NOTES OF A RICH MAN.

Some Peculiar Beggars and Their Odd Performances.

A Bouquet of Anecdotes — Strange Appeals—Laughable Attempts to Deceive.

(Sir Richard Tangye, in Chambers' Journal.)

Experience shows that beggars are of various kinds; for, as in the old days there were footpads and mounted highwaymen, so now there are beggars on foot and beggars on horseback. Indeed, I have known them to come on begging expeditions riding in vehicles of various kinds.

On one occasion a man rode up to my house on a tricycle, and, premising that I knew his father, requested me to give him money to buy a horse, as he found cycling too hard work, and his doctor had ordered him to take equestrian exercise.

Another man, dressed as a gentleman, an entire stranger, sent in his card desiring to speak to me. When I appeared he greeted me with the greatest familiarity, as though he had been an intimate acquaintance, and at once proceeded to ask me to loan him a couple of pounds to take him to London. Of course I declined, and on showing him out I found he had a cab at the door, the charge for which from the nearest cabstand would have nearly paid his railway fare.

On another occasion a young man came to thank me for having rendered some pecuniary assistance to his brother while on a voyage to Australia, and promising to repay the loan advanced by me. Before leaving, the young gentleman requested and obtained a little loan on his own account, and the I O U which he gave me in due form is, I observe, nearly twenty years old, and is still unredeemed.

QUEER BEGGING LETTERS.

As a rule, begging letters are not pleasant reading; the most objectionable are those from persons who vigorously protest that they are not begging—indeed, that they would not accept charity; but being in want of temporary assistance they would like a loan, at fair interest, purely as a business transaction. As a rule such people never intend to repay. But here is a man no scruples on the point—he will either take money as a gift or as a loan, and this is what he says: "I am a young man, 25 years old, wanting a start in life, which I can get if I can obtain a loan or gift of £60 at once. I would rather borrow than beg, but do not wish you to think I would insult you (!). Hoping I shall not appeal in vain for a start in life, and asking for an immediate answer, I am," etc.

A man, describing himself as a "monumental sculptor" in a considerable way of business, writes: "The writer of the inclosed letter is a half-sister of mine, but I know little of her, as for years she has been an invalid. I am sorry to say she seems a poor, thoughtless, helpless creature. I ask you in her name if her case comes within your kind benevolence?"

"A Workman" asks me to send him money to enable him to buy a pair of boots; but his letter was so saturated with tobacco that I declined, telling him if he could afford to buy tobacco he could afford to buy boots.

Some years ago a firm of auctioneers wrote to my solicitors, informing them that they were commissioned to sell a property adjoining one of the public parks, and suggesting that the matter should be put before me in the hope that I should buy it, and thus "add another to my many bounties to the public."

Give, give, be always giving;
Who gives not, is not living.
The more you give,
The more you live.

Thus saith the leech's daughter.

Gratitude is not always shown for help rendered, but here is a genuine example of it, although expressed in peculiar phraseology: "The humble petition of T— O— showeth that your petitioner his ever gratefull for your benevolence threw the sick vissiter in my illness and as on dutey bound shall ever pray."

Various are the forms of begging. A good woman once sent me what she called "an alliterative carol," which ended with the following choice lines:

"Dear sirs,
If you think this carol a good 'un
Please send a trifle for a plum-pudden.
For Tangye Bros. a hearty cheer
Xmas blessings and Happy New Year."

An "Old Man of the Sea" once tried to get some money from me under the following circumstances. Being at Boscastle, I went on board a ship and had a little conversation with the captain. Next day he sailed, and a few days after I received a letter from him, in which he said he had come into collision with a ship, causing damage to the extent of £80. Would I help him, although a stranger? The ship was at Newport, so I asked my agent there to see the captain, at the same time telling him the man was a stranger to me. My agent asked the old salt why he had applied to me, having only seen me once; to which he replied he thought I had a fork-out-able sort of face!

A TRANSLATOR OF SHOES.

I have looked in the Trades Directory in vain for the business of my next correspondent in want of assistance. Here is an extract from his letter:

"I am a young man, twenty-four years of age, a good scholar, and bearing a good character. My present occupation is that of a translator of boots and shoes, that is, a maker-up of second-hand boots and shoes, and I assure you, sir, it is an inconceivably poor one"—which, indeed, I can readily believe.

It is said that "Freedom's battle once begun" must needs be continued "from sire to son," and so it seems to be with beggars; if you once yield to their solicitations, it becomes very difficult to shake them off, for they appear to look upon your charity in the light of a vested right which you are not entitled to discontinue without their consent. I have recently received a letter from a man to whom I have occasionally given relief, and this is what he says:

"I am awkwardly situated in respect to a personal matter which I scarcely know how to explain. * * I then had a good head of hair, but since that time it has ceased to grow, and for some years I have had to wear an artificial scalp, which is now withered, broken, and so worn out and shrunk, that I can scarcely keep it on my head. It has become absolutely necessary to buy a new one if I am to retain my work. The person who makes the article is—— of——. It must be well made and exact, and I shall have to go to London to be fitted, and wait at least a day to get it right. I ought to go up on Saturday, but I have not money enough. The article itself will cost quite two guineas."

