THE HOUSEKEEPER'S PEST

ROACHES OF VARIOUS KINDS, THEIR VIRTUES AND VICES.

Government Brochure on the Thrift and Intelligence of a Hated Insect —How to Be Rid of Them.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

WASHINGTON, July 26.—When a citizen of north Germany wants to express his real convictions about any inhabitant who may chance to come from south Germany he says "schwaben," and in south Germany the people call the north Germans "proussen." All this shows just how much contempt one portion of the German empire has for the other. The word sounds strange, but the insect it describes is familiar to us all. The anicents used to speak of lucifaga, the English of black beetles, and in the United States we have cockroaches. In a pamphlet of fifteen pages just printed at government expense more things are told about cockroaches than were ever dreamed of in the philosophy of any housewife. Mr. C. L. Marlatt is an entomologist, know to fame, and his essay of 7,000 words about the cockroach is a classic which Secretary Wilson, of the Agricultural Department, will preserve for posterity. Circulars showing the cockroach in action will be distributed gratuitously to all who may apply, and the press has been appealed to, to whet the public appetite for cockroach literature.

According to Mr. Marlatt, who is supposed to know more about cockroaches than any other person in the world, this insect is wiser than a serpent and more industrious than a bee. The roach is a creature of moods. There are roaches who organize armies which go forth to battle. Even the feeblest minded roach will fight shy of a poisoned dish which would deceive a king. The roach despises the bed bug and slays him for unadulterated wantoness. But the roach is not an insect of many virtues. Professor Marlatt does not hesitate to call a spade a spade, and after enumerating the virtues of the roach declares that its vices so outweigh them that it must be regarded as a nuisance. Being officially declared a nuisance Professor Marlatt tells numerous ways in which the roach can be destroyed. You can set traps for the roach, but the most effective method of destruction is to employ the burned gunpowder route. For the kind of roaches Professor Marlatt has been experimenting upon, at the Department of Agriculture, gunpowder is sure death.

Roaches belong to the blattidae family and have been the constant companions of man ever since rude shelters were provided to protect him from the elements. Wherever navigation has extended the roach has followed. Before any other insect now known to the world had put in its appearance the cockroach lived for millions of years. Fossil remains of roaches are found in abundance, solemnly asserts Mr. Marlatt, in the early coal formation. The disquieting information is then vouchsafed that 5,000 species are found at the present in different parts of the world.

Mr. Marlatt asserts that the great majority of roaches live outdoors, in which statement he contradicts Mr. J. G. O. Tepper, of South Australia, who is quite an authority on roaches, but is hardly in Mr. Marlatt's class. Mr. Tepper points out that roaches eat the fruit off trees, while Mr. Marlatt has not only discovered this, but cites cases where roaches have eaten the toe nails and eye lashes of sleeping children. This latter performance was pulled off in Brazil, which has more kinds of savage-dispositioned roaches than South Carolina. In Brazil spiders are encouraged because they grow fat on roaches, but in South Carolina roaches are encouraged because they slay bed bugs.

In describing the habits of the roach Mr. Marlatt shows a fine literary style. "Coming into a kitchen or pantry suddenly," says the man who knows more about toaches than any other man in the world, "a sound of rustling of numerous objects will come to the ear. If a light be introduced often the floor or shelves will be seen covered with scurrying roaches hastening to places of concealment. They conceal themselves behind the baseboards, furniture, or whatever security or partial protection from the light is afforded." When once routed the roach is a good traveler and Mr. Marlatt gives us a good description of his gait. "They move with wonderful celerity, with a scurrying, nervous gait and are able to elude all efforts at their capture or destruction."

In describing its transformation Mr. Marlatt follows the roach from egg to adult, employing some 2,000 words to make his discoveries public. With some of the experiments conducted by Mr. Marlatt every citizen of the republic should be familiar. We are told that the health of the roach largely depends on its feed. Under favorable conditions the roach can be developed to abnormal size. Mr. Marlatt, discussing this phase, says: "Young hatching July 11 from an egg case received from Eagle Pass, Tex., reached the adult stage between March 14 and June 12 of the following year, indicating a period of nearly twelve months for complete development."

It is interesting to note that Mr. Marlatt speaks in kindlier terms of the Oriental cockroach than of our own American beetle, the Periplaneta Americana. The Oriental roach is not only more sociable than the American beetle, but the small ones are allowed to sit on the large ones, run over them, "and nestle beneath them without any resentment being shown." The individuals live together in colonies in the most amicable way and have a friendly disposition which is irresistible.

