COURSE IN PHOTOGRAPHY FOR AMATEURS

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THE OREGONIAN'S HOME STUDY CIRCLE: DIRECTED BY PROF. SEYMOUR EATON

PHOTOGRARHY FOR AMATEURS

I. INTRODUCTORY STUDY.

By George W. Gilson.

It is hardly necessary at this date to begin a series of articles of practical instruction to the amateur photographer with the detailed history of the birth and wonderful growth of this science. We shall, therefore, give but a brief history of photography before proceeding to the more instructive chapters.

The actual discovery of the darkening or coloring effect of the sun's rays on different substances was discovered 100 years ago, but the discovery of photography as we think of it and know it today is said to have been made by Daguerre in August of 1839. He then gave us—or rather the French government, which afterward gave it to the world—the process by which a direct picture could be taken by photography. This process was called the daguerreotyping process, and is the old daguerreotype with which most of us are familiar. While the daguerreotype was a portrait or picture by photography, and very beautiful of its kind, still the process differed greatly from that now in use. The result was a positive, in place of a negative, the picture being made direct on a copper plate. Each picture was an original. If a person required six pictures six sittings were necessary, and the time of exposure differed from 30 to 40 minutes. With our rapid dry plates of the present day, coated with their sensitive salts, the exposure is but a fraction of a moment. To Daguerre alone is not due all the credit for the discovery of photography, for another Frenchman of the name of Joseph Nicephore Niepce, experimenting at the same time as Daguerre, discovered many interesting details that added to Daguerre's discovery very materially in the perfecting of the process. Again, there are many who stanchly claim that Fox Talbot was the true originator of photography, and consider that to him should be accorded the title of the "father of photography," a mantle so long worn by Daguerre. Apropos of this is the article lately published in an English journal, which speaks of Talbot's claims as follows:

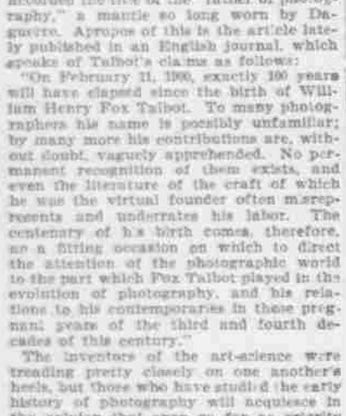
Joseph Niepce.

"On February 11, 1900, exactly 100 years will have elapsed since the birth of William Henry Fox Talbot. To many photographers his name is possibly unfamiliar; by many more his contributions are, without doubt, vaguely apprehended. No permanent recognition of them exists, and even the literature of the craft of which he was the virtual founder often misrepresents and underrates his labor. The centenary of his birth comes, therefore, as a fitting occasion on which to direct the attention of the photographic world to the part which Fox Talbot played in the evolution of photography, and his relations to his contemporaries in those pregnant years of the third and fourth decades of this century."

The inventors of the art-science were treading pretty closely on one another's heels, but those who have studied the early history of photography will acquiesce in the opinion that even so far as priority of publication is concerned Fox Talbot is entitled to the premier place among the fathers of photography. But this is not his most indisputable claim. Talbot's process contained the possibilities of indefinite modification. The multiplication of positive proofs from a negative originated with him, and has proved the only practicable principle in photography ever since.

For his share, too, in the development of the sister art of photo-engraving Fox Talbot likewise deserves a full measure of credit. He was one of the earliest pioneers in that afterward fruitful field of discovery—the production of printing surfaces by photographic means. He was one of the first experimenters with bichromated gelatin and perfected, and, alas, patented a process for the reproduction of an intaglio plate to which he gave the name "photoglyphic engraving."