But where is the necessity for this scalping expedition? When the horse-thief was about to be condemned to death for his crime, he was asked by the Judge what he had to say before sentence was pronounced. "A man must live, my lord," said he. "I see no necessity," said the Judge, and proceeded with his duty. Nature has given many of us this tonsure, but we do not think it necessary to procure new scalps, a neat black skullcap answering all requirements.

A young man writing to me from the Black Country, informs me that "Poverty is a relative term and depends upon the constitution of men's minds. It is true I have always had enough to eat, and have never borrowed money or been in debt, but what of that? I feel that within me that makes me miserable until I have seen Niagara and St. Peter's at Rome. I understand music thoroughly, theory and practice, but have never seen an opera! I want to attend the concerts in the Birmingham Town Hall, and for years have dreamed of the 'Festival.' I long to hear the great organ of St. Paul's and to attend a concert at the Albert Hall. But these are all forbidden pleasures, and this, sir, to a man like me constitutes poverty." And after reading his letter, strange to say, I did not feel inclined to help him.

A SHABBY KIND OF BEGGING.

Here is a somewhat peculiar application. A man writes to me as follows: "Sir: Having a whife (sic), who I may say, can neither walk nor talk, may I beg of you to help me to keep Her and myself from the Workhouse?"

I have before shown that some people are quite willing to accept assistance in "kind," but here is an individual who would prefer to take it in cash. The Secretary of a village reading-room, having applied to me for support, I offered to supply the room with "The Daily News," but in acknowledging my offer he said he would prefer to have it in money, "if it were all the same to me!"

"A widower with seven children" informs me that he is desirous of marrying his deceased wife's sister, but that she (prudent woman) declines to do so unless he can obtain a situation with two hundred a year; would I help him to such a berth?

As a matter of course, the number of applications for assistance to enable inventors to develop their "ideas" is legion, and I will content myself with giving one example in the words of my correspondent, who says: "Having made an extraordinary wonderful discovery, and have succeeded in perfecting an Apperatus I have invented for the Discovering Lost Vessels, and observing by the papers that you are interested in the promotion of the Arts and Sciences, has induced me to hope that you will pardon the liberty I take as a workingman in addressing these few lines to you in the hope that you will find the means to enable me to bring my invention out. I will now describe what my invention will accomplish; by its application even when all souls on board may Perish in the Wreck. Authentic information can be obtained of all future Wrecks, and the Certain Fate ascertained, also the Cause and date of the Disaster, and the place where the ill-fated vessel has gone down, so that all valuable articles, moneys, etc., may now be recovered, as also the Vessel if found not to be too much damaged." My correspondent informs me that he has been in communication with the Admiralty, but that they will do nothing, and concludes with this postcript: "I am informed by a friend of mine that when successfully brought out it would realize by Royalty alone, at least £100,000 a year!" That invention still remains in an undeveloped state.

A CONSIDERATE CORRESPONDENT

How considerate some people are! Here is a tempting offer from an unknown correspondent:

"Dear Sir: I venture to suggest that you should appoint me your Almoner. I know that you are a very busy man, but I have an abundance of time on my hands, and have been accustomed to dispensing the charity of others. Hoping to hear from you."

So much for beggars of the middle and working classes; the ordinary street beggar belongs to an entirely separate and independent organization. He has a language and a system of his own by which he informs his fellows of the "ratable value" of towns and of the dispositions of individuals living on his line of march. Official investigations have shown that begging has been the profession of the same family for several generations in succession, and although they always protest they are anxious to work "if they can get it," a very casual examination of their hands reveals the fact taht they never used them in manual labor. Many of them manage to live uncommonly well. A beggar once called at my sister's house and declared, with a whine, that he was starving. My sister offered him the half of a loaf, but he spurned this and said in anything but a whining tone, "I'm not bread hungry."

It would be possible to extend these experiences ad infinitum, but I will close with an anecdote I once read of a rich man who too readily complied with demands similar to those I have described, and who came to grief and poverty in consequence. His friends made a collection on his behalf, and he spent a portion of the money in causing a monument to be prepared for own grave. On the monument was a figure holding a "chopper" in its hand, and this was the inscription beneath:

He who gives away all before he is dead,
Let him take this chopper and chop off his head.

WHERE HE FAILED.

He's a man of vast achievements
In a dozen various fields;
There is grandeur, there is pathos
In the facile pen he wields;
He has written noble poems
And produced successful plays,
And his fin de siecle novel
Has commanded public praise.

