NICKNAMES OF THE PUGILISTS

"KID" THE MOST COMMON OF THEM OF LATE YEARS.

Spikes, Slashers and Coffee Coolers and How They Won Fame—Most Nicknames Tributes to the Prowess of the Bearers—Fighters Named for Corbett.

There are few fighters in the ring to-day, from champions down to the humblest scrapper, who do not rejoice in some sort of nickname The most common designation in later years has been the word "Kid." This sobriquet has been applied to scores of pugilists, and no matter how old the possessors become, the name sticks. Probably the only one of the latter day bruisers nicknamed "Kid" who became a champion was Kid Lavigne, although Kid Carter and Kid McCoy have attained prominence in their class. Lavigne became known as the Kid because of his youthful appearance.

Norman Selby, otherwise Kid McCoy, battled under the latter cognomen for many years before his real identity became known

Spike Sullivan, whose first name is William, got his nickname in a peculiar way. Sullivan began boxing in 1892. In 1895, in Boston, he met a fellow named Eddie Burke. The latter had a great local reputation, while Sullivan was practically unknown. Sullivan won in three rounds, and the young Irishman demonstrated such terrific hitting powers in that encounter that Burke was completely knocked out and remained unconscious for some time. When he came to he weakly asked to see his conqueror. Sullivan came forward and extended his hand.

"You're an awful puncher," said Burke, partly dazed.

"I didn't know that," responded Spike proudly. "I hope you're not much hurt."

"No, I'm not hurt," said Burke, "but I am still dizzy. But I'm afraid that you had a couple of spikes in your gloves when you smashed me. That last blow felt as though it was landed with a spike."

After that Sullivan was dubbed Spike.

'Mysterious Billy' Smith, whose correct name is Amos Smith, got his nickname just prior to his first public appearance in the East. Although born at Eastport, Me., Smith fought mostly on the Pacific Coast. In 1892 Tom Williams, champion welterweight of Australia, came to this country in search of a fight. Ex-Judge Newton, who was matchmaker of the old Coney Island Athletic Club, and who had seen Smith fight, sent for the latter to come here and meet the Antipodean. Very little was known of Smith in the East, and there was much speculation as to his identity. Some of the sports guessed that he was a "ringer," while others conjectured that he was a fourth-rater who was selected merely to try Williams out. Others figured that Smith was a bank clerk, while some heard that he was a college youth who was in financial straits and became a fighter because he needed ready money. His movements and everything appertaining to him were kept so secret by the club management that he finally became known as the "mysterious one." After Smith fought Williams and whipped him so quickly, the newspapers called him Mysterious Billy Smith.

Frank Craig, the "Harlem Coffee Cooler," colored, came by his name when he lived in Washington. That was in 1889, and he had no thought of becoming a pugilist. Craig is an intelligent fellow, and from boyhood had to hustle for himself. One day he found himself out of a job, so he applied for a position in a cheap restaurant as waiter. The proprietor, a white man, was averse to employing negroes and told Craig so. Craig was disappointed and was about to go when he turned to the boss and said:

"What's the difference whether I'm colored or not as long as I do the work?"

"A great difference," returned the proprietor angrily. "You better get out of here or I'll smash your head off."

"I'll tell you what I do, boss," Craig said. "If you give me some work I'll wait for nothing. All I want is my grub and a place to sleep."

The proprietor admired Craig's persistency and in order to get rid of him, finally said: "All right, I'll give you a job. I'll employ you as a coffee cooler."

"What is that?" asked the negro.

"After a cup of coffee is drawn," answered the man, "you just go ahead and wait until it cools off. Then when it is cool make it hot again."

Somehow the story got about, and when Craig came to New York and joined the fighting ranks one of his friends hailed him as the champion "coffee cooler."