This brief outline will serve to call to mind the position of Fox Talbot in photographic history, a position hitherto scarcely recognized. In France a statue of Joseph Nicephore Niepce stands in the town of Chalons-sur-Saone, and the restoration of the church of his native Bry-sur-Marne has been carried out as one memorial to Daguerre. The only proposal to perpetuate in any way the memory of Henry Fox Talbot has curiously enough taken the same form as that last mentioned. Soon after his death in 1877, preliminary steps were taken to restore, or rather remodel, the chancel of Lacock church, Wiltshire, with which Fox Talbot was intimately connected as lay rector, and where many of his ancestors lie buried. The scheme lapsed for some years, but latterly a local committee has taken the matter in hand and a portion of the requisite sum has been raised. While the suitability of the suggested memorial may prove productive of discussion, it should be recollected that the idea is one which would have been acceptable to Fox Talbot himself, and photographers would be honoring their craft if they provided the funds for this or any other suitable memorial, in the centenary year of the man who may most truly be called "the father of photography."



Talbot.

There is no fad or hobby, call it what you will, that is at once so attractive and instructive and that gives such lasting pleasure as does photography. It carries its followers afield, and while giving physical exercise and mental pleasure it gives instruction of the best kind, and it induces artistic conception and brings to the front all the better qualities of our nature. It is well said that one "who loves the green trees, the pearly brook, the mossy bank, the glad sunshine and the ever-changing beauties of nature cannot be vicious." The amateur photographer is ever in pursuit of nature at her best, and often unconsciously the means the development of the artistic and better side of one's nature, the bringing out of our generous, nobler and higher qualities.

It needs but one glance at the commercial side of the question to realize of what immense importance photography is as a factor of the world's commerce. Millions of dollars are now invested in manufacturing for the wants of camera users, giving employment to thousands of wage-earners. The fact that a combination of one branch only of this industry was lately capitalized at $5,000,000 is suggestive of its magnitude, and its growth is all the more wonderful when it is considered that it is practically a young enterprise. Only a few years ago a traveler, en tour, camera in hand, attracted attention. Now the camera is considered an indispensable addition to the well-regulated tourist's kit.

This series of articles is intended and written for the instruction of the beginner, and will necessarily be extremely elementary at first, as it is supposed that students who start with us in this series are only now considering the taking up of photography and consequently have little or no knowledge of its mysteries. It will be our aim to dispel the seeming mystery of using the sun as a pencil to draw beautiful pictures of nature and to teach practically and step by step the necessary knowledge for making pictures by photography. Before an artist can paint his picture he must first have and thoroughly understand the use of his brushes, colors, canvas, etc., and likewise before we make photographs we must first have the necessary articles or tools with which to work. Hence it is necessary and appropriate that we first select the camera, the lens and the plate upon which our picture is to be.

And for our future success in picture-making we must thoroughly understand why our tools are necessary, what part each plays in the making of our picture, and we must learn to handle them as intelligently as the painter handles his brush and colors or the sculptor his chisel and mallet.

The Camera.

Of different styles of cameras there is no end, but for the present purpose they may be divided into two kinds, the hand camera and the stand or tripod camera.

A beginner usually has the somewhat mistaken idea that the hand camera is the easier to handle, and in a way it is, but it is not the easier for a beginner to make good pictures with, and we are, therefore, going to recommend our class to begin with the tripod camera of a style that will admit of focusing and of a size, say, for pictures four inches by five inches, commonly called in photographic parlance, a "4 by 5." The hand camera is a very popular and extremely useful camera, and will be fully taken up later in this series. It is not at all the object of these articles to recommend the goods of any one manufacturer over another, therefore, the make of camera to be selected will be left to the student with the advice to purchase one of the standard makes having a good rectilinear lens, a shutter and a fairly long-drawn bellows. It should also be of the front focusing style, as focusing by means of moving the front board (to which the lens is fastened) is much handier than by moving the back.

The front board spoken of above should be what is termed a sliding front, and the camera should also have a swing back, and the back should be reversible.

Daguerre.

These terms will be fully explained as they come up in future chapters.