He has won respect in science,
Having made a chart of Mars;
He invented a contrivance,
Once, for ventilating cars;
By his own unaided efforts,
He has earned a pile of pelf—
But he scored a dismal failure
When he tried to shave himself.
—Cleveland Leader.

Armies of Greece and Turkey.

The Turkish artillery forces consist of 612 guns of all sizes.

The total war footing of the Turkish army is 922,127 officers, men, guns and horses.

The total war footing of the Greek army is 212,630 officers and men.

There are 3,400 officers of all ranks in the Greek army.

The number of officers in the Turkish army is 9,512.

Greece has a better, though much smaller navy than Turkey. Her total number of war vessels, including the torpedo boats, is forty-two, while the total number of war vessels of the Turkish navy is 126.

Some comets have more than one tail. The great comet of 1744 had six tails spread fan shape.

YELLOWSTONE PARK.

A Region of Marvelous Beauty and Great Interest.

Some of the Sights Which the Tourist May Enjoy—Difficulties of Protecting Game From Poachers.

The Yellowstone National Park, the greatest part of which lies in the northwestern part of Wyoming, but which extends also into Idaho and Montana, has been called by some the "Northern Wonderland" because of its natural curiosities and its majestic scenery, and the tourist who visits that part of the United States without exploring this National pleasure-ground knows that he has failed in his duty to himself. The whole area—originally sixty-five miles north and south by fifty-five miles east and west—is more than six thousand feet above the sea level. A great timber annex on the south and east makes the present dimensions of the park about seventy by eighty miles. The beauties of the region were so graphically described by those who first made reports on the subject that a law was passed by Congress by which the park was "reserved and withdrawn from settlement, occupancy or sale, and dedicated and set apart as a public park or pleasure-ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people."

At this time of the year, when people are making plans for summer vacations, those tourists who have been to the National Park sing its praises and tell of the incomparable scenes of natural beauty which are met at every turn in that garden spot, and they urge those who have not made the trip to do so. All about the great valley the mountains rise to the hight of 10,000 and 12,000 feet, and the great basin is dotted with hot springs, waterfalls and geysers, and tremendous canyons mark the course of the streams. Sprays of water rise hundreds of feet into the air from the geysers and strange formations result from the deposits of silica and lime which are contained in the waters of the thousands of springs. A man who has spent much time in the National Park, and who has seen it not only in June and July, when it swarms with visitors from all parts of the world, but who has lived there during the bleak winter months, when it lies buried under many feet of snow, says that all that has been written about its beauties did not do the place justice.

The Park is in the keeping of 120 regular troops under command of a captain. These men guard and patrol the reservation and fight vandals, poachers and fire. Of these enemies the soldiers fear fire the most, because a fire once under way cannot be arrested. Only a few years ago an area of about three square miles was destroyed, despite the gallant fight, lasting twenty-one days, made by the troops.

THE TOURISTS' ROUTE.

Tourists to the park usually leave the main line of the Northern Pacific Railroad at Livingston and go on the branch to Cinnibar, a distance of fifty-two miles; thence a stage trip of eight miles takes them to the first stopping place in the park, the hotel where the first evening is spent. From that point the tourist has about 150 miles of coach travel to do before he has covered the regular route. The tour is made in a circle and only the first twenty miles must be doubled. In the course of the trip all the great canyons, geysers, waterfalls, cliffs and precipices are seen. There are entrances to the park from the south and west also, from which the distances to the regular tourists' circle vary from fifteen to forty miles. The ordinary, runaway tourist who wants to see everything on the jump makes the trip in six days, and the stage schedule is so arranged that he always rests in a good and well-appointed hotel. The second hotel is forty miles from the first, and there two nights are spent. The next hotel is forty-seven miles from the second, and the last hotel is sixteen miles from the third and thirty-two miles from the first. All day the tourist sees pictures of nature, to which no frame or modification has been made by the hand of man; for hours the eye feasts on awe-inspiring landscapes, with nothing about or near them to suggest civilization, and then the traveler goes to a hotel which stands in the shadow of a giant mountain and reads his mail by electric light, surrounded by all the conveniences and luxuries to be found in the metropolis. "That is in the tourist time," said the native, "but the place is lonely enough in the winter when the hotels are closed and the park becomes a great snow-covered desert."

