

SYMPATHIE

Ma muse sommeillait, mon luth était paisible,
J'aurais, pour acclamer tes succès tout récents,
Cherché longtemps en vain la note de mes chants :
Voilà que ta douleur fait mon ame sensible.

A ton pauvre foyer, déjà trop dégarni,
A peine le bonheur allait-il apparaître,
Qu'un funeste destin y vint s'asseoir en traitre,
Imposant à ton cœur un si cruel déni.

L'impitoyable sort—funeste destinée !—
Voulut que ton beau front, couronné le matin,
Vint se pencher, le soir, trop précocement orphelin,
Pour pleurer, le départ de l'affectionnée !

Et je te vis, hélas ! courbé près du cercueil
Qui retenait captif l'objet de tes tendresses ;
Ton noble cœur brisé d'angoisses, de tristesses,
Attendrissait le mien : . . . je porte aussi mon deuil !

Puisque tes pleurs pieux firent couler mes larmes,
Et puisque ta douleur évoque ma douleur,
Permet donc que ce chant froid, amer comme un pleur,
Fasse à mon ami : partager tes alarmes.

Mais ceux qui sont partis, qui vivent dans les cieux,
Sont maintenant, tu sais, nos anges tutélaires,
Malgré que leur départ nous laisse solitaires :
La foi nous dit, chrétiens, qu'ils entendent nos vœux.

Puis, la-haut est un Dieu—c'est le meilleur des pères !—
Qui veille sur chacun et prend soin de nos cœurs :
Oui, sous l'épine aigue il met toujours des fleurs :
Pour Mère il nous donna la plus tendre des mères !

SOYONS SEULEMENT CATHOLIQUES

(Voici ce que dit "l'Observateur Romano," traduit et reproduit par la "Semaine Religieuse" de Cambrai :

Une grande et belle parole a été dite par M. Carton de Wiart au Congrès de la Ligue démocratique en Belgique. Parlant de la nécessité de l'union entre les catholiques, M. Carton de Wiart a demandé qu'on laissât de côté les surnoms, les adjectifs, vu qu'il suffit de se dire catholique, et rien que catholique.

Une fois qu'il est admis et reconnu—comme cela l'est en réalité—que la doctrine catholique est une doctrine complète et parfaite, à laquelle on ne peut rien ajouter et d'où l'on ne peut rien retrancher, il en résulte logiquement et nécessairement qu'il faut aussi admettre une chose : c'est qu'un nom de catholique, à ce substantif, il n'y a rien à ajouter, rien à retrancher.....

Et alors, pourquoi établir tant de catégories de catholiques : libéraux, démocrates, sociaux et même socialistes ? Il est certain que ces subdivisions par voie de qualificatifs, de noms et de surnoms entre catholiques, si elles n'entraînent pas de différence substantielle dans les idées et dans les aspirations, elles produisent une confusion grave [non levée] dans les mots, qui très facilement devient une confusion funeste dans les idées et dans les faits.

Il arrive en effet, souvent, que l'adjectif prend le dessus sur le substantif dans les idées et dans les faits, et ainsi il peut arriver très facilement que l'on soit plus "libéral" que catholique, plus "démocrate" que catholique, et même que l'on soit ce que signifie le qualificatif, avant d'être ce que comporte le nom lui-même.

On a fait valoir avec beaucoup de raison l'exemple du Centre catholique allemand. Les catholiques allemands ne sont pas divisés et subdivisés en catholiques conservateurs, démocrates, économiques, sociaux. Ils ont été toujours et ils se sont toujours proclamés catholiques et rien que cela ; c'est pourquoi leur union a toujours été et est encore cordiale, compacte et inaltérable.....

Ce grand nom de catholique n'engendrant aucun doute, ne produit aucune confusion, comme peuvent le faire des sermons ambigus, des adjectifs indécis.

Il y a bien lieu de craindre que la maudite secte, plus possédée que jamais par le démon de mensonge et de la division, ne soit appliquée à inventer de nouveaux vocables, à introduire de nouvelles dénominations dans le camp des catholiques

pour créer des erreurs et des illusions pour amener des divisions—comme elle y a déjà réussi en parti quand elle a prétendu distinguer les cléricaux des catholiques.