One plate holder (holding two plates) comes with each camera, and it will be best to get two extra holders so that four or six plates may be ready for use at once. A pneumatic release shutter, capable of fast or slow exposures and of time exposures should be a permanent part of the lens. The tripod should be sufficiently strong to be perfectly rigid when in position and holding the camera. Some are made so as to fold into very small compass. Do not get one in which strength is sacrificed too much to the matter of folding into small space. In selecting the first camera it is a good plan to consult some friend of experience.

The Plate.

There are a number of different makes of dry plates on the market, any of which with proper handling will yield good results, and the best course for a beginner is to select one brand and stick to it until the working of it is thoroughly understood.

Most plates are made in three grades of speed, usually termed slow, medium and fast or instantaneous. The beginner should choose the slow or medium speed plate for his first work, which is nearly always an outdoor picture, as the medium plates admit of considerable more latitude in exposure than the fast plate, and are besides easier to develop, or to control in development.

The great percentage of failures at the commencement of the amateur photographer's career is due to overexposure. With the fast plate, overexposure of a few seconds only is fatal (without the experience of a veteran to control it), while with the slow plate it is not nearly so serious a matter. The beginner will find that he will waste plates enough in his early efforts with the medium plate, without squaring the number by the use of fast ones.

Note.—Photographic lenses will be the subject of the study for next week.

A Death From Dropsy.

Lakeville Rustler.

J. P. Wallace, a rancher of Pine Creek, who had been suffering from dropsy for a long time, died last Saturday, and was buried Sunday. He had lived in the vicinity of Pine Creek for about nine years. He left a wife and adopted daughter to mourn his death. While not a very large man, naturally, his body and limbs had become swollen so badly from the disease that the coffin had to be made immensely large. It was 31 inches wide, 6 feet 2 inches long, and 17 inches in depth. It could not be gotten into the church door for the funeral services, and was taken on to the Pine Creek cemetery.

Drawbridges Over the Long Tom.

Corvallis Times.

The plans of the Long Tom drawbridge at Bundy's have been returned from Washington, with the approval of the chief of engineers and the secretary of war, Elihu Root. The plans of all bridges constructed over navigable streams must have the approval of these officials, and those of the Long Tom bridge are all right, but subject to the following conditions: First, the engineer officer of the United States army, in charge of this district, may supervise its construction, in order that the plans may be complied with; second, the clear opening of the draw span shall be 50 feet wide; third, the draw shall be provided with such mechanical appliances as shall insure its being opened or closed within the time of five minutes.

"HERESY" IN MEDICINE.

It Is Akin to Heresy in "Theological Science."

PORTLAND, Feb. 15.—(To the Editor.)—May I be allowed a few words regarding an editorial which appeared in your paper of the 12th inst., entitled "Christian Science."

Your explanation of the source of what healing power you admit is in Christian Science I will not comment upon. That I leave for a teacher of Christian Science. But I may perhaps be allowed to say, in passing that "the superiority of spiritual power over sensuous is the central point of Christian Science."

Among other things, this editorial says: "The news of every day tells us how disastrously these experiments are continually resulting." I, perhaps, have had better opportunity of observing the results of Christian Science treatment than the writer of the editorial. The paragraph quoted is an undeserved reflection upon Christian Science practice.

If one dies under Christian Science treatment, is a hue and cry to be raised, even if the patient had been previously given up by a "regular" practitioner while when hundreds die under the care of doctors, nothing is said, nor even is the question asked, Was the doctor competent? Is the question to be merely, Had the patient a "regular" attendant?

Continuing, you add: "Some way should be found for bringing to justice every so-called 'healer,' whose interference with the sick is followed by fatal consequences, and every parent, who, bound to the same misguided theory, contrives his child's death through neglect." Is not this dogma, to borrow the language of the able editor of The Oregonian, "based on assumption of the infallibility of the regular medical profession, than which nothing has less foundation? What is known as medical science is mostly tentative and experimental. There is little about it that is absolute science. Hence, it is that the medical profession is divided into innumerable 'systems'; and even those who nominally profess the same system often differ radically and employ widely variant remedies and methods. Medical science, like theological science, is in constant flux, and, of course, there is illimitable room for quackery in both. But who shall decide who are the quacks?"