When the season is over or on the wane the real work of those who are charged with the protection of the park and its game begins, and they have no easy task. There is no general law against poaching in the park, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana each having its own laws to prevent it. But there is a law known as the Park Protection Act which requires the Park Commissioner to live in the park, and he has the power to punish offenders for all crimes committed there. He has original jurisdiction, and an appeal must go to the United States District Court of Wyoming. He has the power to inflict punishment up to $2,000 fine and three years' imprisonment, or both. The crimes enumerated in the Act are killing wild animals and all acts of vandalism perpetrated in the "formations." Formation is the name given to the stony deposit from the water, which is among the wonders of the region. The Commissioner can also expel or refuse admittance to persons who make themselves obnoxious, and who are suspected of poaching. Regulations for the guidance of visitors are printed on muslin and posted all over the park, and a copy is handed to every visitor when he enters. These are the only posters to be seen, however, for the people in charge have fought successfully against the advertising schemes of all kinds which at one time threatened to destroy the beauties of the place.

TROUBLE WITH POACHERS.

The paths, trails and roads through the great reservation are free to all, and any person may carry firearms, but these are made useless at the first station, where a red tape is tied about the mechanism of the gun and then sealed. If in the course of his wanderings through the park the tourist should be found with the seal on his gun broken his weapon would be confiscated and he would be liable to punishment. "Despite all precautions and safeguards," it was said, "the park suffers continually at the hands of the poachers. There are several classes of these, and each works his scheme in a different way. Of course, the most profitable game are the buffalo, and the professional hunter directs his attention toward them. Only a few years ago there were hundreds of thousands of these in the park strip and other hundreds of thousands were distributed over the great Northwest. A United States army officer was one of a party who in 1870 encountered a herd of these animals 100 miles wide which it took them four days to pass, and in his report he said: 'There were 1,000,000 buffaloes in the herd—I won't take off a single one — 1,000,000.' To-day all the buffaloes in the United States, with the exception of a few in captivity, are in the Yellowstone Park, and there are about fifty of them. They are doomed and will soon be extinct. The inbreeding has had a degenerating effect on them. They are shy, less hardy than formerly and must die off. A buffalo scalp is worth anywhere from $50 to $200, and after it leaves the hands of the taxidermist properly prepared and mounted a good head brings easily $500, while some have been sent to England recently for £200. So you see, a professional hunter has only to capture two or three heads to make what is in that country a good year's wages.

"There are other professionals who trap the fur-bearing animals, such as the beaver, fox, mink and otter. This small game can be carried away on snowshoes, which is an advantage because the tracks are left behind. These hunters use the ski, which is about eight or nine feet long and about four inches wide. The Canadian snowshoe is unknown in that region.

"Aside from these professional poachers we have the gentleman hunter from the East and from Europe. He is not a conscious law-breaker, but he often allows his guide to lead him astray. The guide wants to earn the good-will of the tourist and a special fee for good work, and after the tourist has passed several posts where his firearms were shown and found to be properly sealed, the guide, thinking himself secure, will 'make a mistake' in the locality and say that the confines of the pary have been passed and that the tourist may shoot what he pleases. In that way much poaching is done every year and many guides have become known to the Superintendent for their poor knowledge as to the boundaries of the park, and have been put on the 'black list.' The guide who has been found 'monkeying' with the game has a difficult time of it, and the knowledge that he will be excluded has had a tendency to lessen his depredations."

While the buffaloes are growing scarce, the elk in the park are increasing in number. There are now about 30,000 of these on the reservation and about 1,000 antelope. There are a great many bears, and many of them are so tame that they come to the hotels, where the guests feed them.—New York Tribune.

John Brown's Last Days.

The following letter from John Brown, written only a few days before his execution, has recently been made public by the Boston "Transcript." It was addressed to the great grand-uncle of Miss Julia King of the faculty of the Emerson College of Oratory:

Charlestown (Jefferson County, Va.), November 19, 1859.

Rev. Luther Humphrey — My Dear Friend: Your kind letter of the 12th inst. is now before me. So far as my knowledge goes as to our mutual kindred, I suppose I am the first, since the landing of Peter Brown from the Mayflower, that has either been sentenced to imprisonment or to the Gallows. But, my dear old friend, let not that fact grieve you. You cannot have forgotten how and where our Grandfather (Captain John Brown) fell in 1776; & that he, too, might have perished on the scaffold had circumstances been but very little different. The fact that a man dies under the hand of an executioner (or otherwise) has but little to do with his true character, as I suppose. John Rogers perished at the stake, a great & good man as I suppose; but his being so does not prove that any other man who has died in the same way was good or otherwise. Whether I have any reason to "be of good cheer" (or not) in view of my end, I can assure you that I feel so; and that I am totally blinded if I do not really experience that strengthening & consolation you so faithfully implore in my behalf. God of our Fathers reward your fidelity. I neither feel mortified, nor in the least ashamed of my imprisonment, my chain, or my near prospect of death by hanging. I feel assured that "not one hair shall fall from my head without my heavenly Father." I also feel that I have long been endeavoring to hold exactly "such a fast as God has chosen." See the passage in Isaiah which you have quoted. No part of my life has been more happily spent than that I have spent here, and I humbly trust that no part has been spent to better purpose. I would not say this boastingly; but "Thanks be unto God who giveth us the victory through infinite grace."

