

Looking Back from Retirement

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Stephen Leacock

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Looking back from Retirement

Slutskan

I was retired, — or rather I was fired on ~~the~~ grounds of senility, — last year from the college where I had been a professor for thirty five years. Before that I had been a schoolmootie for ten years making ⁱⁿ all ^{five} forty years of teaching. On this ~~more~~ ^{pretext} ground, I was invited to go

9) In other words I am what is called a professor emeritus, — from the Latin, e, 'out' and meritus, 'so he ought to be'. These old professors ^{go drifting} ~~are drifted~~ out of the college, so may every year, as when

The harness is slipped off old horses
 as they go ^{wandering} down into the pasture.
 The world is always ^{kindly} about it.

When they leave there is always a
 gentle porter that was in retirement
 they will do great things. "Professor ^{Rameses}"
 we understand will now ^{at} last have

time to complete his monumental work
 "the Assyrian choirs"
 # in Egypt. He now, he wants: not

all evening ^{would} with to exist ^{for that} But
 he'll sit there ^{in front of a blotter} in front of a blotter in his
 study & his wife will pour the ^{ink hot beside} ink hot beside

him ^{and through} ~~and through~~ the open door will
 come the scent of the ^{them will late summer} flies
 will buzz around his ^{his} head! No, no, he'll never
 finish. Look, he's asleep already.

of Dr of another ^{professor} ~~professor~~ ^{eventually} it is said "we
understand that ^{professor} ~~with~~ ^{his} ~~own~~ ^{interests}, now
that he is free, to devote himself to
journalism! ^{Yes?} will he! That ^{only} means

that he'll ^{sit} ~~at~~ ^{read} the ^{news} ~~papers~~ ^{also}
all ^{morning} in a ^{barber} ~~shop~~ ^{shop} ^{But} ^{notice} ~~Bar~~ ~~notice~~

that kind little touch "now that he is
free.." The idea is that the old fellow
has been ^{held} ~~held~~ ^{back} for all kinds

of ^{accomplishment} ~~accomplishment~~, ^{once} ~~once~~ ^{he} ~~he~~ ^{him} ~~him~~ ^{has} ~~has~~
^{and} he's ^{supposed} ~~supposed~~ to dash off ^{at} ~~at~~ ^{tremendous} ~~tremendous~~
pace! ^{It} ~~It~~ ^{reminds} ~~reminds~~ me of ~~some~~ ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{old}

days when we used ^{to} ~~to~~ ^{hire} ~~hire~~ a
horse & buggy at ^a ~~a~~ ^{living} ~~living stable & the
livery ^{man} ~~man~~ ^{would} ~~would drag the ^{horse} ~~horse~~ ^{out,} ~~out, ^{shouting} ~~shouting~~
- ^{sturdy} ~~sturdy~~~~~~~~

Whoa! Whoa there!

(4)

Whoa! whoa! ~~as if it was a~~

~~close call to fall to get~~

as slow as his head

while we got in ^{as} if it were a

^{close} plan ~~than~~ call for life to drive behind

that horse; ^{he let go with} then, ^{the final} "Whoa!

Back! ^{get up} ^{Whoa!}!" The old horse

^{hadn't} didn't shy to shake the fly

net. So with the performers, - complete

then ^{study} slow of Horace! - ^{bring} Then word

and ^{chatter, dizzy} ^{believe it -} got up to get! Don't believe

- ^{autumn horses} ^{stagger} ^{falling} "Whoa!

Back! get up!

if I recall ^{long} ago the ^{resignation} resignation

of one ^{one} ^{one} day the performers, ^{and} as have

got up
~~gave~~ a dinner party. I sat
 next to him as I said, "I suppose
 now you'll be able to complete
 your translation of Faust?" as he
 said "Eh?". I said, "You will be
 able to complete your translation of
 Faust?" "What?" he shouted, "Faust!"
 I yelled, "No thanks, he called
 of back, I've had plenty." ~~Two~~ An
 idea struck ^{me} as so I took the
 dinner card in front of me and wrote
 "Faust" on it as fast as I could
 and put it in front of him. "I can't read it," he
 shouted.