Mr. Marlatt observes that "roaches are usually well endowed with the ability to guard themselves against enemies, displaying great intelligence in keeping out of the way of irate housekeepers and avoiding food and other substances which have been doctored with poisons for their benefit. Still those who are bent on destruction need not despair. Roaches may be killed by fumigating with hydrocyanic-acid gas. Incidentally all the children and the hired girl may be wiped out as well. "The gas is very poisonous to human beings," Mr. Marlatt warns us, "but by observing the proper precautions, may be employed with safety. Pyrethum powder or buhach will, if persisted in, reduce the number of roaches, but it is not recommended. In Germany gunpowder is a very effective method of roach destruction, as it drives them out of their haunts about the fireplace. Cunning devices in the way of traps have been successfully employed in England, but the authorities are pretty well agreed that by mixing one part of plaster of paris and three parts of flour and placing the compound in a saucer, the latter to be put where the roaches abound, a greater destruction will follow in a given time than can be produced from any traps ever devised by English cunning. It does not make any difference whether the saucer is Haviland or ordinary German ware, the concoction referred to is equally deadly. "The insects readily eat the mixture," says Mr. Marlatt, "become thirsty and drink, when the plaster sets and clogs the intestines."

LAPSE OF MEMORY.

(CONCLUDED FROM FIRST PAGE.)

as agents, confederates, associates, etc." If this point was allowed, having established their identity as defendants, they would have moved to quash because of their citizenship being the same as that of the complainants, and the jurisdiction of the Federal Court would not lie. Judge Kellar refused to consider the point, holding that the merits of the bill in equity were not under consideration, but this was a trial for contempt of the orders of the court, the violators having previous knowledge of the injunction. The court held, however, that if the complaining cooperators fail to prove a confederation, in which those charged with contempt are involved, with the original defendants, then the contempt proceedings will fail.

Justice Collins, president of the complaining company was on the stand testifying all afternoon. Attorneys for Richards stated in court that they expected to prove that the complaining company employed ex-convicts, men capable of assault and men in the habit of making assaults, as guards, armed them with the intention of provoking the strikers to a breach of the peace and that the leaders of the strike, Richards and others counseled the strikers to be orderly and not allow the guards to incite them. Judge Kellar said that it could not be proved that the complainants had done as alleged, but it could be proved that Richards counseled the men to be orderly. Attorneys for Richards will seek also to prove that the Collins Colliery Company gave liquor to the men who have been at work in the mines since the strike commenced and that the men became drunk and disorderly and caused trouble. The attorneys on each side are making a hard fight and every point is reserved for a contest in the higher courts. The court room was crowded, the trial being a matter of intense interest in this section now.

Anthracite May Be $10 a Ton.

NEW YORK, July 26.—Predictions that anthracite coal will be $10 a ton within forty-eight hours are made by one of the largest wholesale dealers in this city. The statement was made after reports were received showing that the local market is barren of coal, both domestic and steam sizes.

An indication of the extent of the coal famine comes from Plainfield, N. J., in a dispatch which says there is les than 100,000 tons of anthracite in the yards there and that for the first time in the history of the yards soft coal has been stored in them and that one-half the total amount in store is bituminous. There are now in Port Morris, N. J., 300 gondolas of coal, about 7,500 tons, but there may be 7,500 tons more in to-day.

No Protest to the President.

OYSTER BAY, N. Y., July 26.—It has been stated that President Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers, would present to Mr. Roosevelt a protest against the decision of Judge Jackson in the West Virginia injunction cases, but no such papers have reached Sagamore Hill. It is the understanding that no protest will be made. It is not a matter in which he can participate at this time. It is believed the miners will look to the courts for such vindication as they may think themselves entitled to.

Railroad Is Storing Coal.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

PORTLAND, Ind., July 26.—The Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad is storing thousands of tons of coal on sidings within but a few miles of here, evidently in anticipation of a strike of soft coal miners. It has unloaded seventy-five cars at Bryant, fifty cars at Ridgeville and eighty-eight cars at Summit.

CASE OF DR. RUSSELL WILSON.

Senator Hanna's Efforts to Save the Young Ohioan's Life.

CLEVELAND, O., July 26.—Senator Hanna has sent a telegram to Washington in regard to Dr. Russell Wilson, who is about to be tried by court-martial in Nicaragua for participating in a filibustering expedition. Dispatches from Nicaragua state that Dr. Wilson is seriously compromised, as he was suspected of having participated in an expedition in one of the provinces of Nicaragua in 1899.