I should be sixty years old were I to live till May 9, 1860. I have enjoyed much of life as it is; and have been remarkably prosperous, having early learned to regard the welfare and prosperity of others as my own. I have never since I can remember required a great amount of sleep, so that I conclude that I have already enjoyed full an average number of working hours with those who reach their "Three Score Years and Ten." I have not yet been driven to the use of glasses, but can still see to read and write quite comfortably; but, more than that, I have generally enjoyed remarkably good health. I might go on to recount unnumbered and unmerited blessings, among which would be some very severe afflictions, & those the most needed blessings of all. And now, when I think how easily I might be left to spoil all I have done or suffered in the cause of freedom, I hardly dare risk another voyage, even if I had the opportunity.

It is a long time since we met, but we shall now soon come together in our "Father's house," I trust. "Let us hold fast that we already have"—remembering that we shall reap in due time if we faint not. Thanks be ever unto God, who giveth us the victory through Jesus Christ our Lord. And now, my old, warm-hearted friend, Good-bye. Your affectionate Cousin,

JOHN BROWN.

Motherly Solicitude.

Miss Ante—It's funny about our old cat. We can't keep her away from the poker table.

Mr. Age—Nothing strange about that. Naturally, she's looking after the "kitty."

One on the Editor.

Joke Writer—There goes a man who can't take a joke.

Friend—Who is he?

Joke Writer—He's the editor of a comic paper.

Recognition.

First Tramp—Dese railroad monopolists seems to be grabbin' everything.

Second Tramp—Don't be too hard on 'em pardner. Dem freight trains saves us lots of walkin'.

AN OSSIANIC KAISER.

William II. of Germany's Belief in Himself.

Europe Now Suffering From the Individuality of This Remarkable German Emperor.

Europe is suffering just now from the individuality, rather than from the policy, of the German Emperor. He is displaying a character with which it is most difficult for diplomatists to deal, and which is not entirely consistent with his earlier career. The habit of ruling, and the success, or rather the absence of resistance, which in internal affairs has so far distinguished his reign, have developed the Emperor's peculiarities in a most marked degree. He had always a sufficient belief in himself, as he showed in his dismissal of Prince Bismarck, but of late this belief has become exaggerated into a confidence scarcely to be distinguished from presumption. He seems capable of thanking God for a great harvest and sending Him the Order of the Red Eagle in acknowldgment. Even his own subjects, who were at first disposed by tradition and habit of mind to welcome another "strong" Hohenzollern, now shake their heads and lament that their Kaiser, who is also their Commander-in-Chief, acts so completely under the influence of his own will. They never know what he will do to-morrow. There is no ruling statesman now visible in Germany, for the Chancellor is old and deferential, the Minister of War accepts instead of advising orders, the Finance Minister (Dr. Miquel) is a highly intelligent, exceptionally intelligent, instrument of his majesty, and Baron Von Marschall, as recent trials proved, though able and fairly trusted, has to contend against many adverse influences. The Emperor is all in all; he is more determined than ever to play the first role in the political drama, and as his claim is entirely acknowledged within his own dominions, where to speak lightly of his majesty now involves a sort of civil death, he extends it to all Europe, and indeed to all the world. It is to be "lord" of a "world-wide empire" that the Emperor demands, or threatens to demand, from his Parliament such vast additions to the navy.

Naturally, holding such a position, his jealousy of Great Britain, the only world-wide Power, has grown excessive, overmastering a personal liking for England and the English court; and, naturally also, revolutionary ideas, which are floating about in a half-developed way all through Germany, appear to him almost impieties. "The Revolution" is to William II. what "clericalism" is to many French Radicals—the enemy. It is his business, he thinks, as the first of kings, to protect the rights of sovereigns, though he is an Emperor because his grandfather crushed dynasties, some of them older than his own, by the half-dozen, and he cannot bear to see the "sovereign rights" even of a Sultan of Turkey interfered with. Suppose Abd-ul-Hamid has massacred Armenians, they were his own subjects, and were almost in rebellion. Is that any reason why he should lose without a war the right of garrisoning his own dominions? His dignity must, at all events, be preserved, and those who have affronted it by invading Crete must be humiliated, even if they are not punished. They are close relatives of the Emperor, but that is an additional reason for giving an example to the world, for have they not been false to their order in invading, from motives which at bottom are democratic, sacred sovereign rights? The King of Greece is not a King in William II.'s eyes, but a mere Garibaldian, who is dallying with the revolution, and even advancing its favorite idea, the right of nationalities, as an excuse for democratic action. Let him abdicate if he will, but let Germany maintain the principle that kings must govern unthreatened from without. In no case must the revolution triumph. It is, as he told his Brandenburgers a few days ago, in a speech which reads as if it had been uttered by a crowned Ossian of Tory convictions, "the disease which all Germans must combat by all means in their power, the disease which not only infects the nation, but also seeks to undermine the life of the family—yes, and to undermine the holiest thing we Germans know — the position of woman."