So in your case it is taken ^{warning} wrong

(6)

When people say to me "You'll be
able now to finish your book on the
History of Intellectual Theory" I answer, "To
hell with it!"

If they're a crew of the old professors;
I suppose that forty or fifty years in the
little empire of the class ^{room} is bound to
affect a man's character & make-up. In
^{business} ~~business~~ there are certain standards, certain
^{normal} ~~normal~~ ways of talking & dressing and
acting that all men have to fall into
as part of business life. For ^{not} ~~not~~ with
the professors. Take their dress; they've
^{never} ~~never~~ thought about it. As young ^{men} they
had no money. When we had the time

⑦
they had, they ^{lost} lost by sustain ^{what} what
in it, and ^{so they buy} buy them ^{up} up sporadically
as the whim seizes them. I recall
from many days as a ^{Chicago} Chicago student
^{forty} forty years ago, the case, it rather the
appearance of a ^{very} very distinguished old prof
who ^{came} came ^{over} up from England to teach
some kind of dead language. It was in
the summer quarters. He wore a ^{wore} ~~a~~ ^a
and straw hat. He ^{kind} knew that kids
were, a black may coat with tails (that
was a little ^{bit} bit of London), a pair
of duck pants (that stood for the
sea) and a pair of ox-blood tanned
boots that were meant to ^{represent} ~~stand~~ for the
^{eager} ~~new~~ like a ^{newer} content. You see, if you

analyse that costume, then life in
 every bit explicit. The white parts, ^{were} for the
 foam of the sea, - he got them, ^{no doubt,} the day
 Sir Thomas Lipton ^{invited} him ^{on his} yacht.
 The London morning coat meant Piccadilly and
 the fashion of the day, - it was all there.

Add to it as the last ^{touch} a string
 tie, to recall the Confederate ^{campaign} in
 Mississippi, as there you have the man! I
 remember that he, ^{evidently} looked on Sewall as
 pretty natively dressed, (only an
 up-to-date piece of chocolate. The
 case is ^{actual} always: a copy of ^{of the} Chicago
 of the late nineties ^{could} give you the
 person's name; or no, they ^{they'd} could not, then ^{they'd} they;
 have forgotten it. The files are
 busy ^{round} another too.

9

If in other words forgotten, if they go on
long enough, turn into "Character" I
remember how just before I crashed →

fluff.

most

Humor &

Character

¶ Much of what has found about professors
 is ^{naturally} ~~probably~~ ^{true} the ^{same} ^{thing} but of
 all ad men. Mac nonense, ^{and guff,} has been
 rather about old age than ^{time} day hours
 & life. Cicero, when his hair began to
 fall out, wrote a whole ^{book} "On old age".

Rabb Ben Ezra, — ^{in Browning} ^{is} ^{it?} — said

"So old age with me but is set to
 be!" as the same note has been struck

a thousand times, and will ^{never} ^{blend}

^{into} ^{chord} with a chord. Cicero and the rest talk of

the ^{'serenity'} ^{'serenity'} of old age, — in fact, a 'serene

old age has been a phrase in all our

^{ways} ^{'Serene Admen'} ^{you} ^{ever} ^{seen}

one of them is a limper, — because he would ^{lose}

a sudden temper

find his fishing line, which lost his
^{ever-stark} ~~perhaps~~ pencil. Old age is ^{supposed} to be
 quiet, ^{restful} ~~restful~~, and ^{peace} ~~peace~~ with ^{all} the world.

Don't believe it! Old men live in a
 world of ^{remembrance} ~~remembrance~~. At a ~~small~~ ^{small} ~~sniff~~, they
 are ~~sure~~ ^{sure} ~~sure~~ ^{sure} ~~the~~. The ~~world~~ ^{world} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~closing~~ ^{closing} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~on~~
 him. ^{They} ~~They~~ ^{feel} ~~feel~~ ^{that} ~~that ^{they} ~~they ^{are} ~~are ^{going} ~~going~~ ^{to} ~~to~~ ^{be} ~~be~~ ^{overwhelmed}
 at ^{any} ~~any~~ ^{minute} ~~minute~~ ^{by} ~~by~~ ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{terrible} ~~terrible~~ ^{changes}, —
 Bolsheviks, labour ^{agitators} ~~parties~~, Mussolini —
^{anything} ~~anything~~! I ^{remember} ~~remember~~ a year or two ago, one
 such ^{aging man} ~~aging man~~ stopped me in the street, an old
 man, ~~not~~ ^{just} ~~just~~ ^{old} ~~old~~ ^{enough} ~~enough~~ ^{to} ~~to~~ ^{be} ~~be~~ ^{getting} ~~getting~~ ^a
 nice shake on him ~~even~~ ^{when} ~~when~~ ^{he} ~~he ^{stood}
 upright: in fact he had himself ^{buttoned} ~~buttoned~~ ^{up} ~~up~~ ^{and}~~~~~~~~

