and the sneer of the practical man at the expense of the aristocratic neophyte in ranching affairs is plain on every page. The story is a most fascinating one, all

the more as because it is true, and the book—which is strikingly bound—is embellished with portraits of the noble burglars whose laxity brought about the downfall of the Company.

Lloyd's newspaper of London, England, says:—"Ranching with Lords and Commons, or Twenty years on the Range," by John R. Craig (\$1.25c). Written by one who is an authority on all that appertains to the great Ranching Industry of Western Canada, this book is a record of facts, yet it is as entertaining as a novel of adventure, for the life of the western cattleman is full of wild and perilous experiences, and Mr. Craig describes them with vigour and fidelity. The volume also deals at length with the proceedings of a great cattle Company promoted by the author, who gives some vivid pictures—some of them most unflattering ones—of many persons well-known in English public life with whom he had dealings in London and elsewhere.

It is a book that will set many an adventurous-minded youngster longing to go ranching, and at the same time make staid commercial folk rub their eyes in amazement at some of the surprising business experiences related. It is altogether a strangely interesting and uncommon book.



## The Pogwell Letters.

BY R. B. VERNEDE.

"**H**A!" said Mr. Pogwell. He was seated at the breakfast-table with his morning paper spread out in front of him, and he said "Ha!" in the tone he was accustomed to use when he wished to call the united attention of his family to some matter of importance. The Pogwell family therefore looked towards him obediently.

"Ha!" repeated Pogwell. "Precisely what I've said time and again for the last ten years."

"What have you said?" asked Mrs. Pogwell. "Do you mean about Mr. Balfour, or taking up the roads or dustmen, or Italian brigands, or—"

"No, no," said Mr. Pogwell. "It's about this invitation from the Editor of the Times. Wants his readers to suggest improvements. I could have told him that was the only way to increase his circulation twenty years ago. Why, only the other day I was saying to Admiral Cooper—"

"But what about the invitation, interrupted his wife. Mr. Pogwell said so many things to Admiral Cooper that were not worth repeating.

"Why," said Mr. Pogwell, "it's a very sensible one. The only way to save his paper—as I've said before now. A paper must be run on popular lines—it must appeal to everyone, old and young alike."

"Yes," said Mrs. Pogwell.

"Consequently, I think it would be an excellent plan," said Mr. Pogwell judiciously, "if each one of you, including the twins, —were to sit down and indite a letter to the Editor on the lines suggested by

this invitation. Everyone—even the youngest, ought to have an opinion on this very matter. Every one of my family knows, or should know, his or her Times. I have brought you up to it. Very well, the composition of a letter will give each one of you food for thought, and may give valuable assistance to the Editor. Out of the mouths of babies and sucklings—ha!"

"Don't you think," said Mrs. Pogwell, observing the downcast looks of the children, "that—"

"I think, my dear," said Mr. Pogwell, "that is a matter of which I am the best judge. I shall be glad to look over the letters when I return from the City this evening."

"May we say just what we think in our letters?" asked James, one of the twins.

"You may," said Mr. Pogwell. "In fact, that is what I—and no doubt the Editor as well—wish. Put down exactly what you think."

"It was an understood thing in the Pogwell family that what Mr. Pogwell commanded should be done. Therefore it was no surprise to that gentleman on his return that evening to find a budget of letters, all addressed to the editor of the Times, placed ready upon the table in his library. The first composition which he essayed was that of the twins, James and John. It contained three blots and several scratchings out, and gave evidence of a good deal of sincere labor. Mr. Pogwell put on his glasses, and read as follows: "Deer Mr. Edditor,—Father says we must indite and tell you what would be a good

thing to change in your payper, which Father takes in regularly. We think that it would be a good thing if you could put the leding arterkels in smaller tipe, as the things that is in small tipe Father cannot see to rede aloud, and this would be an advantage in the evenings, as we do not care for leding arterkels, but prefer Mr. Henty's workes.—We remain, Mr. Euditor, yours affeccionately.