"I have discovered," said Senator Hanna, "that Dr. Wilson was a student in the medical department of Ohio State University in 1899 and he did not graduate until 1900. There is no truth in the charge that he participated in the revolution of 1899. I have wired to J. J. Hill, assistant secretary of state, requesting him to notify our minister to Nicaragua and see that Dr. Wilson is accorded a full and fair trial for his life. Dr. Wilson's mother has already started for Bluefields, Nicaragua, where her son is now confined."

No Hasty Action by Nicaragua.

WASHINGTON, July 26.—Senor Corea, the Nicaraguan minister, to-day informed acting Secretary of State Dr. Hill that his government has accepted the minister's recommendation relative to the postponement of any final measures in the case of Dr. Wilson, the American captured in a filibustering party near Bluefields, until all of the rights which he has under the law have been invoked. Furthermore, President Zelaya showed the confidence he felt in his minister here by indicating his purpose to be bound in the final disposition of Wilson's case by the minister's recommendations. As Senator Hanna represented that Wilson was in Chicago in 1899, by way of controverting the statement that he was engaged in a former revolution in Nicaragua, Senor Corea has explained to the State Department that the revolution referred to was in the preceding year, 1898, and Wilson's participation therein was absolutely established.

REWARDED FOR COURTESY.

Former Dining-Car Steward Appointed Superintendent of Commissary.

CHICAGO, July 26.—It was made known in railroad circles here to-night that H. J. Titus, formerly a steward on one of the Alton's dining cars had been appointed superintendent of commissary of the Mobile & Ohio Railway and will assume his new duties Aug. 15. Back of the announcement is an interesting little story. Mr. Titus had, recently, on his Alton dinning car, a passenger who was so impressed with the courteous attention of the steward that on the arrival of the train in Chicago the passenger who was a high official of the Mobile & Ohio went to the general offices of the Chicago & Alton Railway and being assured of Mr. Titus's ability, promptly appointed the latter superintendent commissary of the Mobile & Ohio Railway. Mr. Titus will have headquarters in Jackson, Tenn. He will be the youngest railway superintendent of dining cars in the United States, his age being but twenty-four.

CHASE ACROSS THE DESERT.

Forces of the Mad Mullah Punished by a British Flying Column.

ADEN, Arabia, July 26.—The British expeditionary force operating against the Mad Mullah in east Africa after scouting northeast of Damot, over an absolutely waterless country, learned the general direction of the Mullah's forces, and his prisoners and sent off a mounted column under Colonel Cobbe, which, after an eighty-mile chase across the desert, came in contact with the tribesmen, killed 150 of them and captured 4,000 camels and 12,000 sheep. The British had eight men killed and four wounded.

SHEEP AT THE VATICAN.

Raised Especially to Provide Robes for the Pope.

New York Commercial.

"Speaking of the Pope's wardrobe," said McConnell McNaught, a Tombstone tailor, just returned from a pilgrimage to Rome, "the Commercial didn't half tell the story the other day. It never mentioned the gloves of his Holiness at all. Why, now, these wonderful slippers fall into insignificance with the value of the innumerable pairs of hand-gear. Most of these are of the very finest white wool. That sounds modest, but, as it happens, the wool is embroidered in costly pearls. The materials for the gloves, as for the woolen garments worn by the Pope, is made from the fleece of a special flock of sheep dedicated to this purpose and owned by a family that has since the middle of the sixteenth century enjoyed the privilege.

"From this herd of fifty sheep a number of lambs are set aside each year. On Jan. 21 these lambs are taken to the Pope, and in an impressive ceremony receive the Papal blessing. After that they are kept for a year at a convent near Rome and are cared for in the most elaborate and punctilious fashion. The year being passed, the lambs are shorn and the nuns weave the fleece into palliums for the Pope. The pallium, a long strip of white wool, adorned only by a gold cross at each end, is the most sacred of priestly vestments and is worn around the neck and body, the ends falling over the left shoulder. Before Pope Leo wears one of his many palliums it must lie for a certain length of time upon the sarcophagus of St. Peter.

"Many of the Papal vestments are set with rich jewels and are stiff with gold and silver; but these gorgeous garments are seldom worn since the Vatican lost its temporal power and the Pope has given up grand public ceremonies. One of the jeweled robes, the famous cappa magna, or great cape, is so thickly set with gems that its weight alone would prevent the old and frail Pope from wearing it.

"Pope Leo XIII is fond of jewels, and has a reasonably valuable collection of rings, but only three of them are official. The Fisherman ring, carved with a representation of St. Peter fishing, is the Pope's official signet ring, and is destroyed at the death of the wearer, a duplicate being made for his successor."