pretty high in ^{his} collar ^{neckerchief} neckerchief". These
 Bolsheviks!" He said, "These Bolsheviks,
 They'll overrun the whole world, - mark
 y' marks, we'll live to see it!" Well,
 he didn't anyway; he blew up the next
 week.

// And if it's not foul in days it's
 private ones, - the danger to themselves, & to
 that poor old lady that walks with a
 shadow figure beside it. Do you realize
~~that~~ by dear your friends, who reads these
 lines in the car ^{twenties} that for old
 people the world is full of death. Those
 notices that you have look at, those
 obituaries, & what seems to be an old
 people dropping off, - and why shouldn't they?

That ~~the~~ ^{them} ~~is~~ ^{is} this world ^{going} ~~is~~ out, —
 one ^{or} ~~one~~, — people ^{waiting} ~~waiting~~ to be called
 across a gang way, — ~~so~~ so many names
 called every day. Youth is careles
 & death. It is the price at which
 human lives. Woodworth, you remember,
 said it; — "a subtle child that ~~lives~~
 draws its ^{breath} ~~breath~~ ^{and} ~~and~~ feels its life in
 my limb what can it know of death?"
 The Captain ^{Harry Graham} ~~Harry Graham~~, the Greek
 Remoist & history (a tear to his
 memory) said it with ^{ever} ~~ever~~ greater point
 in the little verse "Grandpapa fell
 down the sewer, that's one grandpapa
 the fewer!" To people of insight and
 philosophy, Harry Graham's stanza is ~~far~~

reaches further than Wordsworth's sentimentality
 Wordsworth is putting his own ideas into
 the child, - you recall, ^{no doubt,} how
 the we-are-seven poem runs along
 "~~the~~ in its cheerful disunion ^{in a}
 chuck and, - and often after ^{sunset} ~~subter~~
 when all is light and fair, I
 take my little porridge and eat my
 supper there! " Nonsense! - the Wordsworth,
 as an old man might take a little
 porridge, provided he took it regularly
 and not to near bed time, but the child
 wouldn't.

A little porridge, that strikes ^{again} ~~stroke~~ against the
 note of the ^{terrors} ~~humour~~ of old men: they're
 wearing out, they're running down and so they

(16)

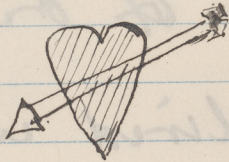
The 'death bug' that ticks ^{beside} sticks ^{beside}
the consciences, so that they feel the flight
of time as it goes ~~by~~ by, — carrying a
scale of hours & days such as your people
cannot inquire. It is as if ^{one} looks
down an avenue, all lined with ^{even} ever
trees, — a little mist, indeed, at the
end, but the end can't be so far away
after all.

~~From old story~~

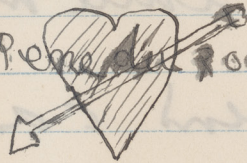
"So the old men are preoccupied. "Have you
ever," they whisper "had a tumble with you
in the sky?" The answer to this is, — never!" ^{Humour or} ~~It is~~
^{encourage} them. Let them take it on the
^{as a joke} ~~as a joke~~! They seem to know of parts

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Rene du ROURE



Rene du ROURE



d the body you people have never heard
 of, - "^{the} ~~the~~ ~~dispham~~ membranous
 coating of dispham," bleats the old fellow
 "is fast well worn out. I've had to cut
 all ~~the~~ ^{proteins} proteins ^{together} all together."

