

"Mostly About People."

Personalities, Poems and Anecdotes Picked from the Pages of the July Magazines.

A GREAT COLLEGE PRESIDENT.

President Elliot's task was twofold: to introduce a uniform and efficient administration, and to raise the standard of instruction to the level of the best.

"I can answer Dr. —'s question very easily," replied Mr. Elliot: "There is a new president."

Well, I declare! exclaimed Governor Washburn, when Mr. Elliot paid his first official visit to the Law School.

Within a year C. C. Langdell had begun his splendid work of revolutionizing not only the Harvard Law School, but the teaching of law.

HAWTHORNE AND DANTE.

Two things are to be remembered and made mention of in this centenary celebration of Hawthorne.

First, the glory he reflects upon American literature. Little has been done by us in letters or art that is quite of the highest order, except the works of Hawthorne.

But Hawthorne has a wider claim upon our gratitude, namely, the fact that he has set the seal of glorious achievement in letters upon the moral laws of our nature.

COURTING IN TIBET.

When a Tibetan warrior, surfeited with the glory of martial life, desires a wife, he waits upon the father of the girl who has attracted his eye and makes an offer of marriage.

For a month the accepted suitor must keep the family of his favored one supplied with meat and other luxuries, and must be on his guard against rival suitors.

HANDSOME IS —

Every member on both sides of the House likes John Williams. To analyze his popularity is not so easy. But it can be safely said that it is not his beauty which first attracts one, for his pulchritude is of the singed cat variety.

"Uncle Joe" wears on all occasions a postprandial aspect, suggestive of that peace and plenty which comports well with certain planks in his party platform.

A VOICE.

Summer sings at the door! Oh, it's up, my heart and away From this empty house of Love, with its dust of yesterday.

Around is a glad, wild wind and riot of blossoming, And the room where we sit is dull, a cheerless and sunless thing;

Life is loud on the hills and the hartebloom blooms are gay. Let us out from this shrouded place as long caged birds may wing;

For mourner of Love no more, but lover of Life I stay, Till the red blood fails to leap and joy is a thing gone gray.

I come from a haunted house—my grief to your winds I fling; Oh, Earth of the mother-heart, be good to the soul I bring.

A DRAMATIC CONVENTION CLIMAX.

In May [1868] the Republican National Convention came along. Nast went to Chicago to be present.

It was settled beforehand that General Grant was to be the Republican Presidential candidate. The great soldier had maintained a calm and noble dignity through all the trying days of conflict between Congress and Andrew Johnson.

Realizing that the convention would name Grant as its choice, Nast prepared a little surprise for the event. He painted upon a large curtain the White House entrance, with two pedestals, one on each side, bearing the words, "Republican Nominee, Chicago, May 20th," and "Democratic Nominee, New-York, July 4th," respectively.

This curtain, with a blank curtain before it, was suspended at the back of the convention stage. At the instant when General Grant was announced as the unanimous Presidential choice of his party, the blank curtain was lifted and the great cartoon, "Match Him!" was suddenly exposed to full view.

The occurrence was so unexpected that the throng was silent for a moment, taking it in. Then, realizing that it was a spectacular climax—the pictorial expression of a universal sentiment—the assembled multitude gave vent to an enthusiasm that turned the great hall into a pandemonium of exultation.

ANGLO-SAXON CHIVALRY IN JAPAN.

There was a man here whose nationality will not be mentioned, and a big young American who hasn't lost the traditions of his race and country. With the lack of understanding that is not uncommon with foreigners during the first days in Japan, this particular foreigner said something to the little lady that he would not have said under similar circumstances at home.

THE CENTENARY OF A DUEL.

One hundred years ago, the 11th of this month [July] occurred the historic duel by which Alexander Hamilton, the brilliant statesman, lost his life at the hands of the erratic, ambitious and designing Burr.

At this mansion, which stands in bold prominence upon the heights overlooking the Harlem River at One-hundred-and-sixtieth-st., Burr lived after he married the Widow Jumel. His days there, however, were but another pathetic chapter in the life of a brilliant man who permitted his evil instincts to master and control his career.

KING EDWARD'S DIPLOMACY.

The friend of peace, with a rare sense of what is fitting and what is in national good taste, with the keenest anxiety to spare the sensibilities of all, by a diplomatic intervention at home he prevents or allays many a bad impression

"A breezy, cheery and charming" new novel.