Ce serait chose malheureuse que, avec les meilleures intentions du monde, par le seul fait d'accepter que des adjectifs soient joints au nom de catholique, on de changer en simple adjectif ce grand substantif,—on fit le jeu de ceux qui, ne réussissant pas à diviser entre eux les catholiques, en matière de convictions et de sentiments au moyen de fausses doctrines, essaient de les diviser dans l'action et dans les œuvres au moyen d'adjectifs superflus de surnoms équivoques.

Prenons bien garde, car le diable est très rusé. Alors qu'il est si nécessaire de tenir bien unies, compactes, les forces catholiques, alors qu'il ne faut point perdre ni mettre hors de combat la moindre de ces forces, nous devons éviter avec soin tout danger d'altérer, de rompre, n'importe comment, cette admirable, cette indispensable union.

Il semble que, en pareilles circonstances, on ne peut pas reculer même devant les plus grands sacrifices.

En l'occurrence, le sacrifice est plutôt léger ; il ne s'agirait que de sacrifier un mot, un adjectif, un surnom lequel d'un côté pourrait faire soupçonner une division qui n'existe pas, et d'un autre côté, pourrait amener cette division, par une déplorable conséquence.

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President Tuttle on the Proposed New Freight Schedule.

In a recently published interview, President Lucius Tuttle of the Boston & Maine Railroad effectually disposes of the so-called "Baltimore plan" to reorganize the present basis of freight schedules adopted by the railroads of the United States by substituting a tariff of so much per ton per mile.

This scheme is the outgrowth of an effort on the part of the business men of Baltimore to forestall any unfavorable result upon the export trade of that city growing out of the enforced dissolution of the Joint Traffic Association, and it is announced that they intend to petition Congress to enact a law placing railroad freight rates on that revolutionary basis.

President Tuttle, while pointing out that the idea is wholly impracticable, and giving as his opinion that it will be a long time before the present "block" system of making railroad freight tariffs in this country is superseded by any other arrangement, at the same time presents some logical and forceful arguments in favor of the large railroad systems, of which the Boston & Maine is itself an excellent example.

In the course of his statement, Mr. Tuttle says : "Competition between roads brings about that rate-cutting which may prove disastrous to those for whose benefit it was ostensibly devised. The competition here is no longer that of one town against another, but a contest in which New England is pitted against every part of the country in the attempt to market its products and manufactures in every part of the world. A great system of railroads can give to every customer upon its line equal territorial facilities for marketing its goods, and through its connections with similarly powerful systems makes its customers competitors everywhere under the most advantageous conditions. The effort of the railway manager today is directed to the cheapening of rates so that his customers can get their goods into the markets of the world so as to compete with those situated upon other systems, rather than to get more money out of the shippers or receivers upon his line. Thus the competition becomes territorial rather than local, and a great system, embracing a section, can best deal with the question and give those within its jurisdiction the better and cheapest service."

"The railroad business is not in a satisfactory way, notwithstanding the efforts of the Interstate Commission and the use of various expedients from which much was expected. The solution of the problem is one that taxes the ingenuity of practical railroad men and they are very much at a loss what to do. It is reasonable to suppose that others who possess no natural aptitude for the work or experience in it, can settle this matter as is proposed by the Baltimore plan ? When each section of the country has its own transportation system whose interests in establishing fair rates would be as great as the maintenance of them afterward, then will the troubles now complained of disappear largely and a better state of things prevail for everyone concerned."

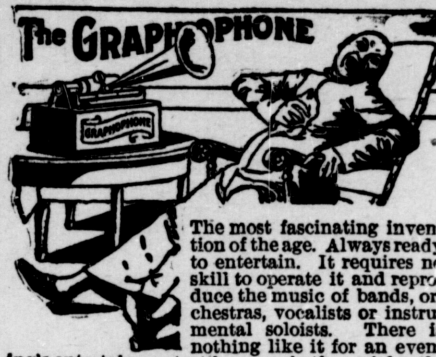
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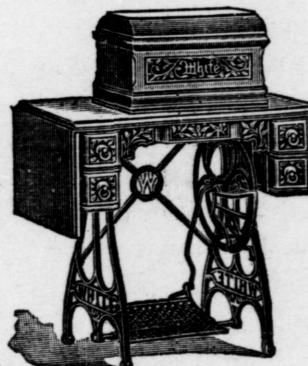
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