Eyes Examined Free.

Gold filled eyeglasses, $1.50 to $2.50 each. J. P. MULLALLY, diamonds and jewelry manufacturing, 28 Monument Place.

PORTO RICO PROSPERING

GOVERNOR HUNT SAYS BUSINESS IS RAPIDLY IMPROVING.

Health Conditions Are Better and the Natives Are Seeking Education at the Schools.

NEW YORK, July 26.—Governor William H. Hunt arrived to-day from Porto Rico on the steamer Coamo. Attorney General James S. Harlan accompanied him. Governor Hunt will join his family at Casonovia, N. Y., and Mr. Harlan will join his at Murray Bay, in Canada. Both will return to Porto Rico in September.

Governor Hunt said in relation to Porto Rico: "General Miles landed in Porto Rico four years ago to-day. Great changes have taken place and the island has much to be thankful for since our flag was raised. The close of the fiscal year showed better business, better health and better prospects than ever. The insular treasury balance on July 1 was $314,000, against $239,000 in the year. The total exports for last year aggregated $12,889,925, showing an increase in exports to foreign countries of 54 1-10 per cent. over the previous and 48 6-10 per cent. increase of exports to the United States. The increase is principally in sugar, cigars and cigarettes and coffee. We sent $204,300 worth of straw hats alone to the United States last year. American merchants would do well to study Porto Rico imports from Europe with a view to enlarging home trade. Porto Rico bought over $400,000 worth of Nova Scotia codfish last year and over $150,000 worth of foreign soaps. Spain sent us rice valued at more than $90,000 and over $500,000 of potatoes.

"This business should go to our own markets and with larger development in the island its future commerce must be kept closer at home. The Porto Rican coffee continues to go to Europe, to Austria, France, Spain, Italy and Germany. America took only $29,000 worth last year, while Europe took over $3,000,000 worth. The superiority of the coffee is such that we cannot understand the insignificant demand for it in New York; still it is gradually gaining favor and will soon be sold extensively, I hope.

"Fruit growing is receiving more attention, and with a quicker transportation will invite investment. Improvment is noticeable in all directions. The people welcome schools. The insular government cannot supply enough, being necessarily limited to $600,000 per annum for education, but we are teaching nearly 50,000 children and expect to open two industrial schools in the fall. Adults want to learn, and in some instances children are teaching their parents. There was an extraordinary decrease in the number of deaths last year, 13,000 fewer than in the year before. There is much less anaemia than formerly. People look healthier, live better and take better care of themselves. All sanitation has improved."

In relation to politics, the Governor said: "They are content with their general political condition. This being an election year, politics will occupy much attention, as a new Legislature, mayors and other officers are to be chosen. Two years ago one party withdrew from the field, but from the present outlook there will be a contest next November. The vote will run up to 120,000. Civil government has now been established over two years, during which time there has been a wonderful adaptability to free conditions and thus far no serious setback. New codes of law are in effect; the island is now controlled by American statutes. There was a ready adjustment to the change, however, and reports of the operation of the new laws are gratifying. The criminal code, modeled largely after the California penal laws, is giving particular satisfaction.

"Porto Ricans are ambitious for closer relations with the United States and deserve all encouragement. My residence of over two years in the island, I found them generous, warm hearted, good people. They are impressionable, but gentle and kind. The result of the liberal government given them is a steadily growing mutual respect and liking between them and the citizens of the mainland. I regard this in itself a most desirable achievement of our occupancy."

Governor Hunt intimated that before going to Casenovia he would communicate the fact of his arrival here to President Roosevelt at Oyster Bay, and if the President desires to see him he would delay his departure until he heard from Sagamore Hill.

WEDDING AT NEWPORT.

Robert Joseph Collier and Miss Sara Stewart Van Alen Married.

NEWPORT, R. I., July 26.—The marriage of Miss Sara Stewart Van Alen, youngest daughter of James J. Van Alen and granddaughter of Mrs. William Astor, to Robert Joseph Collier, son of Peter Fenelon Collier, of New York, took place to-day at the Van Alen villa "Wakehurst." Only the members of the two families and a few intimate friends were present. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss May Van Alen, and the groom by Robert R. Remington. There were no bridesmaids or ushers. Bishop Byrnes, of Nashville, Tenn., officiated, assisted by the Rev. William B. Meenan, pastor of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church. After the ceremony a nuptial mass was celebrated at St. Mary's Church by Bishop Byrne and Father Meenan. Invitation to the church was general and a large number of friends were present at the service. After the marriage at the church a wedding breakfast was served on Mr. Collier's yacht Radha, at which only about twenty invited guests were present. During the day Mr. and Mrs. Collier left on a wedding trip at sea.

