

It is a responsible privilege for me to address the members of an Oxford mountaineering club. Just, as I am a Cambridge man.

~~within~~ The time honoured rivalry ^{between} of the older Universities has suffered ~~often~~ lately from the attacks of the Press; ~~and~~ they used to stand apart in splendour & now they draw together in self-defence. But I never heard of anyone at Oxford or Cambridge who knew the name of a University in any other English town. Perhaps I am somewhat before the times in alluding to these institutions. I have no desire to be a prophet: they do however exist. I mention them merely in order to wave them aside, so that the outer world may fade into its proper dimness & of you I may be left alone with ~~my~~ ~~own~~ ~~thoughts~~ ~~of~~ ~~each~~ ~~other~~.

The responsibility of a Cambridge man in my position ^{does not} lie not so much in the Oxford view of Cambridge, but in the Cambridge view of Oxford. You will naturally impute to my University all the qualities the blame for all that you fail to admire in me - for instance ^{my} ~~my~~ ~~unwisdom~~ and ~~priggishness~~ - for ~~you~~ ~~have~~ ~~discovered~~ I fear about a certain lack of modesty; that is due to the ~~above~~ ~~mentioned~~ ~~fact~~ ~~that~~ ~~I~~ ~~am~~ ~~priggish~~ ~~it~~ ~~is~~ ~~impossible~~ ~~for~~ ~~a~~ ~~stranger~~ ~~to~~ ~~be~~ ~~so~~ ~~priggish~~ ~~and~~ ~~not~~ ~~himself~~ ~~perform~~ ~~the~~ ~~true~~ ~~function~~ ~~of~~ ~~a~~ ~~mountaineer~~ ~~and~~ ~~deliver~~ ~~my~~ ~~advice~~ ~~to~~ ~~young~~ ~~climbers~~ -

~~And~~ ~~to~~ ~~me~~ ~~you~~ ~~will~~ ~~give~~ ~~the~~ ~~credit~~ ~~for~~ ~~several~~ ~~excellent~~ ~~qualities~~ - ~~I~~ ~~thought~~ ~~of~~ ~~this~~ ~~last~~ ~~remark~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~beginning~~ ~~little~~ ~~time~~ ~~back~~ - fully intended to tell you what those qualities are; but unhappily I have forgotten them. But you are certain to discover them before very long distribute your ~~praise~~ ~~and~~ ~~blame~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~proper~~ ~~parties~~ ~~between~~ ~~Cambridge~~ ~~and~~ ~~myself~~; and I would not have it otherwise: because as I say it matters very little what Oxford thinks of Cambridge what Oxford thinks of her, - but it matters in the highest degree what she thinks of Oxford.

By the bye I have presumed that you will impute all my observations with respect to Oxford & Cambridge; ~~they~~ ~~are~~ ~~of~~ ~~course~~ ~~reversible~~: I merely thought that I might seem too familiar if I did the reverse myself.



with propriety, because he would ~~prefer~~ ^{necessarily} feel that he was doing ~~it~~ ~~more~~ ~~than~~ ~~any~~ ~~one~~ ~~around~~ ~~him~~.

only deduction to be drawn is that Solomon can never have ~~laughed~~
laughed from the heart ^{once he has tasted} ~~nor known the first ripe fruit of~~ ^{his} ~~impartial~~
knowledge. His judgment was too weak for his ~~imagination~~
~~He was tickles enough to argue upon both sides of the question~~
evidently ~~he told all he knew.~~ And no doubt ^{in the end} he delivered his judgment
as ~~the~~ ^{the} Priest I quoted exactly half-way between two
points of view. Could anything be more exasperating! No wonder
the Queen ^{in desperation} started topic after topic & every time at last gave
it up in despair.

Now with the Queen of Sheba I feel much sympathy. I have
no faith much ~~believe~~ in Solomon's idea of wisdom - or Truth as I prefer
to call it. ~~Truth~~ That which he's mid way is never the Truth
it is without form or void; it is flabby & ugly; it has no energy,
no elasticity, no ^{vitality}. Truth when we perceive it is a live thing
touching us; it ^{makes} the body tense & it makes the heart throb. It
dwells upon high places. We shall ~~not~~ find it ^{not} in the mean, but
in the extreme; a bit in one extreme but in both. A grain of
Truth has two vibrating atoms. We must look at each one
separately, ~~and read~~ ^{see them} ~~it~~ through a microscope ~~that the~~
large & clear ~~appears much bigger than they are~~, ~~before~~ we must vibrate in
harmony with each in turn ~~before~~ before we can feel the
glow from that grain of Truth ^{that radiates} ~~will glow from the grain of Truth.~~

Thus it is that paradox has a meaning; that nonsense
reveals wisdom; that exaggeration in its proper place
comes to be not only supportable, but even necessary.

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To the Queen of Sheba "he told all he knew"; and he failed to stimulate.