A monarch who is imbued with ideas like these, so imbued with them that he ceases to argue, and expresses himself in dithyrambs, and who also commands an army supposed to be the strongest in Europe, is of necessity a most uncomfortable factor in European diplomacy. You cannot discuss politics with a man who is singing, and the speech we have quoted is really a song of battle—not without a Tyraetan note in it, too—against the revolution, and the royal family of Greece as fosterers of the same. It would not have been difficult if the Emperor had been a man like his grandfather, who subordinated himself to policy, to arrange the Cretan difficulty by a few reasonable concessions to Greek pride. The Greeks would have accepted the autonomy of Crete with cordiality if only the Prince had been left to popular election, and the suzerainity modified by a special flag, and the Turkish troops withdrawn at the same moment as the Greek; but those were precisely the con essions which William II. could not bring himself to make. The Sultan was a sovereign, and sovereigns are entitled to garrison their dominions, so do not talk of withdrawing Turkish troops. Greece must go first, that is fiat, because Greece has broken rules. She shall have no concern with Crete, whatever happens, even as an autonomous province, for else she would profit by her misdoing; while as to an election of a Prince, that is the favorite device of every revolutionist: Elect a Prince, indeed. Not while I am Emperor. As Austria could not break away from Germany it seemed for a moment as if nothing could be done, and even at the last the Powers were compelled to yield these dangerous points, dangerous because they rouse the pride of Greeks, rather than dispute any longer with a sovereign who would listen to nothing but his own ideas, and who under stress of those ideas was drawing rapidly toward Russia, the ultimate and inexorable foe of revolutions. They are not the ideas of the rest of Europe; they are contrary to the ideas of England and France; and to find a great monarch professing them when they are inconvenient reduces diplomatists to sad perplexity. They feel like the seniors of a household when a junior member, perhaps the heir, takes the bit in his teeth, declares that he would rather die than take interest for money, or maintains that to own land is to plunder the community. Reasoning is out of the question, and they can only fall back and mutter hopes that ideas so wild, so incoherent, and so disastrously opposed to "advice" may not indicate some local disturbance of the brain.

The self-confidence, jealousy, and Ossianic ways of the Emperor are not the less difficult to manage because there may be below or behind them solid arguments from self-interest. There was such an argument also when the celebrated telegram was dispatched to President Kruger. It is the specialty of his German majesty that while the method of his action is constantly dictated by qualities which he has allowed to grow too strong for him, the action itself is usually based on what he conceives to be his interest and that of his country. He not only wishes for peace, but is, we conceive, especially disgusted at the idea of war breaking out upon the Eastern question, which, however it may be solved, can, as Prince Bismarck once observed, offer no temptation to Germany. It is one of the many serious perplexities of the partition of Turkey that no one has ever yet ventured to point out the share in the spoil and in the labor which would be acceptable to the German Empire. The share of every other Power, even Italy, could be described almost to a square mile; but there is nothing which would suit the German Empire, either as colony or dependency or province. If the Ottoman ceases to reign there is nothing for Berlin, and therefore, says the master of Berlin, let the Ottoman go on reigning. What does it matter, except to his subjects, how he reigns? Germany, if Turkey went to pieces and were quietly distributed, must seek her "compensation" on her own frontiers—that is, either in Denmark, which is a Russian protectorate, or in Austria, which resigns nothing except under stress of defeat, or in Holland, which had rather be anything in the world than a State of the German Empire. The war, if it came, would be a great one, yet at its end there would be nothing to be gained supposing the war successful; wherefore let there be no war, even if it is necessary to sink the Greek fleet and occupy the Piraeus.

That is sound policy from the German point of view, even if it is cynically selfish, and it is this union of sound and selfish policy with excessive self-consciousness and arbitrary will, all displayed with a certain force and felicity of expression, which makes William II. so much more interesting than the majority of sovereigns. We dare say there are many men like him; indeed we think we could indicate one or two, especially in the literary class; but there is no other sitting on a lofty throne with millions below who at a signal will hurl themselves upon the enemy he points out. A monarch who, being a Christian and a European, can like the Sultan, because he also is a monarch, who will set the world on fire rather than not humiliate a relative because he has transgressed international etiquettes, and who, being himself the product of a national uprising, can say in the face of Europe that his one work is to combat the revolution, is—well, is at all events a figure strange enough and separate enough to draw the eyes of mankind. There is no one in Europe except the King of Prussia in the least like the German Emperor.—London Spectator.

WHY SHE MARRIED JACK.