Are Christian Science healers to confine their practice to cases in which the medical fraternity have formally proclaimed a death sentence? And, although it is admitted by all candid investigators that they have succeeded time and again in just such cases, are they still to be forbidden to practice in cases where even the doctors have hope, but perhaps give bread pills?

If a man does not call a doctor of medicine for his sick child, and the child dies, he is to be dealt with; but if he does call a doctor, and the child dies, it is to be affirmed, "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away," because in accordance with usage; nor would it be regarded a fit subject for investigation whether or not the doctor gave the right medicine. And if it were investigated, which school of medicine and what doctor of that school should be allowed to decide?

Eminent physicians have said that doctors, on the average, taking the bad with the good, do as much harm as good, and that the average length of human life would, perhaps, be as great without them. If every one upon a proper occasion is to employ a doctor, under penalty of the law, who is to determine the occasion and the competency of the physician employed, and to what school of medicine is he to apply. Is it to be made a crime not to call a doctor; and remain without punishment when a doctor makes a mistake, either in his diagnosis of the disease or in his selection of remedies for a known disease.

The sum of the matter is, that the doctrine of "heresy" in methods of curing the sick is almost as absurd and hateful as the doctrine of "heresy" in theology or religion.

Indeed, if we place our dependence solely in the medical profession, for the development of the science of life, the same attitude of mind which you term a "stubborn refusal" to recognize and investigate phenomena not after their school will render such dependence no better than a rope of sand to a drowning man.

WILLIAM M. GREGORY.

Light on "MacMahon's" Record.

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Feb. 10.—(To the Editor.)—I have read in the New York World a poem on the grave of Jack Dempsey, the pugilist, attributed to The Portland Oregonian, and the author's name was given as "MacMahon," but no initials. In 1875, M. J. MacMahon was elected the poet of the university of Michigan literary class, and among his works of that year I find in my scrapbook the enclosed translation of Carmen xviii, book II, of Horace, which attracted general attention at the time among scholars on account of the accuracy of its translation and the meter, and I doubt if Mr. MacMahon has done anything better since. "Mac" is still remembered at the university, and at this his old home, but his reputation is going down through the annals of the university as that of an athlete and Greek scholar, rather than that of a poet, and I was surprised to see his quill driving verse again. If this translation of his old friend Horace reaches his eye, he will recall the class of '75, and his classmate

DE WITT OAKLEY.

"AD AVARUM."

(Horace—Carmen xviii, Liber 2.)

Nor gold nor ivory gleaming fair,
Nor beauteous fret work carved with care,
Adorn my hall.
No yellow shafts from Afric brought,
Support the beams at Athens wrought.
I hate them all.

For kingly power I do not seek,
Nor ask for purple garments sleek;
My wants are few.
Good-will, a temper mild and bland,
And also power to give the hand
To friendship true.

I will not ask the gods for more,
Nor favors from my friends implore.
I'll be content
While day pursues the fleeing day,
And moons successive wane away,
Till life is spent.

Not like you churl who spends his time
Toiling from morn till even chime
For fruitless fame,
Careless of self and friends he toils
And reeks not that the grave-worm spoils
The noblest name.

He rears his piles, amasses wealth,
And sees not how, with furtive stealth,
Death comes apace.
He drives his client from his home
That he may, for a spacious dome,
Prepare a place.

But doom awaits this selfish knave;
He soon will wither, and the grave
Will claim its own.
And when his earthly course doth fail
All that his riches will avail
Is but a stone.

In this wide world there's room for all,
But never from grim Pluto's hall
Has night returned.
So love your neighbors as yourself,
That you may get, when laid on shelf,
The rest you've earned.