HATS AND THE MAN.

A Protest Against Subjection to the Panama Fad.

Boston Journal.

"No form of the rough straw hat will be stylish this year," says the sartorial dictator. "The Panama is the thing."

Now, a littlething like the price of a Panama that will ast through at least one rainstorm—$8 or $10—is of no consequence, of course. So many of our worthy fellowcitizens are looking hard for ways in which to dispose of their cumbrous income that the munificence of the whole American people seems to be taken for granted by these gentlemen whose portraits we see every day on th signboards.

Personally we have a strong aversion to the Panama. This aversion has nothing to do with the fact that our last straw hat—a rough pattern, by the way—is in presentable condition, or that we are saving up to go tothe still receding St. Louis fair. The fact is, the Panama isn't our style. A man ought to be independent at least in regard to his hat. We have always felt friendly toward the few brave, venerable persons who are yet clinging to the Daniel Webster hat. "There," we say to ourselves as they hobble by, "there is strength of character—independence."

Surely that is a sign of character! The ancients declined to compromise themselves; they wore no hats. When the time of honor came they offered their bare heads to the laurel. They were not embarassed or distorted by the derby, the stovepipe or the feodora. We can imagine Caesar strolling along the Via Appia in a silk tile, but the picture is wholly amusing. We can also imagine Napoleon doffing a nice white fedora to the ladies at Fontainebleau, but we instantly associate the wonderful hero of Dresden with Mr. De Wolf Hopper and the Weber & Fields chorus. No, for all time Caesar shall wear no tile, and Napoleon the familiar three-cornered headpiece that, according to Hugo, showed its broad front to the allies even after the corpses of his daring cuirasslers had filled to the level the sunken road of Obain.

But the number of those who hold out determinedly against hat fashions is small. In hats, as in speech, custom first makes them rebels and then slaves.

The Blue Jay.

July Century.

One may pet or patronize, according to one's nature, a chipping sparrow, bluebird, or phoebe, but he is indeed well coated with self-esteem who does not feel a sense of inferiority in the presence of a jay. He is such a shrewd, independent, and aggressive creature that one is inevitably led to the belief that he is more of a success as a bird than most men are as men. Conspicuous by voice and action during the fall and winter, when other birds are quietest, he becomes silent when other birds are most vocal. If he has a love-song, it is reserved for the ear of his mate. At this season he ever controls his fondness for owl-baiting, and with it his vituperative gifts. The robin, the catbird, and the thrasher seem eager to betray the location of their nest to every passer-by, but the blue jay gives no evidence of the site of his habitation by being seen in its vicinity.

TWO CHILDREN STRANGLED.

Another's Throat Cut with Twine and the Drunken Mother Unconscious.

NEW YORK, July 26.—Richard Meade, a night watchman, on returning to his home in Brooklyn to-day, found his two little daughters dead from strangulation caused by twine tightly wrapped around their throats. A third child was unconscious from the same cause and his wife lay in a comatose condition on the floor, apparently suffering from alcoholism, combined with poison. According to the police the woman was of intemperate habits, and the supposition is that she strangled the children while in a delirious condition. The oldest child was three years of age. Her body and that of her one-year-old sister were lying on the bed with several yards of stout twine wound about their throats. The other little one was still alive and was removed to a hospital with the mother. The baby's injuries are probably fatal, as the slender cord had cut deep into its throat. About one year ago Meade had his wife arraigned for commitment for intemperance. It was just prior to the birth of the youngest child, and on that account she was released on promise to reform.

COOKED IN A BOILER.

Horrible Tale of Two Men Who Fell with a Scaffold.

DYERSBURG, Tenn., July 26.—Will Young and Dan McAuliff met a terrible death while repairing a steam pipe at a mill here to-ray. The scaffolding on which they were working gave way and they fell into one of the boilers and were literally cooked, the flesh dropping from them in large pieces when they were pulled out.

Overcome by Gas.

PITTSBURG, Pa., July 26.—While repairing a break at the top of the Clinton blast furnace to-day Master Mechanic Martin Harrihill and two pipefitters, M. M. Austin and M. Beckwith, were overcome by gas and were found later lying on the platform unconscious. Harrihill and Austin, it is thought, will die.

YANKEE INDEPENDENCE.

