

and desirability of solitude, the vulgarity of a life passed in a crowd, the pious meaning of nature etc. The society of one's kind is necessary but nineteenth century usage has developed an immoderate appetite for crowds, whose constant presence shuts off the air from delicate plants. And the soul of a modern woman is a delicate growth, needing more sun-light, more air and more room than the owner is willing to allot it. The beautiful things of the world can not be moved into the house, mountains, sea, sky, trees, bushes, the velvet whispering grass are outdoors and belong to every one who will look. Elizabeth's deep content and thankfulness for the arrangement of the earth, the procession of seasons, for babies and flowers, and her toleration of inveterate, way-side weeds is medicine to women tired of the complex, puzzle of life. Elizabeth's books have the tonic effect of a vacation. They rest the eyes, so that familiar objects seem to be restored to their primary colors. The trees and grass are washed as in a shower, our customary *objets d'aver-sion* are, of a sudden, inoffensive, and the message of the Preacher gets a modern and a local applicability. It was not because she cared for an author's fame or distinction that Elizabeth wrote, but because of the need of expression that always moves so large and so receptive an intellect. So many books are written because the author has acquired a vocabulary and has experienced some emotions, that when one is found that has been written spontaneously and because the author had a message of importance which had chosen to be delivered through her, it is to be kept close at hand and read for very inspiration and encouragement through the days that cloy. Elizabeth's books suggest Pascal's *Pensées*, and Thoreau's *Walden*. They have the exaltation of the *Pensées* and the nature-worship of Thoreau without his misanthropy or heresies. And the Style! the Style! If the university teachers of belles lettres would consider Elizabeth's books as a model instead of the humour-barron Barrie or the artificial and self-conscious Meredith I am sure the change would be apparent in the pages of the *Kiote*, and in the greater lucidity and strength of the hundreds of novelists and poets annually instructed at the university.

Tommy & Grisel.

In the current number of *The Century* Tommy and Grisel written by Mr. Barrie, is concluded. Mr. Barrie is without the saving sense of humour. Tommy, his hero is choked to death by a spike which catches his coat collar when he tries to let himself down from a spiked garden wall, which he has scaled in pursuit of a woman whom he does not love, but who has piqued his vanity. There are books in which we read with composure of detestable characters. There are other books in which the detestable characters and the author are more closely related than father and son. This Tommy is an author who writes books that women read and appreciate. Tommy goes to London and is invited to receptions where the women surround him in the peculiar and familiar author-worship attitude. Tommy was born with a supreme love of himself. Never for a moment, has he forgotten himself and the monumental attitude he believes his genius entitles him to strike. He caught sight of himself in a mirror, when he was a baby, and he fell in love with himself and his loyalty never wavered thereafter. But the author admires the unmanly, conceited Narcissus.

No virile man ever admired anything like Tommy, but Mr. Barrie admires Tommy, therefore the inference is unavoidable that the author is in sympathy with Tommy. The close analysis of Tommy's thoughts is subjective, and the unpleasant embarrassment of confession interrupts admiration of the author's literary ability. Poetic justice demanded that Tommy should die an ignominious death and Mr. Barrie had the courage to kill his Narcissus whom all men hated and whom women loved. Grisel who is respectfully studied from the outside is a noble character sacrificed to Tommy's vanity. Why she loved him does not develop, but this is an old mystery. Tommy was one of those irritating people who talk about themselves and who continually fancy themselves doing great deeds in the view of admiring multitudes. He never really loved any one but himself though he believed that he was unselfishly devoted to his sister, who fed his vanity from a flickering flame to a steady, consuming fire.

The Election.

The voting on Tuesday was so much in favor of President McKinley, that by eight o'clock Mr. Bryan had gone to sleep after his three months' talk with only short intervals for food and sleep. It is fortunate for the whole country, democrats as well as republicans that the result was certain so early in the day. A long suspense of election returns has a bad effect on business, temper and all departments of human activity. Suspense of any sort has the same effect upon the nation as upon an individual. The four months of oratory, fireworks, street arguments, street brawls, conditional bargain-making, and monopoly by politics of the newspapers is strain enough upon the American people without a prolongation of the tension after the votes have actually been cast.

Republicans rejoice in the fact, that though some democrats are a trifle disappointed, and all populists bitterly regret the overwhelming verdict of the American people against Mr. Bryan, the re-election of President McKinley will benefit all-America. Democrats and populists will share equally with republicans in firmly established confidence at home and abroad. The insurgents in the Philippines will now more quickly recognize the beneficent purposes of the United States towards their island and the expediency of agreeing with the point of view of the American congress on expansion.