The Singular Miss Smith

By Mrs. FLORENCE MORSE KINGSLEY

The Singular Miss Smith

The Singular Miss Smith

"is a book to be read, laughed over and then carefully considered. Part of the

"simply as a story, is most interesting. It is readable, the character drawing is

book is pure romance, and its simplicity and tenderness leave one better for the reading of it."—The Public Ledger, Phila.

The Singular Miss Smith

"Anne Smith was an orphan and a very wealthy young woman, but she was 'different from other girls, and she did not get on well socially.' She was not sure what a 'plane' was, and she did not know where her solar plexus was; and when she tried to listen to a fat, calm Hindu man at the Ontological Club, and to 'concentrate' the way he did, she found herself staring at the back hair of the woman in front of her, having discovered that she wore two switches. The book is decidedly worth reading."

Mrs. ELLA HIGGINSON, in The Seattle Times.

The Singular Miss Smith

"is not nearly so singular as is the fact that this deliciously humorous and witty tale was written by a woman. This assertion is made with due obeisances to the sex, and is a tribute to the quality of the humor, which, like mercy, is not strained."

—N. Y. Ev'g Post.

The Singular Miss Smith

"All together, even including the romance, the book is sane and bright and wholesome. . . It is not the less worth while for the 'story' than for its true and excellent and conclusive solution of the many tremendous problems with which it deals in its crisp, brief pages."—St. Louis Republic.

The Singular Miss Smith

is in its third edition; the first edition is entirely sold out; the second issued last week was entirely exhausted by advance orders.

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abroad. His diplomacy is not confined to visits to other countries; it is a daily habit at home, and more than one actor-manager could tell of a suggestion from Marlborough House, and, in latter days, from Buckingham Palace, which postponed the presentation of a play or a song or a monologue internationally inopportune.

AN EXPLOSIVE INVENTOR.

Mr. Maxim will show you one of his important inventions, his powerful shell expander, known as maxinite, which in explosive force is about 50 per cent more efficient than dynamite and somewhat more powerful than pure nitroglycerine.

This maxinite has lately been adopted by our government as a bursting charge for projectiles and shells, and it is equalled in shattering force by only two other known substances. In spite of its high explosive quality it is a very safe compound to handle, and is practically unaffected by shock, and will not explode by being set on fire—even if a mass of it is stirred with a white-hot iron.

In appearance maxinite somewhat resembles sulphur, being yellow in color and quite hard. It is easily melted, in which condition it flows like molasses and is poured into steel projectiles.

DEGENERATE BANNERMEN.

The history of the Manchus is one of continued and rapid growth. From a small tribe, their influence spread over the great plains of Western Manchuria, until they became a force which even great China deemed it advisable to conciliate.

As the home of the Manchu dynasty, Manchuria, in the eyes of the Emperor, deserved honored treatment, and the followers of the standard—there was scarcely a Manchu who had not seen service—were specially cared for. It was declared by special decree that all Man-

chus for time unending should belong to one of the eight banner corps and receive a small monthly stipend. The great home country should remain the exclusive property of all Manchus, and Chinese were forbidden to hold land in it.

The Manchu policy, which, in its conception, provided for the continuance and development of a great race of pure Manchus, who would always be at the beck and call of the Manchu dynasty, and would be a safeguard against the restoration of Chinese rule, brought on results quite the reverse of those desired. The Manchu found his small wage sufficient at first to provide food, and there was no longer the necessity to live the arduous life of a hunter or herdsman.

A WIZARD OF HORTICULTURE.

I have met recently in a little vine mantled cottage not far from the Pacific a remarkable man, known to experts throughout the country and beyond, yet one of the least known to the general public. Mr. Luther Burbank has evolved more extraordinary and, indeed, more marvelous plant life than any other man.

On a wind swept mesa he finds a wild flower of some native beauty, but insignificant in size and, in the main, uncomely. He takes this flower and gives it a new life, increases its size, doubles its vigor, hastens its spring time appearing; or, if it suits him, he transforms it utterly, producing a flower unlike anything which has yet blossomed.

He takes a small, unpalatable fruit, inferior in size and lacking in nutrition, and makes it over into another fruit, large, rich, toothsome beautiful. A little daisy, small and imperfect, appealed to him one day, and he developed the insignificant flower into one several inches in diameter. He takes a flower with a large, showy bloom, a handsome creature among its more delicate companions, but having an offensive odor, and gives to it a delicate, fragrant scent.