A Londoner in New York Thinks He Has Made a Discovery.

New York Sun.

"I have been in your country a year," said a Londoner, "and a good part of that time has been spent in the East. You are an interesting people to me aside from your manner of business.

"What interests and amuses me is some of the little things I notice. Has it ever occurred to you that you people are quite obstinate, when, to quote one of our dead writers, the hair is rubbed the wrong way?

"You often speak of us as bullheaded. You people are stubborn in little things.

"I stopped in front of the entrance of one of your big buildings the other day and read this sign, 'No loafing here. Move on.' Rather commanding, don't you think?

"But what amused me was that in spite of the order I saw at least a dozen men standing there with apparently nothing to do. As I chanced to know one in the gathering I ventured to ask him why he and the others were there against the wish of the owner. He said he could only speak for himself.

"'This is a free country,' he went on to say. 'I don't recognize the right of the man who put up that sign to tell me in that way what I shall do. So long as I do not make a nuisance of myself I may stand in this entrance if I choose.'

"We walked away together and farther down the street he met an acquaintance, who asked to have a word with him, and suggested that they step into an entrance that was handy. Your countryman, who had maintained his right to stand in the place where I found him, objected to stepping into the entrance where he was asked to step. I thought it funny, don't you know, and I made bold to ask him why.

"'Because,' he said, 'in this entrance is the sign, "Please do not block the entrance." The man who owns this building is a gentleman. He recognizes that I am a gentleman. He says "Please" and I respect his wish. You can't bully an American,' he added.

"Then I remembered that last winter I had a temporary stopping place in the office of a friend down town. I heard him tell his clerk to put a sign on the door which would indicate that he wanted the door to be closed when one passed in or out.

"The clerk put up a placard, 'Shut the Door.' His employer saw it and told him 'Write on the placard, "Please Shut the Door." Gentlemen come into my office, he said, 'I do not command a getleman.'

"The other day when I was in a downtown office my friend told his boy to call up a certain number by telephone. The boy went at it hammer and tongs and reported that the number was busy. His master said to him:

"'Call again and say, 'If you please, give me No. —.'

"The boy did so, and there was an immediate response. I know from my own experience that that doesn't always work.

"But I have learned from observing these little things that you people respond most graciously where the request is in the same spirit. The only instance where I have seen it fail is when your street car conductors order you to step lively. I notice that you obey that order with alacrity. I don't understand that."

"STRANGE PEOPLE."

We Meet Them Every Day and They Likewise Meet Us.

Robert Hichens in London Queen.

Some years ago, when I was in Egypt, spending most of my time in temples and in tombs, I perpetually heard Cook's tourists exclaiming, among the bats, "What strange people these Egyptians must have been!" And, as I looked at the Cook's tourists, I mentally exclaimed, "What strange people these Cookites are!" Strange people are seldom, or never, aware that they are strange. I once conserved with a black gentleman in a decayed nightdress, who wore a plume of jet black hair in the midst of an otherwise bald head, and munched living scorpions for breakfast. Well, he thought me, in my decent tweed suit and Homburg hat, a strange, savage sort of creature. I go about the world in a perpetual condition of wonder at other people; at their noses, their pleasures, their loves, their illnesses, their lacks and their surfeits, their stupidities and their talents. And I believe my idiosyncracy is widely shared. When my friend marries I wonder why he choose the particular woman he did choose. When my acquaintance, at the age of thirty-nine, catches German measles in France, I marvel how he came to do it, and proclaim him "a very odd sort of fellow." When I hear my partner at dinner raving about the charms of Worthing, I cannot conceive in what the attraction lies. When my female cousin, on the only fine day of the English summer, draws down all the blinds at 3 o'clock in the afternoon and begins to play bridge, I consider her "a most extraordinary woman." And so on, and so on. Now, all these worthy people return my astonishment. They think me, probably, a well-meaning sort of man, but quite an eccentric. Of course, I know I am not eccentric. Those who differ from me are.

And, as I look on individuals with astonishment, so I often look on masses of individuals. Every morning of my life when I read my daily paper—by the way, I think it most strange that any living person should take in any paper but the one I favor—I am lost in amazement at the drift of public opinion and of public pleasure, at the things "our girls" are doing, at the tendencies shown by "our boys," at the last new fashion, at the last new religion. My eyebrows are always near the top of my head from 8 till 9 a. m.

Canadian Steamship Plans.