1875.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

THE TREASURY SITUATION

INDICATIONS OF CONTINUED LARGE SURPLUS OF RECEIPTS.

Exhibit for Seven Months Compared With Previous Years—Effect of Bond Premiums.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—(Special to New York Journal of Commerce.)—The treasury statement for the month of January strengthens the probability that there would be an unmanageable surplus as the result of transactions for the current fiscal year, but for the extraordinary measures which have been taken by Secretary Gage and proposed by the senate committee on finance to put money back into circulation. The expenditures on account of the increased military equipment growing out of the war with Spain are tending to decline well within the proceeds of the war revenue law of 1898. This law, considered with relation to war expenses, and the Dingley law considered with relation to expenses upon the old peace basis, are each affording a surplus over expenditures. The excess of war and navy drafts for the seven months ending with January, 1900, over the amount of such drafts for corresponding peaceful months ending with January, 1898, was about $40,000,000. This was at the rate of nearly $5,000,000 per month, or $100,000,000 per year, which would about absorb the proceeds of the war-revenue law. This excess over the expenditures of the peace basis has, however, been declining during the last few months. The amount was about $7,300,000 for November, $8,900,000 for December, and $6,500,000 for January, amounting to an average of $7,500,000, or at the rate of $90,000,000 per year. The average during the remaining five months of the fiscal year is likely to be still lower, as has already been the case for January. In the meantime, while expenditures have been declining, receipts have been swelling since last summer, even beyond the prosperous figures of the summer of 1898. The following table exhibits the total ordinary receipts for the government, not including the postal receipts, from July, 1898, to the close of January last:

1898—	
July	$ 43,847,108
August	41,782,707
September	39,778,070
October	39,630,051
November	38,900,915
December	41,404,783
1899—	
January	41,774,920
February	37,973,332
March	57,030,229
April	41,611,587
May	44,786,013
June	47,126,915
July	48,604,258
August	49,978,173
September	45,234,144
October	47,533,588
November	46,945,572
December	46,958,104
1900—	
January	48,012,164
Total	$515,652,665

These figures, placed side by side, show how considerable has been the improvement in receipts recently over corresponding months of the previous year. The difference for the seven months ending with January has been about $20,000,000, the receipts for the last seven months having been $332,804,654, against a record for the corresponding months of the previous year of $302,425,129. The unusually large receipts shown for March, 1899, were due to a payment of $14,788,314 on account of the Central Pacific railroad indebtedness. It was only with May that receipts began to attain something like their present volume, but the record then made has been surpassed in every later month. The cash balance of the treasury in the meantime rose on February 1 to $229,490,973. This amount would have been $21,771,867 more but for the redemption of 4 and 5 per cent bonds by Secretary Gage during the autumn and $20,000,000 more but for the commutation with Spain for the debt of the Philippines. The important question for the treasury at present is how this rapid accumulation of money can be controlled during the next year or more without revenue legislation. The senate refunding plan appears to provide means for getting rid of a considerable portion of the surplus. The estimate prepared by the actuary of the treasury shows that it is possible to pay out in premiums upon all the bonds involved in the refunding process the sum of $88,969,173. It is not probable that more than half of this amount (if as much) will be called for during the five months which remain of the present fiscal year. As this money will be taken from the present deposits of public funds in national banks, it will not add to the amount in the money market.