Two Suitors Put to a Test—More Shrewd Than the Bride.

"Oh, you dear thing!" cried the girl in the empire jacket, as she stepped aboard the cars, "to think that I've only just heard of your marriage. I was away at the time, you know, and I just can't forgive you for not letting me know all about it."

"Well, you see, it was very sudden," said the young woman in the fur collarette, according to a writer in the Chicago "Times-Herald." "I only knew it myself forty-eight hours before it happened. You see, I had decided to be married in the spring, anyhow, but I liked Jack and Edgar equally well, and I just couldn't decide which—"

"Yes," said the girl in the empire jacket, breathlessly, "and how did you decide?"

"I put them both to a test," said the young woman in the fur collarette, "and Jack stood it."

"You didn't make them fight a duel, did you?"

"Mercy, no. That is away behind the times. I just took each of them for a walk and stopped before a milliner's window to—"

"You clever, original thing!"

"Yes—to admire the hats. I said to Edgar, 'I'm trying to decide which one of these suits me best. I've tried them all on and I can't decide. Give me your opinion.'"

"Yes, yes, don't stop; I'm dying to hear—"

"He pointed to one bearing a ticket which said 'Marked down to $1 49, and said: 'That one, by all means; it would just suit the shape of your head!' "

"Oh, I see; a husband like that would tell you that you looked better in a calico frock than—"

"A silk? Exactly. I rejected him that day. The following afternoon Jack and I went for a walk."

"And stopped before the same window?"

"M'hm. Then Jack displayed his real nobility. He said: 'If I had anything to say to it, I'd select that one.' It was placarded 'The very latest, $22.' I knew I'd never find such a noble creature again, so I married him two days later!"

"And you were right, too. Of course, the first thing he did after you were married was to buy you that hat! How awfully romantic! Of course, you haven't worn it out in two months—you must let me see it when I come to call to-morrow!"

A queer look flashed over the bride's face and she gasped: "Why, no, he didn't. I—I never once thought of that. Conductor, stop the car!"

"Why, where are you going?" asked the girl in the empire jacket.

"To Jack's office," said the bride, firmly. "I—we have an errand to do before I go home!"

Once Was Enough.

To please his wife he tried her pie,
And sampled one of mince;
And though five years have wandered by
No one has seen him since.

Ott's Liver Cure.

A liquid preparation for diseases of the liver, stomach and bowels, such as constipation, biliousness, jaundice, dyspepsia, bilious headache, sour stomach, dizziness, nervousness, etc. An elegant preparation for habitual constipation. Purely vegetable. Price, 50c per bottle.

FRANCIS S. OTT,
MANUFACTURING DRUGGIST,
300 K Street, south side Second and K, Sacramento, Cal.

THE TAVERN OF CASTLE CRAG

The Tavern of Castle Crag was built in the heart of the Sierras, almost at the foot of Mount Shasta, and amid the most picturesque mountain scenery accessible to the tourist. The eligibility of the place selected was due to a rare combination of flowing water, inspiring mountain scenery and inviting forests.

The Tavern of Castle Crag, with its splendid environment, it was believed would appeal chiefly to those who seek a sumemr resort for health, recreation, outdoor sports, sympathy with nature and informal sociability. To emphasize this intention and signify the kind of invitation extended, the name TAVERN of Castle Crag was chosen.

To avoid all implication of sumptuous accommodations or the tyranny of social formalism, and to realize this original conception, the management has decided to make the Tavern of Castle Crag distinctively a family resort; and especially attractive to those to whom health, recreation and sympathy with nature are paramount considerations. To this end rooms on the first and second floors of this splendid taxern with board will be furnished at a monthly rate of $65 a person; and rooms on the third floor with board at a monthly rate of $50 a person.

The accommodations of the Tavern are first class in every particular. Its parlors and halls are elegant and spacious. Its verandas are cool and inviting, placing the guest always in the presence of the most attractive mountain scenery to be enjoyed from the balcony of any tavern in the world.

The opportunity for outdoor sports embraces hunting, fishing, riding, bicycling, walking on mountain paths and driving on picturesque roads. The Tavern is located immediately on the main trunk line of the California & Oregon Railroad, and is fourteen hours' ride from San Francisco, twelve hours from Stockton, ten hours from Sacramento, thirty hours from Los Angeles and twenty-three hours from Portland. The Tavern of Castle Crag is reached from San Francisco and Sacramento without loss of time. The train leaves San Francisco at 8 o'clock p. m., arriving early the following morning for breakfast, which is always ready upon the arrival of the train. Returning, the train time affords equal accommodation. Thus both in going and in coming the comforts of the passenger and the economy of his time have been studied. In brief, the Tavern of Castle Crag realizes to its guests the perfect ideal of that spring-time in the high altitudes of the Sierras which never becomes high summer, and is the comfortable home of pleasing recreation and restful repose.