MONTREAL, July 26.—Discussing the Canadian Pacific Railway's tender for the fast Atlantic steamship service to be subsidized by the British and Canadian governments to the extent of $1,500,000 per annum, Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, the president of the company, stated that the plans contemplated the construction of four twenty-knot passenger steamers and ten or eleven 10-000-ton cargo boats with a speed of fifteen knots. Other railway companies, he said, would be placed in as equally favorable position as the Canadian Pacific as regards traffic, etc.

THE WILSON GIRLS' LUCK

THEY HAVE SUCCEEDED IN MARRYING RICH AND INFLUENTIAL MEN.

Appointment of Mr. Herbert as Britsh Ambassador Scores Another Point for the Family.

Philadelphia Press.

The wonderful Wilson luck is again the topic of New York society. Some say it is Mr. Wilson's luck, others that Mrs. Wilson owns the golden spoon. A great many will not put down the brilliant success of his family to anything but luck. They insist that no management, however good, could bring about the continuation of the golden thread that runs through their lives. The incident that has created all the new talk is the appointment of the Hon. Michael Henry Herbert to the place made vacant by Lord Pauncefote.

After this last piece of luck the New Yorkers declare that there is no use contending against the Wilsons, and that the Vanderbilts may just as well give in to it now. There is no use holding out against people who have such a run of cards.

Mrs. Herbert was a Miss Wilson, you know, and her husband's splendid appointment to Washington will put her in the foremost ranks of diplomatic society.

Added to this position is the fact that the King increases the usual salary so that the Herberts can live on it; and in addition may give him a title, so that he will rank as a noble representative of Albert Edward.

With all the other luck that has come to the Wilsons, millions has been part of it. Five years ago Mrs. Richard T. Wilson, sr., was called the Queen of Denmark, because no one else in modern history seemed to be equal to her in marrying off her children, except that magnificent mother of the Queen of England, and the now Dowager Czarina of Russia.

One alliance after another has been brought about by Mother Wilson to make the family influence a tremendous one in society. The Wilsons made money in New York and they are rich people, but they had nothing of the colossal fortunes of the families they have married into. They came from Georgia after the civil war and brought with them that culture, grace and good breeding that many of the best Southerners own, and which is accorded all of them by the Northerner, who invests the Southerner with romance.

Richard T. Wilson, the father, has made some money and a fame by his financiering during the civil war, and he brought his talent to the New York market when the day of the new life started after '65. He believed that he had ability that would give him a place in the great world; so instead of turning to plowing old grounds, he turned his face to the market place of the now United States. He went to New York to dabble in money and left his neighbors, Robert Toombs and Alexander Stephens, to go on in the old paths.

He succeeded in New York. Wall street knows his history. He had not overestimated his talents. The old ways and the old life fell from him, and few people would know the Richard Wilson of the millionaire set of New York in Richard Wilson, the Georgian of '62.

IN THE SMART SET.

The Wilson girls were brought out into what was the best set in New York. About twenty-five years ago Mary Wilson, the eldest, married Ogden Goelet. This match was a nine days' wonder. Even envious mothers had to admit that the Wilson girls had carried off the greatest prize in the matrimonial market. He had a colossal fortune and great social position. When he died in 1897 at Cowes on his yacht, the Mayflower, he left his widow a fortune of $50,000,000.

Mrs. Goelet has now an annuity of $150,000, a trust fund of $300,000, opera box No. 1 at the Metropolitan, a palace at No. 609 Fifth avenue, with many other houses bringing in a rental, and then the great villa at Newport, called Ochre Court.

This is the house that contains the most magnificent hallway in America.

An open arcade extends from the first floor to a splendid dome of stained glass. The staircase is imported from France. It is of wonderfully carved Caen stone.

She also owns the yacht Mayflower, which is valued at $400,000.

All this is quite a good deal, you see, to have got by a single marriage.

When Mrs. Goelet's sister married the man who became British minister plenipotentiary to Paris Mrs. Goelet began to live abroad a great deal. Her sister's established social position in the best set of Europe gave the Goelet's the opportunity for an international social life.

Before society had finished talking about this Southern girl capturing the best man in New York another surprise was given them. When Orme Wilson, the oldest son, announced his engagement to Miss Caroline Astor.

Here was a Wilson marrying into the very stronghold of the exclusives, as his sister did! Miss Astor was one of the greatest belles of her day, and her millions were world famous. Moreover, her mother, Mrs. William Astor, was born a Schermerhorn, the proud leaders of Knickerbocker society and when she married the son of a Dutch trader she carried the family straight up to the place she had always held.

Her daughter inherited the mother's success and was accepted by the world as one of its social leaders.