Jim Corbett is known as "Pompadour Jim" because he used to wear his hair in pompadour fashion. Jim Jeffries, the "Boilermaker," was a boilermaker before he became a knight of the ring. Joe Walcott received his title of "Joe the Giant Killer" because of his fearlessness in meeting men heavier than himself, and though his victory over Joe Choynski at the Broadway A. C., a few years ago, Benny Yanger, who is often called the "Tipton Slasher," was nicknamed in this wise by his present manager, John Hertz. Before Yanger became prominent he used to count on victory by slashing at his opponents. One day Hertz remarked:

"If you don't stop that slashing, Benny, some day you'll land in Tipton." Whether Hertz used the word Tipton in lieu for another name of a certain warm place has not been divulged. At any rate Yanger has been called the "Tipton Slasher" ever since.

In England Pedlar Palmer is known as the "Box of Tricks" because of his tricky way of fighting. The ex-bantam champion adopts different tactics every time he engages in a battle. Joe Grim, the Italian of Philadelphia, is called the "Iron Man" because of his ability to take punishment. Tom Sharkey used to be a sailor, and to this day he revels in being termed the "Sailor Boy."

Bill Hanrahan, the promising young middleweight, who died in Chicago a few years ago, was nicknamed "Wild Bill" by Sam Fitzpatrick, who managed him, because of his eccentric way of fighting. Terry McGovern's friends gave him the title of "Terrible Terry" after he had beaten all of his opponents in decisive fashion. "Young Corbett," who is William Rothwell, got his "stage name" from his former manager, Johnny Corbett. Oscar Gardner, the "Omaha Kid," was born in Omaha. Joe Bernstein has been known as the "Pride of the Ghetto" for many years. Bernstein was born on the lower East Side and during his early fighting career he did so well that he was looked upon as a coming champion by his admirers in that part of New York.

Very often Tommy Ryan is referred to as "Tonsilitis Tommy." Ryan's right name is Joseph Youngs. Before he was as noted as he is to-day he sometimes disappointed matchmakers of clubs by cancelling his engagements, usually a week in advance of a battle. He invariably sent a doctor's certificate stating that he was suffering from tonsilitis. Gus Ruhlin is known as the "Akron Giant." Ruhlin is a six-footer, and began fighting in Akron, Ohio. The appellations of Bob Fitzsimmons are numerous. He has been called "Lanky Bob," "Brick Top," and the "Cornishman." Lately he has been styled the "Grand Old Man of the Prize Ring," on account of his age and long campaign in the fistic arena.

When Jack Dempsey was in the heyday of his career he was called "The Nonpareil" and the title clung to him. George Godfrey fought as "Old Chocolate." George Dixon had a number of nicknames, but the one he seemed to like the best was "Little Wonder." For many seasons Dixon proved that this title was no misnomer. George Green of San Francisco, a clever welterweight, in the early 90s, always did his fighting under the name of Young Corbett. Ex-Champion Jim Corbett thus dubbed him because Green used to be one of his pupils.

The late Joe Goddard made his reputation as the "Barrier Champion." Goddard before his advent in the fighting game worked as a miner in the Barrier region in Australia. "Denver" Ed. Martin, colored, Billy Madden's heavyweight was born in Denver and this probably accounts for his nickname. "Philadelphia" Jack O'Brien was applied to the noted Quaker middleweight because of the fact that there are several Jack O'Briens before the public. George McFadden has often been called "Elbows," because of his peculiar manner of blocking in a mill.

Joe Gans is one of the few champions who have no nickname. Some folks have hailed him as the "Black Wonder," but the appellation is not popular. Billy Ernst of Brooklyn did his gruelling under the name of the "Bushwick Dutchman."

KILLED GIRL AND HIMSELF.

Thompson Fancied Himself the Victim of Some Wrong Not Explained.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 5.—After signing an agreement to die with her former fiancé, Adeline Hacker, blonde and 23, of Lititz, Pa., was shot dead by Delaware Thompson, a young house painter, whose father lives in Camden. Thompson then killed himself. The murder and suicide were committed at 534 Trenton avenue, Camden, the residence of Thompson's sister.