4 Cutting them out! They start ^{cutting things out} ~~them~~ ^{if you}
 like a captain lighting a ship. "I cut
 out whisky," says the old fellow; "last year
 I don't feel any worse for it at all. ^{No certainly} ~~It's~~ ^{certainly}
^{not} ~~not~~ you couldn't feel ^{worse} worse if you tried." "I
 've cut tobacco right out," - certain, you
 haven't ^{got} suction enough left in you to
 keep a cigar light. They then cut of
 meat, as ^{cut} cut out coffee ^{and} ~~as when they~~
 cut ~~out~~ out all the things they know ~~the~~ of
 of,

And then begin ^{to} ~~name~~ them, they start to cut things that
 they are just names. "I had to cut out:
 Ask them, - just let them
 start & they'll tell you ^{they} how cut out
 all nitrogen, as glycerine, as per cotton,
 as Tablets, - the things they cut out ~~would~~
 would ^{supply} run a Spanish army. ~~that~~

And in the end, what for? by ~~the~~ young
 friend Joe McDonnell, editor of what was once
 the Journal of Goblins, ^{Goblin} has a brilliant poem
 about an old paperman who kept on saying
 every day "this damn" "That will be all for
 today!" "Ye can't read it!" "That will be
 all for today", but "someday ^{angel} and will
 tap him soft on the shoulder saying, "Mr
~~These~~ Scholarious Thompson That will be

all the ^{for today} ~~big~~ " "

(19)

This is a feminist article, it's so

¶ This I suppose is a feminist article. I

can help it, to my mind, ~~one to the~~

condition ^{given above} ~~fact given~~, "one more grandpa
that's the grandpa

the fewer," goes to the root of the matter.

In fact ^{even this} the business of taking back-

looks on life, ^{and writing memories} should be begun earlier, as

by younger people no I
~~A hundred couple to the~~

In fact I am glad to observe that it is a

creative age people were write remiscence

till they would cover a ^{long} lapse of time

: Remiscence had some ^{such} title "My

hundred year in the U.S. Cavalry", or

"Pink and Punk: My ~~Sixty~~^{Eighty} years
& Fox Hunting." Then, back fourteen,
some one began "Looking back from
Forty!" as the some one else
realized that you ^{could turn} ~~could~~ ^{turn round}
quicker than that, ~~and a~~ ^{and a} cent of
memoirs ~~begin~~ ^{begin} to happen in looking

back ~~from~~ thirty; then "Looking
back on College" & "Looking back
from High School," or "Looking
Back from Kindergarten, where
are those girls now!"

Youth will have it way; soon there
I'd never want even write the old up stuff

I am lean

2-A

McGILL UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

FILL IN THE FOLLOWING :

SUBJECT

YEAR

(Matriculation, or 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc., year.)

DATE OF EXAMINATION

CANDIDATE'S NUMBER

NUMBER OF BOOKS HANDED IN

CANDIDATE'S SIGNATURE

OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING RULES:

1. Use the left hand pages for rough work and write answers on right hand pages only. All your writing must be handed in.
2. Mark your number, subject and particulars as to year and date on all books used and place additional books inside first book when handing in.
3. Candidates are only permitted to ask questions of the presiding examiner in cases of supposed errors in the papers, and no explanation whatsoever shall be given by the examiner as to the meaning or purport of the questions set; but he may publicly announce corrections of errors.
4. This book must not be torn or mutilated in any way and must not be taken from the examination room.
5. Candidates requiring additional books or other supplies should raise the hand.
6. Candidates must enter in the margin nothing but the number or letter of the question they are about to answer.
7. No candidate shall be permitted to enter the examination room after the expiration of one half hour, or to leave during the first half hour from the time scheduled for commencing.

CAUTION

Candidates guilty of any of the following or similar, dishonest practices shall be immediately dismissed from the examination and shall be liable to permanent disqualification for membership in McGill University—

- (a) Making use of any books, papers or memoranda, other than those provided by the examiner.
- (b) Speaking or communicating with other candidates under any circumstances whatever.
- (c) Exposing written papers to the view of other candidates.

The plea of accident or forgetfulness shall not be received.