So that young Wilson not only allied himself with the Astor millions, but he connected himself with the Schermerhorn family, whose aristocratic set was the backbone of New York's best element.

Since that marriage Mrs. Wm. Astor has become the acknowledged leader of American society, and all the Astor ramifications have backed up the Wilson family.

Then came Mrs. Wilson's nickname of the Queen of Denmark.

People began to say there was no end to the Wilson ambitions. That she would marry the next daughter into the nobility of England.

Mrs. Wilson was not so stupid as that. The folly of international marriages where rich girls pay for the title of impoverished nobility was not so patent to the world then as now.

SHE HAD FORESIGHT.

But Mrs. Wilson was a wise woman, and, like Mrs. Leiter, she could see a statesman in an attache.

She married the second daughter to Mr. Herbert, whose family and whose future were of the best. And her wisdom has been proved.

When Miss Leila Wilson, who was considered very beautiful, met Michael Henry Herbert they were both traveling in Europe. The engagement was announced in Paris, and they were married in 1898. Mr. Herbert was charge at the Washington embassy, and he took his bride there with him. Since then he has filled this same position at The Hague, at Constantinople and at Rome. In 1898 he was appointed secretary to the British embassy, and then he was invested with the powers of minister plenipotentiary.

When Lord Pauncefote died the attention of the world was taken up with the question of who would be his successor. This position is far greater now than ever before. America is reckoned as one of the great world powers, and it was demanded of the King by those in English power that he send to us a brilliant representative.

When he appointed Mr. Herbert he raised the rank by raising the salary, and it is now said that he will knight him in order that he may bear a title in the diplomatic corps.

So that where the other Wilsons got great social power and many millions, the second daughter has got eminent diplomatic position and distinguished honors.

Miss Grace Wilson, the third daughter, captured the head of the Vanderbilt family. His father did not choose to recognize him as such in his will, but his birthright cannot be taken away from him. Society whispered, or rather said openly, that the Wilsons wouldn't succeed in making a great New York match for the last child, because they had captured so much that all the mothers in town were fighting the gentle little Southern woman, who never puts forth the least claim for power.

So when Miss Grace carried off a Vanderbilt in spite of all opposition the other mothers simply gave up.

Then came the celebrated Vanderbilt-Wilson feud, in which the former family have done everything to keep young Cornelius and his wife out of the leading set. Nobody yet understands what is the reason of the discord. The young Mrs. Vanderbilt is in every way a charmingly bright woman, but the Vanderbilts, who are never a sensational family, have not bridged over the chasm. Many thought that the Wilson luck had turned, and that so powerful an opponent as the Vanderbilt family would keep young Mrs. Cornelius from enjoying her first success. But the golden spoon is still there.

When Prince Henry of Prussia came to America he made it known that he would like to dine with the young Mrs. Vanderbilt, and this matron had the distinct success of gathering about her the greatest women in society to meet the Kaiser's brother. Not only that, but when Mrs. Ogden Mills, one of the most elegant and exclusive women in New York, gave her luncheon to Prince Henry young Mrs. Vanderbilt received with her. Some members of the Vanderbilt family have been living at Washington a good deal, and, it is said, were desirous of having a strong position there.

Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt could go her own way in New York. Then here comes the Wilson luck. The Herberts at the very head of Washington's exclusive set will offer all the laurels of that position to the sister, young Mrs. Vanderbilt. Surely, it is better to be born lucky than rich.

Ammonia Over the 'Phone.

Philadelphia Press.

"I have heard people call up places over the telephone and ask to 'see' certain persons, but that isn't a marker to what I heard yesterday," remarked a Walnut-street druggist.

"A woman came into my store, and, stepping to the telephone, called up her friend, Mrs. Wilton, of Lansdowne. While she was talking my drug clerk, who was cleaning some glass, poured a lot of ammonia upon a sponge and began rubbing. Soon the odor filled the store. Imagine my surprise when I heard the woman at the telephone exclaim, 'Whew, you must be cleaning house.'

"'Why?' repeating the question over the 'phone.

"'Why, because I can smell ammonia so plainly. My, but that is powerful stuff to carry so great a distance.'

"There was a pause. 'Now at what are you laughing? You finished a month ago—impos—'

"Then, turning around, she caught the twinkle in the clerk's eye and looked fairly paralyzed.

"'Ah,' she stammered; 'really, Fan, I must be going—you—'

"'And you never saw a woman make such time before. She even forgot to hang up the receiver,' laughed the druggist with a reminiscent smile.

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