James and John Pogwell."

Mr. Pogwell put this letter down hastily and took up that written in the large and backward-sloping handwriting of Miss Susan Pogwell. Miss Susan was a sharp maiden of some fifteen summers, apt at times to be filled with a prim sense of her own superiority. Her letter ran:

"Dear Sir,—My father, Mr. Pogwell, has requested me to contribute my little mite to the ocean of suggestions which you are no doubt receiving at present from your readers. I am quite aware that you must have great trouble in trying to satisfy so many different classes of people, and do not suppose for a moment that my little hint will be of any use to you. But it would be very gratifying to me personally, and to many of my high-school friends who come in and are rather easily bored, if you could occasionally introduce some comment into your paper about which it would be impossible for my father to remark, 'I said that ten years ago.'—Yours sincerely,

"Susan Pogwell."

Mr. Pogwell threw down the letter as if it had been a serpent, and turned to the envelope addressed to the Editor in Miss

Pogwell's nervous style. Opening it, he read:

"Dear Sir,—I am quite sure that the Times is perfect in all but one small particular. That is, the practice of admitting—and I fear almost encouraging—letters from its readers. The misery this entails on me, and, I am sure, on many English wives and mothers, it is impossible for me properly to explain. But I can assure you that the knowledge of being able to write to the Times makes my husband, Mr. Pogwell, quite intolerable upon scores of occasions. I do not know that you have ever printed any of his letters; in fact, I am almost sure you have not. But the idea that you might do so makes him harbor unpleasant feelings about petty incidents (such as having his meat underdone, having to pay rates, being asked for his ticket before the proper railway station, being overcharged by foreign hotel-keepers, losing his portmanteau, or looking up the wrong train in Bradshaw) long after they would otherwise have passed from his mind. If you could make it plain that no letters from irate old gentlemen would ever be published in your columns, you would put a stop to this sort of thing, and confer a universal boon.—Yours faithfully,

"Cordelia Pogwell."

Mr. Pogwell leaned back in his chair and wiped his brow with his pocket-handkerchief. He sat for five minutes in silent thought. Then, taking up the letters, he went over to where the fire was brightly burning, and dropped the whole budget in.

# JULIE.

▲ Sketch.

Langley Witton is standing in the middle of his workroom upon the outspread skin of a lion. He is curiously got-up, even for a poetical playwright. He wears an old gold tie under a Byronic collar, a kind of blous, belted in at the waist, a Pinerostic pair of trousers, and Stephen Phillipsonian slippers.

Miss Witton finds him collecting telegrams of all dates and years and arranging them about his desk with careless precision. He has already scattered a thousand sheets of MSS. upon the floor round his chair. With the horrible intuition of a woman, she instantly comes to the conclusion that he is expecting a lady caller. She is right.

Witton (casually): O—er, Mary, those American people who took such a fancy to me on the Minneapolis are coming to tea.

Miss Witton (who, oddly enough, possesses a slight sense of the ludicrous): O, yes, Mr. and Mrs. Carryl. How jolly!

Witton: No, not Mr. and Mrs. Carryl, my dear—Mrs. and Miss Carryl.

Miss Witton: O, my poor, dear Langley, I am so sorry. I know how unmarried girls bore you when you are in the throes of composition. Shall I keep them in the drawing room?

Witton: That is exactly what I was going to suggest to you. Keep Mrs. Carryl as long as possible.

Miss Witton: Mrs. Carryl!

Witton (with a slight note of irritation in his carefully modulated voice): I said Mrs. Carryl. Julie—I mean the daughter, difficult as you may find it to believe—has

a soul and a sense of colour. Her ear is keenly attune to really exquisite rhythm. She has been kind to me. I feel it my duty to make some return. Ah! there is the bell and knocker. Bring them here at once and then lead the mother away to see the scheme of atmosphere in the drawing-room. We will tea there.

