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IOWA.—THE APPROACH OF A TORNADO—A FAMILY SEEKING REFUGE IN A "CYCLONE SHELTER."
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FRANK LESLIE'S
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NEW YORK, JULY 4, 1885.

ECLECTIC METHODS OF STUDY.

THE college year is once more at an end. Not so the controversy concerning systems of study which it is most profitable to pursue; for this has raged more fiercely during the past year than ever before, and cropped out several times during the June Commencements. Whatever be the exact range which the discussion takes, the centre about which it revolves is the advisability of devoting a large portion of the students' four years to the classics. The argument for the preponderance of classical study is met by the argument for extending the field and allowing undergraduates a wide choice in the branches of learning they will pursue; but the question will at last be settled by public opinion—by the growing or waning popularity of eclectic colleges. If the institutions where a severe classical course is obligatory shall diminish in favor, they will modify the curriculum to correspond to the wishes of patrons, whatever may be the philosophical preference of a conservative Faculty.

It cannot be denied that the public mind is becoming more and more doubtful of the benefit of an inflexible classical course. Our oldest colleges were built on the model of the English. A hundred years ago, the classics were imperative, because there was no other education, except mathematics. It was necessary to learn Greek and Latin, because there was nothing else to learn. Since that time modern literature has been created. Science has been born, and has had a marvelous growth. The philosophy of history has been developed. And, more than all, a hundred new industrial arts have had their origin, and the laboratory has been made the nursery of a thousand devices for the promotion of the welfare of the race. Two or three centuries ago, John Milton or Francis Bacon could say, "Go to; I will learn everything!" and come very near doing it; but now no man can hope to attain more than a minute fragment of human knowledge. To-day, the agreeable man is the superficial man who has a smattering of the world's knowledge, and the useful man is the specialist who confines his investigations to a branch of a branch—to a narrow corner of a single department of research. A student cannot profitably study many things; his application should be thorough, and it should lie along the narrow line which he intends to follow in his life-work.

Probably there is not much difference in the value of various branches of study as a means of mental discipline; for the discipline of the mind depends not on the thing studied, but on the manner of prosecuting the study. It will scarcely be denied that Humboldt found sufficient mental discipline in physical science; or be claimed that the average college graduate gets very valuable intellectual training from his struggle with Livy and Cicero, Homer and Sophocles. Buckle got his severest mental discipline in the study of history, and Stuart Mill found his in the recondite philosophy of human relations—not in the dead languages. Of course most of the leading spirits of the eighteenth century were classical scholars, because that was the old world of thought, and they were then upon the threshold of the revival of learning; but how about the strongest thinkers and men of practical usefulness in succeeding generations?—Cobden and John Bright, Franklin, Morse, Greeley, Lincoln, Ericsson, Edison? The faculties may be quickened, strengthened, and trained to accuracy by persistent and systematic study in any direction; and while it is easy to understand the value of a study of languages, either ancient or modern, it is equally true that the college which bends its course of study to fit the altered conditions of modern life, and to equip its graduates for the sharp rivalry of material interests, will prove most widely acceptable, and gather to itself the largest constituency.

MR. MORRISON'S REAPPEARANCE.

REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM R. MORRISON, of Illinois, has lately been saying that, when Congress again convenes, he will introduce another Tariff Bill, providing for about the same reduction in amount that his horizontal Bill proposed. Mr. Morrison seems, at last, to have discovered that the people do not want a tape-line or mathematical reduction of import duties. But he leaves us, unfortunately, in the dark as to what guiding principles he will be governed by when he attempts once more to amend our present system of tariff taxation. A gentleman of undoubted intelligence, who has enjoyed many years of intimacy with the horizontal member, affirms that, if there is any one subject that the genial Prairie statesman knows nothing whatever about, that subject is the tariff. This may be a slander; but, in view of the large measure of influence which the probable Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means may exert on future legislation, would it not be well for him to devote the Summer and Autumn months to the acquisition of some elementary knowledge of tariffs in general as well as of duties in detail? If Mr. Morrison should

come to New York and visit the departments where import taxes are collected and assessed, he would learn that many articles are taxed at a loss of revenue. The amount of the tax is less than the cost of collecting it. Most Governments impose taxes to get revenue. Ours imposes some taxes to increase its debts. Taxation, which gets a Government more and more in debt, even Mr. Morrison must admit, ought to be stopped. What articles are taxed at a loss? Almost every Custom House clerk can furnish him a list of them.

