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Justitia Progressus Sum

Martha McClellan Brown

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THANKSGIVING DAY

Poems of Nature, No. 10



BY DR. JOHN ROBERTSON.

November skies are dull and gray,
The withered leaves are falling;
The flowers have long since passed away,
And Winter's voice is calling.

When youthful joys have passed away—
When Age to me is calling—
The skies of life are dull and gray,
And friends, like leaves, are falling.

But falling leaves reveal the hoard
Of nuts and fruits abounding,
And Nature's wealth, profusely poured,
The Maker's praise is sounding.

When life's November comes to me,
When leaves and flowers have faded,
Let me not stand a barren tree
By somber skies o'ershaded.

May the full year's uncounted sums
Of good make me remember
That glad Thanksgiving rightly comes
This dull month of November.

When past is springtime's transient glow,
And summer's joys I've tasted,
May ripened fruits remain to show
That life has not been wasted.

So let me live that I may say,
When flowers and leaves have with-
ered,
That life's most blest Thanksgiving Day
Is when the sheaves are gathered.

Justitia Progressus Sum

BY MRS. M. McCLELLAN BROWN, INTERNATIONAL CHANCELLOR, INTER-
NATIONAL ORDER OF GOOD TEMPLARS.

TRUMPHANTLY the Star of Empire makes its way. Four other States are added to the six in the blue field of a complete democracy. Ten States now where masculine superiority is no longer politically *assumed*: Arizona, Michigan, Oregon, and Kansas are the new acquisitions. The ten great free States which constitute the only pure democracy of our country are Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Michigan, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. These create a *new balance of power* in national issues which will force all political parties to take notice.

According to Blackstone, "A pure democracy where the right of making laws resides in all the people, public virtue or good intent is more likely to be found than either of the other qualities of government." These qualities will be coveted by politicians seeking place.

Wisconsin also voted on the subject of woman's franchise, and like Ohio men, had not the courage of justice. It requires a really noble character to be just when it implies sharing of privileges. The men of these two States are found in the gorgeous procession trundling along in their personally-made little go-carts behind

the Chinese chariot of modern progress. We do not laugh at them for the same reason that we do not laugh at the small boy emulating the automobile on his street by a trundle wagon of his own manufacture. The men and the boy are equally sincere: they are equally ignorant of the real momentum of modern progress. Alas, my countrymen! befuddled by the sophistries of a so-called Liberal League.

Freedom is of the spirit and can not be apprehended by those who live only in the material and sensuous spheres of action. They are "born free and equal" truly, because their mothers were free and equal before, even though they have been classed below the African and on a level with idiots and criminals. These mothers are over-living the base classification and inspiring a spirit of nobility among men that will not take a civic honor forbidden to their wives and mothers.

Masculinity is not a special gift carrying authority any way. It is merely an *accident*; and the power of its mother is far superior to its highest civic assumptions. The psychological meaning of this movement towards constitutional justice is that men are thinking more independently: not plunging along the highways of political aspirants for place and power without regard to righteous principles. This is the natural result of better learning and broader views of world politics.

Men are coming to see that masculine government is not democratic, since it does not afford equal opportunity in the "pursuit of happiness," equal conditions for civic rights for service and rewards, equal distribution of privileges and honors to the capable and worthy. They see that native power is without sex distinction. They see that civil superiority of men is not endowment, it is not natural, it is not seemly, it is not wise, it is not courtly for men who are supposed to be sovereign, and as gentlemen they decline further to act like barbarians or Turks by assuming powers, civil or otherwise, never given to them by mothers or wise men or God.

We are not rising to thank them for a gracious gift. We are rejoicing with them that they have stepped out of the ridiculous position they had so long occupied, where we were ashamed of their over-riding their own interests, and trampling on their wives' and mothers' opportunities, rights, and privileges, without seeming to know the fact that these are as sacred and Godgiven to women as to the honored fathers to whom "taxation without representation was tyranny." Daughters as well as sons have inherited the honored spirit of independence and true patriotism, and will enjoy much as their brothers the chance of expressing their opinion at the forum of public verdict.

QUATRAINS

BY SUSIE M. BEST.

The Woman's Cause

All unaffrighted she pursues her course,
Let chance what will, her strength can
cope with it;
She can not fail—God is Himself her
Source,
The Power she draws upon is infinite.

The Perfect Law

The Perfect Law must be fulfilled,
The Law of Love and Brotherhood;
This end all serve, and none may swerve
From toiling to the Goal of Good.