His niece had been married two weeks ago and the room where the bodies were found was filled with the wedding presents. On the mantel of the room was discovered a note. It was signed "Miss Addie Hacker," and "Mr. Doll Thompson," and read: "We wish to die together." The names were written firmly and the woman's was in a fine feminine hand. In Thompson's pocket another note was found. It was not addressed. It read:

Notify Wilson Hacker of Lititz, Pa., of Addie's death and tell him if he has any nerve he will take his gun and fix that man whose name I gave him.

Miss Hacker and Thompson had known each other for five years. They were engaged, but a year ago the girl broke the engagement. The two continued friends, however. It is conjectured that Miss Hacker grew infatuated with another man, and then becoming disappointed, and the old love returning, decided to end her life with Thompson. Thompson had been at Lititz for the last month. He wrote to his sister last week, saying he and Miss Hacker were going to call. They reached the house early this morning, and all chatted for a while, and then Thompson and Miss Hacker went up to the second story front.

Soon afterward, the reports of the pistol were heard. The young woman's father, Allen Hacker, is town constable of Lititz. Wilson Hacker, the girl's brother, said Thompson had mentioned to him the name of a man whom he charged with several offences, but that he had paid little attention to him and did not remember the name.

BUNCH OF BRIDGE TROUBLES.

Feed Wire Breaks and a Car Leaves the Track—Result, Two Delays.

The feed wire on the north roadway of the Bridge between the upper and lower trolley loops fell down at 6:05 o'clock last evening, blocking traffic on the lower loops just when the rush was at its worst. It took twenty minutes to repair it. Meantime the crowd at the lower loops was ordered to the loops above. The crowd made a rush, creating a great deal of confusion.

Rudolph Lank of 681 Halsey street, Brooklyn, attempted to climb over the gate of an incoming car, and his body, projecting beyond the car, brushed the crowd, and several women were nearly knocked down. Policeman Post grabbed him by the shoulder and pulled him from the car. Lank became abusive and was arrested. This is the nineteenth arrest this week at the Bridge.

Two hours later the rear truck of a Third avenue car on loop 5 left the track as the car swung into the south roadway.

The car ran all right until the New York anchorage was passed. Then the rear wheels suddenly turned and the car body swung around at right angles to the roadway, hitting a truck with such force as to throw it several feet over. The car platform and windows were damaged.

The car was finally pulled back on the track by another car, but traffic was at a standstill for half an hour.

OIL NEAR GREAT SALT LAKE.

Deal for 10,000 Acres Near the Guffey Property Made by Eastern Men.

SALT LAKE, Dec. 5.—A deal for 10,000 acres of oil lands bordering on Great Salt Lake was closed to-day for a party of Eastern capitalists and operators, and the work of development will begin at once. The buyers of the land are S. Tenry French of Chicago, vice-president of the Welch Oil Company of Ohio; W. C. Bigger of Cleveland and A. J. Wallace of Butler, Pa., one of the best known oil operators in the country.

The land adjoins that recently leased by Guffey and Galley, the Pittsburg oil men. It is the intention of the purchasers to develop the land at once. Prospecting by means of several test wells indicates that the mysterious dead sea will furnish a great oil field. Messrs. Butler, French, Bigger and Wallace have been in the city for ten days looking over the field. They left tonight for their homes and will ship material at once for drilling three wells. The oil already found is of the finest grade.

TO HUNT FOR E. B. SCOTT.

Kate Condon, Wife of the Missing Theatrical Man, Coming to Seek Him.

CHICAGO, Dec. 5.—Miss Kate Condon, a member of the Bostonians company, left to-day for New York to begin a search for her husband, E. Burke Scott, business manager of the Frank Daniels company, who has disappeared. His wife is fearful that he has met with foul play because it is known that he had a large sum of money when last seen.

"I am going there to take up the search for him along my own lines," she declared to-day before boarding the train. "He has been waylaid and robbed, I believe, and I'm going to find him."