There are a hundred costly luxuries that pay lower duties than a hundred common necessities. Does Mr. Morrison insist that the food of the poor, like rice, should pay just quadruple the tax of the jewelry of the rich? Does he hold generally that there should be discrimination in favor of luxuries and against necessities? If he does not believe that the laboring classes should pay relatively more taxes—that is, higher duties—than the wealthy classes, why, in the name of Justice, does he not frame a Tariff Bill that is equitable? The heaviest burdens should not be laid upon those who are least able to bear them. Taxation should bear some relation to the ability of the taxed to live under such exactions.

Mr. Morrison will learn, if capable of examining the records, that certain duties prevent the importation of certain merchandise, and hence prevent or defeat revenue and put an end to commerce, so far as the excluded goods are concerned. Prohibitive duties are condemned by all economic authorities and all men. Yet they are not condemned or removed by any Revised Tariff Act. They are the only so-called protective duties that never yield a dollar of revenue.

And we have raw products that are taxed higher under the existing tariff than the completely manufactured goods that are made from those products. This discrimination in favor of foreign manufacturers and against our own will probably be continued until wild Western statesmen, like Mr. Morrison, learn that cheap raw materials are the only materials that enable our people to manufacture at all.

THE SALISBURY MINISTRY.

THE Ministry formed by the Marquis of Salisbury is decidedly a hopeful omen for the future of the Conservative party of England. A little study of it reveals what a notable, if silent, change that party has undergone since Lord Beaconsfield left it in a state of emaculated docility. The younger spirits of the party who began to kick against the "old women" who led it after Beaconsfield's death have made an astonishing advance since the "fourth party" used to be snubbed by the benign Sir Stafford Northcote. Who would have predicted three years ago that the leader of this farcical fourth party, "Lord Randy Pandy," as he used to be called, that the saucy little lordling whom *Punch* used to caricature as a wasp, a Skye-terrier, or a buffoon, whom nobody treated seriously, would, on the first opportunity, be made a Minister, and not merely a Minister, but the occupant of one of the most important posts in the Cabinet—the Secretaryship of State for India, with a seat in the House of Commons?

The fact is, it is a Cabinet of the younger spirits of the party. Lord Salisbury, who is of the younger blood himself, seems to have made the Cabinet purposely big—of sixteen members, whereas Beaconsfield's was of eleven—in order to shelve as many of the older chiefs as possible without offending them. Poor Sir Stafford Northcote gets the First Lordship of the Treasury, which is a sinecure when not held as the nominal office of the Prime Minister, and he goes as a Peer to the Upper House, so as to be "out of harm's way" in the Commons. Lord Carnarvon, who used to be an active meddler in Indian affairs in the Disraeli days, is sent as Lord-lieutenant to Ireland, about which country he knows nothing, but where his natural amiability will probably make him acceptable to the Nationalists. Lord Cranbrook, the once doughty Gathorne Hardy, as President of the Council, is simply a figurehead. The Duke of Richmond, of course, is President of the Board of Trade, as he was before, but he has no seat in the all-important Lower House; neither has Lord John Manners, who is once more Postmaster-general.

On the other hand, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Lord Randolph Churchill, with Lord George Hamilton, Mr. Stanhope and Mr. Balfour, will form an "active" party in the House of Commons, in which old respectabilities like Sir Richard Cross and Mr. W. H. Smith will play second fiddles. It is a significant circumstance, too, that the man who has been appointed Lord Chancellor of Ireland, Mr. Gibson, one of the young party, has been given the unusual honor of a seat in the Cabinet at the same time.

Thus, in spite of all the misgivings, the Tories appear to have chosen a Cabinet of some possibility. Their task will be difficult, but their opportunity—if they are bold enough to seize it—will be great. They will probably experience but little trouble from the Russian question which all parties will be content to see shelved for a while where Mr. Gladstone left it. The cardinal question, in the General Election, as it has so often been, will be the Irish question. What will be done with Mr. Parnell, who will return with probably eighty members at his back, and who even now, from his place below the gang-

way, like Fate in a Greek tragedy, or like "The Parliamentary Warwick," as the *Pall Mall Gazette* has dubbed him, watches with inscrutable eyes the Ministers of his creation?