How will the treasury stand at the close of the fiscal year on June 30, or in the midst of the crop-moving season three months later, if receipts continue to run as at present? The surplus of receipts over expenditures was $7,613,545 in December last, and $8,823,068 in January. This occurred in spite of large payments for interest in both months, and February is likely to show at least an equally large surplus. If the next five months should afford a surplus of receipts amounting to $35,000,000, or at the rate of $7,000,000 per month, nearly the whole amount required for premiums on the refunding of half the bonds would be obtained from this source. July, August and September would add another $21,000,000 to the surplus funds of the treasury, and would pay the estimated premium upon half the bonds, with a surplus of $12,000,000 over present resources. The treasury would then face the crop movement with a cash balance of about $265,000,000, of which the amount in the banks would be much less than at present, if the bank deposits were employed to pay the bond premiums. Assuming that the bank deposits were reduced by these payments from $110,000,000 at the present time to about $65,000,000, Secretary Gage would be able to again increase his bank deposits in order to relieve the market by $45,000,000, and perhaps by $50,000,000. It would be a hazardous thing to do from a political standpoint, however, and present conditions of business activity would seem to indicate that a large increase in bank circulation or some reduction in taxation might be required to avoid the political danger.

WHAT IT MEANS TO PORTLAND

Comment on the Proposed Smelter by a Mining Man.

PORTLAND, Feb. 14.—(To the Editor.)—I understand the kind of smelter proposed to be built here by Mr. Bradford is not the one-horse affair that has heretofore been foisted upon the people of Portland. It is the only one that I have heard talked of that looked like a business proposition. A 25- or 30-ton smelter is a back number, and I so informed parties here when they built the Linnton smelter. Any one who has visited the great smelters of Colorado would never think of putting money into a 30-ton smelter, but they have had the experience, and some one else has got the money.

But few can realize the importance of the kind of a smelter proposed by Mr. Bradford. One that will take 100 or 200 tons of our low-grade ores, of which we have abundance, and take 10 or 20 tons per day of base bullion from it worth many thousand of dollars. It is an old saying that the man who makes two blades of grass grow where one grew before is a public benefactor. It is equally true that the man who takes thousands of tons of our low-grade ores and converts them into useful metals and coinage, where they never were before, and never would be without a smelter, is also a public benefactor, and he should have all the encouragement and support we can give him, for it cannot be denied that the country which possesses the greater weight of manufactured metal attains a greater degree of civilization and influence in the world.

The smelter means much to Portland, not only a pay roll for workingmen, but things that will follow it. It means a greater labor saving for the miner, who can ship his concentrates and base ores to the smelter here without paying the large rates of shipment to Colorado or Salt Lake City or Tacoma, or the erection of costly machinery for chlorinating or chloridizing plants at his mine. The gold-producing black sands of Snake river could be shipped here in bulk without the cost of separating the sands from the gold at the mine. The iron would be valuable as a flux. The lime and fuel, together with the low altitude, make Portland a much more desirable place than those of higher altitude. The great central part of Oregon is Crook, Lake and Klamath counties, as yet hardly prospected, and yet there are several mines being opened there where the ore runs 200 ounces of silver and $20 per ton in gold, and the large number of assays I have received from that sections shows an abundance of dry carbonate ores, running $2 and $3 in gold, and from 10 to 40 ounces of silver per ton. Besides, we ought to get our share of the large amount of sulphurets that are shipped out of Alaska. The only drawback at present is in getting the ore to the railroad, but with the advent of the many new lines and feeders projected the output will be doubled, although the present and accessible product is sufficient to keep a 100-ton smelter going.

A smelter of this kind means much more for Portland than is generally supposed.

J. H. FISK.

FRANCO-CELTIC WAR.

A Genuine Irishman Whacks One With a French Name.

PORTLAND, Feb. 10.—(To the Editor.)—Mr. D'Arcy's communication, which appeared in your issue of the 8th inst., I have been to busy to reply to up to the present moment. As it is simply, from beginning to end, only abuse, and not argument, I find it difficult to reply to such a windy production. He shows by his pen that he is an ignoramus without a knowledge of history—a man puffed up with his own importance because he occupies the unenviable notoriety of being a Shylock, a man who has lived by exacting the last pound of flesh from the poor clients who may have had the misfortune of employing such an advocate, who is certain to err in judgment because he can't see that abuse is not argument. I feel that the word "apalpeen" fully described his standing, and it seems to have been to him what a red rag is to a bull.