E. W. Bucklein & Co., Stock Brokers, Fail.

BOSTON, Dec. 5.—Elisha W. Bucklein and Felton E. Lyttle, transacting a stock brokerage business under the name of E. W. Bucklein & Co., filed a voluntary partnership petition in bankruptcy this morning in the United States District Court here. The firm's total liabilities are scheduled at $33,870, all of which are unsecured. The assets of the concern are placed at $6,496. The largest individual creditor is the firm of Yeomans & Dill of New Haven, Conn., whose claim is for $33,562

Yale Forestry Students to Visit Lumber Camps.

NEW HAVEN, Dec. 5.—The seniors in the Yale school of forestry left to-day for a trip of several weeks through the lumber camps from Maine to Florida. They will put in the Christmas vacation getting an idea of the practical side of forestry. Their work will include all the features of a lumber camp.

100 Yale Men to Drill at St. Louis Fair.

NEW HAVEN, Dec. 5.—It was announced to-night that Capt. A. S. Smoke, the United States instructor in military tactics at the Yale scientific school, would take a company of 100 Yale men to the St. Louis exposition in July next upon invitation of the exposition managers.

Moody Visits League Island Navy Yard.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 5.—Secretary of the Navy William H. Moody visited the League Island Navy Yard this evening. He came from Washington in the despatch boat Dolphin, arriving this morning.

Americans to Wed in London.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN

LONDON, Dec. 5.—Charles J. Minturn, an American, will be married to Geraldine Keller of 25 West Fifty-fifth street, New York, in this city next Tuesday.

FOUND HIS WIFE HAD REMARRIED

Philippines Soldier Returns and Prefers a Charge of Bigamy.

PATERSON, N. J., Dec. 5.—John J. Murtle of 68 Jackson street, Paterson, returned from the Philippines to-day and found his wife married to Edward McAvoy of 168 Marshall street. Murtle married the young woman, whose name was Ruby Masker, four years ago. One year later he enlisted in the army for service in the Philippine Islands, supposing that he would make a fortune there in a short time. He says he wrote to his wife many times, but these letters, according to the wife, never arrived, and she supposed that he had died.

Last March Mrs. Murtle married Edward McAvoy. When she opened the door of her home in response to Murtle's knock last Friday she fell fainting on the stoop, thinking that she gazed upon a ghost.

Murtle to-day preferred a charge of bigamy against his wife. She says that she was only 16 years old when she first married and that, therefore, the marriage was illegal. She prefers to live with McAvoy, as Murtle deserted her, she says, when he went away.

WAGON WHEEL IN TROLLEY SLOT.

Fireworks Amuse and Block Broadway—A Surprised Strong Man.

William Peters, a liveryman of 65 West 118th street, and John Wilkins, an employee, were going up Broadway yesterday afternoon in a light road wagon. At Twenty-ninth street the off hind wheel slipped into the trolley slot. The steel tire connected with the channel rail and then things began to happen.

Electricity played tag around the wagon wheel, and there was a great sputtering in the slot. The occupants of the wagon jumped out. The horse plunged and tried to get away from the sizzling noise behind, but bystanders held him. A crowd stopped to watch the play of electricity and cars and other vehicles came to a stop.

The wooden spokes of the wheel began to smoulder. Out of the crowd came a husky negro.

"Say, boss, I'll get that there wheel out for you," he said to Policeman Daly.

"Who are you?" asked the cop.

"I'm George Bennett, a porter," said the negro, grinning.

"Take the wheel out if you want to," said Daly.

The negro grasped the tire with both hands, then he turned a sumersault and ran like mad through the crowd, wringing his hands as he went. The last seen of him he had turned into Twenty-eighth street and was going toward Sixth avenue.

The car blockade brought Inspector James Morris and he and Policeman Daly found a big plank and with it pried the wagon wheel out of the slot.

FOR ENTICING WHITE GIRLS.

Four Negroes Under Arrest in Hagerstown, Md., and the Citizens Excited.

HAGERSTOWN, Md., Dec. 5.—Hagerstown is excited to-day over the arrest of four negroes who are charged with enticing young white girls under 18 years old. The arrests are the result of an investigation made yesterday afternoon by Justice Hoffman, upon the suggestion of State's Attorney Poffenberger.