Already Sir Charles Dilke and Mr. Chamberlain, being out of office, are bidding for the Irishmen, and for English voters weary of the Irish question, by advocating "the widest measure of self-government for Ireland." Why should not the Tories outbid them, and, having "the prestige of being in office," go to the country with Home Rule out-and-out, and Lord Salisbury's Peasant Proprietary scheme to boot? It would be the policy of a daring politician—of Disraeli in a similar position—and in such a policy lies the Tories' only chance of resuming the seals of office after the contest in November.

OUR NATIONAL ANNIVERSARY.

THIS country has few holidays, while the nations of the Old World have many; but not one among the latter marks an event of such importance to the welfare of the human race as the Declaration of American Independence, whose fruits are seen not alone on this side of the Atlantic, but throughout the civilized world. There is not in all the wide world this day a single nation that has not experienced, in one way or another, its beneficent effects. It has weakened and relaxed the power of despotism everywhere; it has taught the masses of the people that they are endowed with inalienable rights, which kings and emperors are bound to recognize; it has kindled aspirations and awakened hopes in the breasts of men, long trodden down under the heel of power, that can never be destroyed, but that will wax stronger and stronger until the day of universal emancipation; it has inspired philosophers to higher and deeper thinking; it has kindled fires of philanthropy, no more to be extinguished; it has raised up prophets of freedom in all nations, whose clear discernment points us confidently to the time when the whole human family shall be united in one fraternity as children of a common Father.

We cannot see how any American citizen, contemplating these facts, can help being thrilled this day with a feeling of national pride, or fail to be inspired with a purpose to do what he may for the world's advancement. There are croakers, we know—happily, they are few and powerless—who tell us, with ominous head-shakings and an assumption of superior wisdom, that the appearances of improvement which fill us with such bright hopes are wholly illusive; that our fathers builded upon the sand; that the nation can only be saved by going back to the old doctrine that the few should govern the many; that universal suffrage is a cheat, and that the masses are not and cannot be made fit for self-government. On this day every patriotic orator will find in these pessimistic and reactionary prognostications a theme for both argument and satire. The Government of the United States is, indeed, far enough from being perfect; but we do not hesitate to say that it rests upon foundations broader, deeper and more enduring than those of any other upon the face of the earth. The principles of our immortal Declaration live in the hearts of the people, and are better understood now than at any previous time. Their power is seen in the overthrow of slavery, in the movement for the emancipation of woman, and in the earnest endeavors of thoughtful citizens to establish just relations between labor and capital. The grand achievements of science all tend to a clearer apprehension of the duties men owe to each other and to society, while the multiplying facilities for the education of the young are a prophecy of better things still to come. The underlying moral forces of the country are not diminishing, but augmenting, and they will prove mighty enough to cope with all the evils that beset the national life.

Let us, then, celebrate this day with pride and exultation, and with a renewed faith in the stability of the Republic; but at the same time with a patriotic resolution to do our whole duty as citizens of a Free Government.

THE CONGO FREE STATE.

CENTRAL AFRICA, which has been for ages a *terra incognita* to the rest of the world, has within recent years attracted a great deal of attention, and the labors of the pioneer explorers, Park, Bruce and Livingstone, have been so well supplemented by Stanley, Cameron, De Brazza, and other enthusiastic travelers, that the Dark Continent promises before long to become as well known to the outside world as many parts of our own continent or some of the countries of Europe. The enterprise and labors of Stanley in the Congo country, have been especially fruitful, resulting practically in the founding of the Free State of Congo, the constitution and status of which were recently determined by the Berlin Conference. The Conference has guaranteed the autonomy of the new State, its boundaries have been fixed, and trade is to be absolutely free, with the exception of a small duty on exports to pay the expenses of the Government. The slave trade will be abolished at its principal centre; missionaries are to be protected in the exercise of their religion, without distinction of creeds, and equal rights are to be secured to all nationalities in the neutralized basin of the Congo.

General H. S. Sanford, of Florida, ex-Minister to

AUTHENTIC ANTIQUE PRINT

1885

Date

AMERICAN HISTORY DEPICTED IN
ENGRAVINGS FROM ILLUSTRATED ANTIQUE
WEEKLIES

From the mid 1800's to the turn of the century, even before many could read, the extremely popular illustrated newspapers such as Harper's Weekly and Frank Leslie's Illustrated pictured the news and events of the times.

Special artist-correspondents were present at the event to accurately sketch the scene as it was making history. These sketches were rushed to the East Coast publishers whereby skilled artisans engraved them on wood blocks.

Within a week after the event the printed illustrated newspapers were in the public's hands. Today their value to collectors is twofold: as historically accurate records, and as exquisitely engraved works of art.