The United States is growing. It began to grow as a federation, soon after the adoption of the articles of confederation and territorial expansion has proceeded steadily since that time, always against the protest of democrats or their antecedent representatives. Expanding production seeks larger markets and this force has opened a new market for American products in the locality of least resistance—the Orient. The trans-Atlantic markets are nearer Europe and England, Germany, France and all the Mediterranean coast traders have the advantage of nearness. The trans-Pacific market is ours by reason of the same natural law in the commercial world. The immense territory and the impassive millions of China are waiting, though they know it not for American development. We will do nothing worse to China and the Philippines than trade with them in open competition with the nations of the world. Open, that is, as far as law is concerned. America has unfair advantages over the rest of the world in climate, productiveness of

soil, vast extent of territory, a hustling population and McKinley for president. Handicapped by these points in favor of her competitor, Europe has not the prospects for the coming four years that America has.

With a President whose administration has been tried at the last court of appeal, and pronounced good by the overwhelming judgment of the people, American influence will expand more rapidly under the assurance of the entire approval of the citizenship. To be right and to be president has its compensations. But when the nation rises up as it did on Tuesday and acclaims the administration, it doubtless cheers the human being who occupies the most exalted position in the world. He is only a man and the heartiness and real affection of his justification by his neighbors in Canton, by the citizens of Ohio, and by the inhabitants of the United States, is heartening to our quiet dignified, able President.

Evils of Boss Supremacy.

Enough democrats voted for the Thompson delegates to the legislature to counteract the votes of those republicans who fully realize the danger of conferring power upon an unscrupulous and unpatriotic boss. A very large number of the republican voters trusted in the judgment of the state at large, believing that the fears of Lincoln and Lancaster are unfounded. The confidence reposed in the delegates to the legislature from other counties of the state is not especially complimentary to our own people. But there is every indication that the city of Lincoln and the county of Lancaster expects every man outside this favored locality to do his incorruptible duty. This conduct is safe and politic like that of the man who is continually urging a newspaper publisher or a political speaker to "hit him again." Spectators like to see the guilty punished so long as their own precious persons are out of danger.

The Courier's comments upon Mr. Thompson and his record have been made because the editor considers that the supremacy of such a man is a menace to the health of the community and that the firm establishment of a boss with no political opinions and no scruples is worse than open defeat from democrats and populists.

The Consumers' League.

Almost every account of state federation meetings records one session devoted to the discussion and exposition of the objects and history of the Consumers' League. Manufacturers whose articles are made in properly ventilated, warmed and lighted rooms by employes who are paid salaries they can live on are allowed to stamp their products with the stamp of the Consumers' League. This stamp indicates that these conditions have been complied with. The movement threatens the sweat-shop system and hopes to exterminate it. So long as woman's love of bargains deadens her sense of humanity and of pity for those who make their living by underpaid work in wretched surroundings, the influence of the League will be restricted. Just as soon as the Millennium comes, though, the League will accomplish the object for which it was organized.

Business Men and Politics.

When state or city officers default business men whose effect upon politics is limited to their vote, are apt to blame the politicians for their very bad judgment in nominating unreliable men. There are more men actively

engaged in the prosecution of some industry than there are politicians who make a living out of politics. Without the acquiescence of the business men, candidates with shameful records cannot be nominated. It is not enough on election day to deposit a ballot. The man who really cares how his country's affairs are conducted will take an interest in the primaries and do his best to help nominate honest and able candidates. If he stays in his store or office while the bottoms are selecting a man from their acquaintance who has earned the job he has no right to object, but he invariably and bitterly does object. If unworthy candidates meant only stealing from the people, it might be of no great consequence. The influence of the saloon when unrestricted, as in boss ridden cities, endangers the morals, health and life of the new generation as well as its patrimony. The men who expect to make nothing out of politics, who conscientiously vote their convictions whether democratic or republican, who live honorable lives in the sight of their fellow-men and yet who avoid politics as a slum are in the large majority and it is in their power to regenerate any community.

The men and women who are opposed to Mr. Thompson as a candidate for the United States senate have no axe to grind, they are not seeking any office, their services are gratuitous, and their motives pure. They are accused of malicious jealousy of a truly noble man and of a desire to thwart his generous designs upon the people of Nebraska, but the history of the last ten years is written, Mr. Thompson has played a conspicuous part and the record is plain. It is this history by which he will be tried. If elected by the Nebraska legislature it will be because Nebraska no longer cares how she is represented in the senate of this country.

No More Fourth of July. Possibly No More Christmas.

"The fight this year will be to carry out the sentiment of that song we have so often repeated, 'My Country, 'Tis of Thee;' if we lose, our children and our children's children will not succeed to the spirit of that song, and celebrations of the Fourth of July will pass away, for the spirit of empire will be upon us."—W. J. Bryan, in welcoming the Bryan Home Guards and Traveling Men's Club on their return from the national convention, July 7, 1900.

Why It Happened.

Democratic politicians are explaining the defeat of Tuesday. Many think that if Bryan had stayed at home, his majorities would have been larger. A president, even a president in prospect, is too exalted a personage to go about the country for several months, speaking at cross roads and saying so many things that some of them must be false. As, for instance, that saying of Bryan's in Chicago that fifty per cent of the voters in the north could not read the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution of the United States. Mr. Bryan's camaraderie with Croker is regarded by democrats as another reason for the difference between his vote now and in 1896. Mr. Bryan's attitude from the first has been that of disinterested