Amelia S. Little, the seventeen year old white girl who was committed to the house of refuge for going with two negroes, William and Frank Keys, brothers, made a confession in which she involved three other white women, one the daughter of a well known citizen of Hagerstown.

Two women were summoned before the Justice, but they flatly denied the charge. One was Mrs. Albert May. She was released to appear again on Monday. Another was a white girl about 17 years old. Tyler, a negro cabman, and Mrs. May, are accused of arranging meetings between the negro men and the girls. Six or eight prisoners in jail who are alleged to have heard Miss Little make a confession testified at the investigation. William Keys left town before the officers could catch him. His brother, Frank Keys, went to Baltimore last week.

Notes of Plays and Players.

Henrietta Crosman and the entire "Sweet Kitty Bellairs" company will arrive here this afternoon in a special train. The company played in Baltimore last night and opens here at the Belasco on Wednesday night. Monday and Tuesday nights will be devoted to rehearsals.

It was reported yesterday that Homer Emens, who was head scenic artist of the Metropolitan Opera House under Mr. Grau's management, had been engaged by Mr. Conried for the remainder of the season.

The Shuberts are going to build a theatre in St. Louis, and they are trying to get control of the Avenue Theatre in Detroit and the Colonial in Cleveland. Both these houses are now vaudeville theatres. The St. Louis theatre will be erected on Broadway near the Planters' Hotel.

The Shuberts now control four playhouses in this city and four others up the State. Besides these they have a house in Boston and one in Chicago.

Boston vs. Montreal at Racquets.

BOSTON, Dec. 5.—The first racquet tournament of importance to be held on the courts of the new Tennis and Racquet Club of this city was begun to-day, it being an international event between members of the Montreal Racquet Club and the local club. There were eight men to a side, that number of matches in singles being played, and the Bostonians were the victors in all. Four matches at doubles will be played before the visitors return to Montreal.

The best match of the day was between C. R. Fearing of Boston and R. H. MacDougall of Montreal, the former winning after the score was 2 sets to 1 against him. The play was about the best that has ever been seen in this city by amateurs. The prettiest racquets of the morning developed in the match between T. S. Gillespie of Montreal and P. D. Haughton of Boston. Every game was fought to a finish.

C. C. Rumrill, Boston, beat W. W. Skinner, Montreal, 15—6, 12—15, 15—5, 15—7; Austin Potter, Boston, beat G. W. MacDougall, Montreal, 15—13, 15—4, 15—5, 1'—8; M. Bartlett, Boston, beat H. D. MacDougall, Montreal, 15—9, 15—6, 15—6; P. D. Haughton, Boston, beat T. S. Gillespie, Montreal, 17—14, 15—13, 10—15, 15—13; P. Stockton, Boston, beat A. D. Master, Montreal, 15—4, 15—7, 15—11; C. G. Winslow, Boston, beat A. McKim, Montreal, 15—5, 15—11, 15—16, 15—6; G. R. Fearing, Boston, beat R. F. MacDougall, Montreal, 15—4, 14—18, 14—17, 15—7, 15—7; I. A. Shaw, Jr., Boston, defeated F. R. Miller, Montreal, 15—7, 15—3, 15—12.

B. Altman & Co.

Included in a large collection of FINE ORIENTAL RUGS shown, are a number in sizes averaging 4x6 feet, of choice designs, fabrics and colors, especially appropriate for Holiday Gifts.

Shirvan and Kazak Rugs, at $23.00 & 35.00
Formerly $30.00 to $60.00.

Also Fine Persian Silk Rugs and Mats are offered at Great Reductions from original prices.

MADE-UP GOWNS. (SECOND FLOOR.)

REDUCTIONS HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE PRICES OF A NUMBER OF GOWNS; MADE OF CHIFFON-VELVET, VEILING, CLOTH, MOUSSELINE AND CREPE DE CHINE, LACES, LOUISINE SILKS, ÉOLIENNES, ETC.,

SUITABLE FOR VARIOUS OCCASIONS.