The name D'Arcy is of French extraction, and this accounts for his impetuosity, shown so clearly in his communication of the 6th inst. The D'Arcys came over from the north of France about the 16th century, and acquired some property in Ireland, where they oppressed their tenantry for a time, till they quit their holdings in 1848. The name of D'Arcy can be seen in early history of Ireland. If Mr. D'Arcy would read Irish history, he would then see that the name of O'Neil was changed to that of Creagh (the latter means a sprig of laurel) at the siege of Limerick, when my ancestors (then the O'Neils he refers to) swam their horses across the river Shannon to the relief of the besieged. From that time on till now our name has been Creagh. There is not a drop of English or any other blood in me but pure Irish. I love my country, and admire the valor of the Irish soldiers and officers who have fought and bled in the cause of liberty—and who are now fighting to liberate the people of all nationalities from the yoke of slavery and despotism in the Transvaal—a would-be republic.

If Mr. D'Arcy and other Irish mongrels would spend some time reading the history of South Africa and the travels of Livingstone, he would not make such wild blunders and assertions as he has through ignorance and blind prejudice, in which he appears to have been cradled in some hamlet where he moved in a very narrow groove. I now wish to correct some foolish statements he has written.

I was born in the southwestern part of Ireland, and not in the northern portion. I do not uphold absentee landlordism, as this condition of things led to all the trouble as between landlord and tenant in 1880. The land agents (at least some of them) had a commission on the rentals, and it was their interest to raise the rents. I never had any trouble with my tenants when I was joint landlord over some 30 tenants, who had long leases from a period when rents were at a low figure. All those tenants got from me an opportunity to go into the land commission court and have a fair rent fixed, although they could not, owing to their leases not having expired, without my permission do so. As landlord or land agent, I never had an eviction or a dispute with the tenants, amongst whom I lived for 30 years. When their leases expired, they appointed me as sole arbitrator in preference to going before the land commission.

Mr. D'Arcy is so reckless in his statements, they need no contradiction. He is not capable of comprehending the most simple proposition; he can't even read my article without the aid of "green spectacles," being blinded by prejudice. He talks of liberty, but he denies me the privilege of expressing my ideas and sentiments. See how thoroughly selfish he is! You can never depend on a mongrel of any kind. Mr. D'Arcy's flying trip to Ireland reminds me of the man who said or boasted that he passed through Trinity college when he only went in the front entrance and passed out of the back door of that famous college. I did not say that there was no poverty in Ireland. There is such to be found there, as well as in this country, but such is not the result of government oppression or landlord tyranny, but is attributable to overcrowding by themselves. A tenant who, in 1850, had 50 acres of land, has now not more than 10 acres to live on, as he subdivided it amongst his sons as they got married; the fortunes given the sons by their fathers-in-law were handed to the bride's sisters, and this left no money to improve the small farms; hence, the condition of things to be deplored.

I should like to know how long it took Mr. D'Arcy to go through Ireland and get all the information he imagines is possessed by him. I lived and traveled in Ireland for 30 years, and saw more wealth in a town of 2000 population in the south of Ireland than can be found in the same class in any town of from 10,000 to 50,000 in Oregon. In one town of 2500 population I saw deposits by farmers in banks there, amounting to over $1,500,000, and this town was not an exception. Mr. D'Arcy only shows his ignorance when he tries to make anybody of ordinary sense believe he saw and learned more about Ireland during his flying trip than I know, after having lived there for over 30 years. Irish industries are now flourishing.

I will briefly refer to the ignorance of Mr. D'Arcy in connection with historical facts in South Africa. The English never drove the Boers from Cape Colony to force of arms or otherwise, except by telling them that slavery should be abolished. This the Boers would not listen to, and so they decamped to the wilderness, killing women and children as they journeyed north.

