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SHAKESPEARIAN SERMON

(Continued from page 1.)

their bodies. Their faculties are still bright. They are sinking suns it is true, but the sinking sun may be gloriously beautiful.

Gratiano, in the "Merchant of Venice," was a somewhat coarse philosopher, a man given to babbling, but there was much wisdom in his advice to let old age come on with mirth and laughter. Healthy mirth is the sunshine of life, laughter is the music of existence. Old wrinkles and grey hairs are bound to come to those who live the allotted three score and ten years or over, but they are suggestive of the grave only when accompanied by a gloomy spirit. When a number of weeping philosophers are together pessimistically moralizing, to enter their society is like entering a damp building or tomb. A buoyant spirit comes among them with mirth and laughter. What a change! The pessimists become optimists; the very room in which they are seems to grow warmer. There are men who are able by their smiles and the spirit of mirth that twinkles in their eyes to warm large audiences.

So much is buoyancy of spirit valued by mankind that a light heart may be said to cover a multitude of sins. Why is it that the learned and unlearned, the righteous and unrighteous, have all shown a fondness for that immoral old reprobate, Sir John Falstaff? He was the "prince of humorists," as Professor R. G. Moulton calls him; therein lies the secret. He has for three hundred years made men laugh. His mirth is contagious, there was never any unmannerly sadness about "old Jack."

Shakespeare frequently refers to the tonic influence of mirth. "A light heart lives long" are excellent words to have in mind. A gloomy spirit congeals the blood; a happy disposition warms the heart, and moreover warms every other heart with which it comes into contact. Plants deprived of the sunlight grow pale and wilt; men who know not mirth have a living death. A buoyant spirit strengthens legs and shortens miles. There was much philosophy in the song of Autolycus in the "Winter's Tale":

"A merry heart goes all the day,
Your sad tires in a mile-a."

Sailors pulling on ropes sing merrily. Why? Labor is lightened by song. The reaper in the field forgets the slow-footed hours when song shortens his work-day, and as when Wordsworth heard the Highland girl sing at her work, the passer-by may have his life permanently brightened and be able to say with the poet,

"The music in my heart I bore
Long after it was heard no more."

A happy song gives courage and lays ghosts; buoyant music has won many battles. Mirth and sadness, joy and anger have a powerful physical effect on humanity. How forcibly is this expressed in the line,

"Unquiet meals make ill digestion."
Wrangling and gloomy looks take away the appetite: "Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith." The inspired Shakespeare and the inspired writer of the Book of Proverbs have stated the same truth in different terms. Unless the mind and heart are at ease the most sumptuous repast will be disappointing, whereas the happy heart will be content with a crust. The weeping philosopher who "hears men's tales and smiles not," how he is stunned!

There is no reason why any man with life should "sit like his grand-sire cut in alabaster," or allow his face to take on "a tartness" that would "sour ripe grapes." When trouble comes, smile! it will banish tears. When visited with lots of fortune, smile! it will enable you to face the battle of life once more. When the mind is fagged and depressed, smile! it is an excellent stimulant. When the nerves are on edge and the body languid, smile! it is a splendid tonic. It is not necessary to go through existence babbling and hysterically laughing, but the ideal life is one in which the wisdom of years is combined with a boyish lightness of heart.

HINTS TO FARMERS.

Farmers should now be thinking about treating their seed for the prevention of smut. It is a well known fact that every year a large toll is taken from the return from oats and wheat through this disease which can be avoided easily and cheaply. The Report of the G. College gives several methods of treating oats or wheat for smut, the first of which is immersion in Blue Stone solution for 12 hours. In this treatment one lb of Blue Stone dissolved in 25 gallons of water. Another treatment is sprinkling with Blue Stone solution, "1 lb of Blue Stone to 10 gals. of water. The solution should be sprinkled over the heap, after which the heap should be shovelled over and over, so that each kernel would be moistened. Formalin is also used; one half pint of Formalin poured into 5 gals. of water and sprinkled over the heap, after which the heap would be thoroughly mixed up so as to moisten all the kernels. The grain should then be sown as soon as possible afterwards. Formalin can be purchased at 1c per pint and Blue Stone at 15c per lb. Seed potatoes should also be treated with either Blue Stone or Formalin for the prevention of scab.

The Farmer's Advocate of April 16th, contains on page 596 a spray calendar compiled by Prof. Caesar of the O. A. College. This is the time of year when Fruit Growers should be thinking of spraying. Any person not taking the Farmer's Advocate or not having a spray calendar should write the Dept. of Agriculture at Charlottetown.

The oyster shell bark louse is very prevalent on apple trees in the Province. Although these insects are very small they are so numerous that they kill the tree in the course of three or four years. They can be destroyed by spraying with the Lime Sulphur Wash at winter strength. This is the time to prepare for it. The Wash must be applied before the buds burst. Bulletins on this subject can be had at the Dept. of Agriculture.

Do You Feel All Tired Out?
 Do You Feel Dull And Listless?
 Have You That All-Gone, No-Ambition,
 Don't-Care-to-Work Feeling
 If So You Have Spring Fever

BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS

Is Without a Doubt

The Best Spring Medicine

It Has Been Used by Thousands Every
 Spring for Over Thirty Years as
 A SPRING MEDICINE

Every Woman Knows

how necessary it is to use good flour in order to obtain the best results in baking. It is no more costly to use the best flour than it is to use one of inferior grade—and the results are not to be compared. Flours are usually milled for bread making or pastry making, not for both, and that is where the housewife is put to unnecessary inconvenience and expense.

"BEAVER" FLOUR

is not only the best bread flour, but is the best pastry flour. It is a careful, scientific blend of the rich, nutritious Manitoba Spring wheat and the wheat from which the best pastry flour in the world is made—Ontario Fall wheat.

BEAVER FLOUR contains the gluten of the Manitoba wheat that gives nourishment to the system and the properties of the Ontario wheat that make the lightest and whitest rolls and the most delicate pastry.

Baking is a pleasure with BEAVER FLOUR, for the results are unvaryingly good, and you have only one sack of flour to buy, to make the best looking, best tasting and most nutritious bread and the lightest cakes and pastry.

It makes more loaves to the barrel than any other flour, and relieves you of all anxiety as to how the bread or pastry will turn out. Get it from your grocer, and convince yourself.

DEALERS—Write for prices on Feed, Coarse Grains and Cereals. 97

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