ORIGINALLY RANGING IN PRICES FROM $145.00 TO 350.00, REDUCED TO

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CONSISTING OF FICHUS, COLLARETTES, STOLES AND BERTHAS, ALSO REAL LACE VEILS, AND REAL LACE HANDKERCHIEFS.

Waist Patterns (UNMADE), OF FINE HAND EMBROIDERED IRISH LIGHT-WEIGHT AND BUTCHER LINEN, IN A NUMBER OF ATTRACTIVE DESIGNS.

The following are suggested as a guide for the selection of useful articles appropriate for HOLIDAY GIFTS.

Decorative Art Objects.—Bronze, Marble, Porcelain and Glass Objects, WELL ADAPTED AS GIFTS FOR VARIOUS OCCASIONS.

Included are Busts, Statuettes, Groups, etc., of Bronze and Marble; Pedestals of Marble and Onyx; English, French and Austrian Porcelains; Hall Clocks and Regulators, Clock Sets, Bronze Lamps; Novel designs in Electric Lamps and Electroliers.

Leather Goods.—Luncheon Cases for Automobile and Touring use (fitted for two, four and six persons). Travelling Bags and Suit Cases, with or without toilet articles. Hat Boxes, Hand Bags, Dressing Cases, Writing Cases, Photograph Frames, etc.

Toilet Articles—Toilet Sets of Ivory and Ebony; Triplicate and Standing Mirrors; Military Brushes, Manicure Articles, Extracts, Toilet Waters, Colognes, etc.

Silverware. Centre Pieces, Vases, Loving Cups, etc., of Cut or Engraved Glass, With Sterling Silver Mariole mountings.

Boudoir Mirrors, Photograph Frames, Jewel Cases, Bon-Bon Boxes; Golden Copper Articles; Sterling Silver mounted, etc.

Stationery—Brass Desk Sets, Desk Requisites of Rock Crystal; Engagement Pads, Gold and Silver mounted Fountain Pens. Novelties in Imported Stationery; Fancy Cabinets, etc.

Men's Furnishings—Imported Silk Mufflers, Fine Neckwear, Dress Protectors, Silk Pajamas and Night Robes; Smoking Jackets, Dressing Gowns, Blanket Bath Robes, etc.

SPANGLED AND LACE FANS. GLOVES, HANDKERCHIEFS, UMBRELLAS, WALKING STICKS, ETC.

Eighteenth Street, Nineteenth Street, Sixth Avenue, New York.

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RECEPTION AND LUNCHEON CLOTHS, CENTRE PIECES, PLATE AND FINGER BOWL DOYLIES, OF POINT de VENISE, DUCHESSE, POINT de FLANDRES, FILET ITALIEN AND CLUNY LACES, WITH LINEN CENTRES.

A Partial List of the Prices include the following, which are from One-third to One-half Less than Originally:

FINE LACE FINGER BOWL DOYLIES.
$2.00, $3.50, $5.00, $6.00 each and upwards.

FINE LACE PLATE DOYLIES.
$3.00, $5.00, $8.00, $15.00 each and upwards.

FINE LACE CENTRE PIECES.
$35.00, $45.00, $60.00, $75.00 each and upwards.

FINE LACE LUNCHEON CLOTHS.
$70.00, $90.00, $100.00, $140.00 each and upwards.

FINE LACE RECEPTION CLOTHS.
$150.00, $175.00, $200.00, $225.00 each and upwards.

Pronounced reductions have been made in prices of HIGH-COST FURS, comprising Novelties in Imported Fur Coats and Fur Lined Garments, Broadtail and Persian Lamb Jackets, Ermine and Moleskin Garments and Stoles.

ALSO A NUMBER OF RUSSIAN SABLE SETS. MUFFS AND NECKPIECES.

FUR GARMENTS AT REDUCED PRICES.