(Miss Witton runs out. Langley Witton runs to a looking-glass, that hangs inside the door of a cupboard, and further rearranges his hair. Then he makes a bolt for his desk and seizes a pen. His expression is one of rapt and loving introspection.)

Miss Witton (entering after Julie and her mother): Yes, it is indeed topical weather. The fog has not lifted for thirty-six hours. My brother—

Mrs. Carryl (in a loud whisper): Say, Miss Witton, your brother is tangled in a linn. Hadn't Julie and I better—

Miss Witton (who is quite an old hand at the game): No, please. Langley (He doesn't move) Langley, dear,

Witton (looking up with a start): What is it? O, I do beg your pardon. My dear Mrs. Carryl, my dear Miss Carryl.

Julie (giving him her unique hand): I guess it's just a crime to disturb you anyway. You were scorching after a rhyme?

Witton: No, I was sitting under a palm tree in the land of the youthful sun, clothed on with chastity.

Julie (chattily): O, say, isn't that a rather dangerous thing to do in this weather?

Miss Witton (involuntarily): Ha! ha! Mrs. Carryl: Julie honey! What a sweet thing in rooms, Mr. Witton.

Julie (looking round): O, it's just darling Moma, do look at the bust of Washington—

Witton: Dante—I'm sorry.

Julie: O yes, he was a member of the Lambs Club during his last visit to New York city. I saw his Macbeth. It was fine. And there's a nice handy little bust of your great National writer Hall Caine.

Witton (with a shudder) No, that's Shakespeare.

Julie: Let me think now. . . Yes, I've heard the name, but—

Mrs. Carryl (leaping in) O, say, honey, come! Shakespeare was the name the great Hebrew writer Bacon took when he flared round the town incognito. Hall Caine is a modern person.

Julie: Of course! [He comes from that queer island where cats have no tails and men have three legs. He's just putting out a new work about his early life in this city.]

Witton: Yes, The Prodigal Son.

Mrs. Carryl Say, doesn't it strike you that the authors on this side are getting very very egotistical. I thought it very daring of Mr. C. relli to call his autobiography God's Good Man.

Julie (suddenly looking at the frieze): O, what a darling snake!

Miss Witton (gurgling with delight): But it's not a snake, is it Langley?

Witton: That is a symbolical pattern, Miss Julie. As a matter of fact, it is to suggest the brain waves that go on in this room.

Julie: O yes, of course! You write pieces don't you, Mr. Witton?

Witton (gently): I have never yet descended to that level. Hitherto I have only perpetrated poetic dramas.

Julie: Say, where can we see one? Did

you write that poetic play that is running at the Vaudeville right now?

Witton (turning pale): O, please!

Mrs. Carryl (sotto voce): Julie, you've made a bloomer!

Witton: My dramas, fortunately, are too far above the public's head to be produced. In the present state of the stage only the works of dramatists are presented. Playwrights keep their work in the study. Indeed, one is positively nervous of being accepted by the modern actor-manager. It is a conclusive proof that one's pen has deteriorated into the Mere Popular.

Julie (with her charming ingenuousness): Say, what do you write, then? Don't you wish to draw any dollars?

Miss Witton (with a gasp, looking at her brother in a frightened kind of a way): Ah!—ha! ha!

Mrs. Carryl: Julie, dear, I don't think you should ask our dear friend to open his secret cupboard and show you his skeleton!

Witton: My mission is to raise the stage, to lift it from the slough of amusement to the calm heights of edification. I believe in a National Theatre.

Julie: I take it you want to turn all the theatres into chapels?

Miss Witton (delighted beyond any words at the sound of the tea gong): Ah, there's tea. Will you come this way?

Mrs. Carryl (who has twigged the strain in the relations between them all). Satisfactorily. Delighted! Say, Mr. Witton, the fog in this city really—well, they really—

Julie: Lift the cup, anyway.

Witton: Precisely. Er—  
(He follows them burning with the injustice of the world).

COSMO HAMILTON.