For particulars apply to

GEORGE SCHONEWALD,
Room 59, Union Trust Building, San Francisco.

Notice of Application for Franchise to Lay Mains and Pipes in Sacramento City and Fixing Day for Receipt of Bids Therefor.

WHEREAS, THE SACRAMENTO NATural Gas Company, a corporation, has this day made application to the Board of Trustees of the City of Sacramento, State of California, for a franchise to lay down mains and pipes, and connections therewith, in any and all the streets and alleys in the said city of Sacramento during the period of fifty years, for the purpose of conveying, distributing and delivering natural and carbureted natural gas through to the inhabitants of said city of Sacramento, and said application having been made and filed in writing, and in due form of law, with said Board of Trustees:

Now therefore it is hereby ordered that it is proposed by the said Board of Trustees of the said city of Sacramento to grant said franchise, the character of which is a franchise authorizing and empowering the grantee or grantees therein to lay down pipes and mains and conections therewith in all the streets and alleys of the said city of Sacramento for the term of fifty years after the date of the approval of the ordinance granting such franchise; and it is further ordered that the 21st day of June, A. D., 1897, at the hour of 7:30 o'clock p. m., and the meeting room of said board, at No. 328½ J street, in the said city of Sacramento, State of California, be and the same are hereby fixed as the time and place at which sealed bids or tenders will be received, opened and read for said proposed franchise, at which time said franchise will be awarded to the highest bidder therefor; and it is further ordered that no bids will be received of a single sum or amount stated, but all bids must be for the payment in lawful money of the United States of a stated per cent. of the gross annual receipts of the person, partnership or corporation, or other authority to whom the franchise is awarded, arising from its use, operation or possession. No percentage shall be paid for the first five years succeeding the date of the franchise, but thereafter such percentage shall be payable annually, and shall in no case be less than 3 per cent per annum upon such gross receipts, the franchise to be forfeited by failure to make the payments stated in the bids upon which the award was made; and it is further ordered that each bidder shall file with his bid a bond to said city of Sacramento, with at least two good and sufficient sureties, to be approved by such Board of Trustees in the penal sum of ten thousand ($10,000) dollars, conditioned that such bidder shall well and truly observe, fulfill and perform each and all of the terms, conditions and obligations of such franchise, in case the same shall be awarded to him, and that in case of any breach of any condition of said bond, the whole amount of the penal sum therein named shall be taken and deemed to be liquidated damages, and shall be recoverable from the principal and sureties upon such bond; and in the event of any bidder failing to file such bond, no award of any such franchise shall be made upon such bid so unaccompanied by such bond, although the same may be the highest, but such franchise may be awarded to the next highest bidder who shall have complied with this proviso, or, in the discretion of the board, any or all bids may be rejected; and it is further ordered that all such bids and tenders shall be delivered to the City Clerk of the city of Sacramento, and that no bid or tender delivered to said Clerk after 7:30 o'clock on said 21st day of June, A. D., 1897, shall be considered by this board; and it is further ordered that this order and the preamble thereto be published in the "Record-Union," a daily newspaper printed and published in said city of Sacramento, once a day for ten successive days, the full advertisement to be completed not less than twenty nor more than thirty days before the said 21st day of June, A. D., 1897.

Dated and ordered in open board, this 17th day of May, 1897.

CHARLES E. LEONARD,
President Board of Trustees.

Attest: M. J. Desmond,
Clerk of Board of Trustees.

James B. Devine, Attorney for Petitioner.
m18-10t

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT, COUNTY of Sacramento, State of California. In the matter of the estate of SOPHIA CONRAD, deceased. John Conrad having this day presented and filed his verified petition praying for an order of this court decreeing and adjudging him to be the sole and separate owner of the following described real estate situate in the city of Sacramento, county of Sacramento, State of California, to wit: Lot number one, and the west forty feet of lot number two, in the block or square bounded by Q and R and Fourteenth and Fifteenth streets, as located on the map or plan of Sacramento City, and improvements thereon, on the ground that the same was community property of himself and his deceased wife at the time of her death;

It is ordered that the hearing of said petition be, and the same is hereby fixed for FRIDAY, the 28th day of May, 1897, at 10 o'clock a. m., at the courtroom of Department No. 2 of this court, and that all persons interested in said estate and said described real estate be and appear before this court at said time and place to show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of said petitioner should not be granted.

It is further ordered that a copy of this order be published twice in the Sacramento "Daily Record-Union" prior to the said 28th day of May, 1897.

MATT F. JOHNSON,
Judge of the Superior Court.

Dated May 15, 1897.
Frank D. Ryan, Attorney for Petitioner.
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Ladies Who Value

A refined complexion must use Pozzoni's Powder. It produces a soft and beautiful skin.