"Rule Britannia! Britannia rules the waves,
For Britons never, never will be slaves!"

I did not say that England is perfect or ever was or will be so, yet I say she loves liberty, and her colonists love her rule, since Victoria sat on the throne. England had her cruel kings and governments, like every other nation, but she has long since passed from death unto true life, and she now is all the better because she has come out of darkness, and knows the real value of true light—"experience teacheth."

England is hated and unjustly accused by many of the D'Arcy type, who represent the unlearned and unreasoning of our country. She has her faults. Yet I say, "England, with all thy faults, I love thee still," and all this because you "give equal rights and liberty without distinction of nationality or religion." Why have Mr. D'Arcy and his unthinking friends not found fault with our own government for having gone into Cuba and the Philippines? England had a better right to go civilize the Transvaal.

The nations and people who hate England are their own enemies, as without England this great nation would not be able to sleep on a bed of roses. Till we can find better than England, we must be thankful for her friendship in time of need.

An Irishman can be led, but not driven; therefore the former governments of England failed when they tried to drive my brethren. England gave Ireland her parliament in College Green, and those who are not quite so ignorant as my Salem "spalpeen" know why that house of parliament was shut up—simply because some hot-headed ignoramuses, like my friend, were selfish and untrue to their constituents, and represented themselves, and not the people who sent them to parliament. Ireland has now as much home rule as she desires. I mean, when I say she, the enlightened and more respectable members of society—not the "spalpeen" clan.

Mr. D'Arcy is simply carried away by the overweening exuberance of his own verbosity. He is evidently a hot-headed Frenchman, or of that blood. He will find that the strength and resources of England are practically unlimited, and she is in South Africa to stay there for all time, so long as her armies and navy contain Irishmen who never know what defeat is—I think it was Wellington who said: "Ireland could only be subdued by putting her under the sea for seven years; and even then he doubted if she would not rise up again as lively as a bee."

Kruger does not love liberty of the individual, outside his own household, and this is why I do not sympathize with him—this is the reason other nations in Europe do not dare to interfere with England's grand mission to spread true light in that land of slavery and bondage. A man like Kruger, who objects to his people being taught to read and write, should be taught lessons in economy and true liberty. The march of civilization has been commenced, and the goal will soon be reached when General Roberts enters Pretoria with his army, composed largely of Irishmen and Scotchmen.

J. CREAGH.

"To Chloris."

From Mr. W. Laird Clowes' "Belogues."

Ah! Chloris, as the days went by,
You grew, and took to larger dresses;
And next—I often wonder why—
You cut your tresses.
Thus marred, and in a sad loose frock,
The period fearfully uncertain,
You fell in love with Kant and Locke,
And went to Girton.

And there, in cap and gown arrayed
(How could you, Chloris, copy men so?)
You waxed unconscionably staid
And read Colenso.
And when bright hours you might have spent
In sweet response to my affections,
Your faithless glance was ever bent
On conic sections.

Grandpa's View of Drawing Cards.

BANDON, Or., Feb. 10.—(To the Editor.)—When I was a boy, some 75 or 80 years ago, when they wanted to raise a crowd they got up a dogfight; after years, for that purpose they got up a monkey show; now, when they want to raise a big crowd, they send for Bryan—Colonel William Jennings Bryan—the great orator of the Platte. Like his prototype, a broad, rushing river covers a deal of ground; but, alas! too shallow to be navigable.

GRANDPA.

Unexpected Defense.

Indianapolis Journal.

Judge—Have you anything to say before the sentence is passed?

Burglar—Yes'r; if I'd a know'd that spinster lady had a dinner bell under 'er piller things 'd a come out diff'r'nt.

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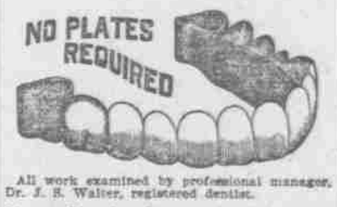

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