ARE QUOTED, AS FOLLOWS:

MOLESKIN, ... $185, $250, $350
Reduced from $295, $475 and $525

ALASKA SEALSKIN, ... $250, $475
Reduced from $350 and $750

BROADTAIL, . $225, $275, $350, $425, $550
Reduced from $390, $475, $550, $625, $950

ERMINE, ... $650 and $1,500
Reduced from $850 and $2,500

MINK, . . reduced from $750 and $850 to $525

CHINCHILA, . . reduced from $1,100 to $750
also

RUSSIAN SABLE STOLES, ... $425, $750, $1,600
Reduced from $525, $1,000 and $2,500

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INVITE INSPECTION OF A COLLECTION OF THE LATEST PARIS STYLES OF

FINE FILET ITALIEN AND POINT ARABE LACE DRAPERIES.

LACE PANEL CURTAINS, STORES FLAMAND, BONNE FEMME; SASH CURTAINS AND LACE BED SETS.

LACE COVERS FOR BOUDOIR TABLES, DRESSERS, BUREAUS AND SECRETAIRES; ALSO LACE CUSHIONS.

ALSO FILET SQUARES, CLUNY LACES, ENGLISH EMBROIDERIES, MOTIFS AND OTHER LACE MATERIALS FOR MAKING TO ORDER LACE DRAPERIES, ETC.

IN SPECIAL SIZES, FOR WHICH ESTIMATES AND SKETCHES WILL BE SUBMITTED.

Exclusive designs are shown in Foreign Silk Brocades for Drawing Room Furnishings; Tapestries, Silk and Satin Damasks; also Panneling by the yard (copies from old Flemish pieces), suitable for Library and Dining Rooms. Single and Double-faced Velours, and other pile fabrics. Portiers, Couch and Table Covers; Lounging Cushions for Libraries, Halls, Dining Rooms, etc.
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FRENCH ARABE LACE CURTAINS.

Originally $25.00 & 28.00 per pair, at $15.00 & 16.50

Eighteenth Street, Nineteenth Street, Sixth Avenue, New York.

THE GAELIC LANGUAGE.

A Tongue Which a Million Persons Know and Thousands Speak.

From the Boston Transcript.

Gaelic, which has been recommended by the Boston Common Council, in a resolution not to be taken too seriously, for a place in the public school curriculum, is a living language to about 1,000,000 persons out of the 4,000,000 in Ireland. Of this 1,000,000 more than nine-tenths know English also; about 65,000, living chiefly in the more remote and inaccessible villages of the western coast, know no other tongue than Gaelic. This small remnant possesses the language by a continuity of inheritance running back to the very roots of time.

Gaelic is not and never has been a dead language. The approaching death which was threatened by the rapid decrease of the numbers who speak it will be long deferred, or entirely prevented, it is hoped, by the efforts of the Gaelic League. Of the results, direct and indirect, of this organization's activity, Boston had evidence in addition to the City Council's resolution in the visit of Mr. W. B. Yeats.

Further indications of the so-called "Celtic Renaissance" force themselves on the attention of contemporary travellers in Ireland, where shopkeepers, in deference, more perhaps to popular sentiment than to actual necessity, have a newly painted Gaelic sign below the English one that has long done duty; where the newspapers print a column or a page of their contents in the native tongue, and where every village has its branch of the Gaelic League which meets once a fortnight and has instruction, lectures and recitations, in the language. The Irish educational authorities, at the insistent demand of the renaissance organization, has introduced Gaelic into the public school curriculum. There are Gaelic chairs at Harvard, at the Catholic University at Washington, at Notre Dame, at Trinity College, Dublin; at Oxford, and in some of the German universities.

All this is a reaction against the legislation, with the social tendencies that accompany hostile legislation, of quite five hundred years. The Statute of Kilkenny, in 1367, placed a death or confiscation penalty on the use of the Gaelic language "within the pale," and by the middle of the eighteenth century it began to be accurate to say that English, rather than Gaelic, was the prevailing language of Ireland. A still more ruinous blow was dealt in 1828, when the national schools were organized with provision for instruction in English only.

A language is the index of the emotional and intellectual life of the people among whom it has grown, hence the universal testimony of philologists that Gaelic is the best language in the world in which to write poetry. "'Tis a great tongue to court with," said one of Ian Maclaren's characters, "it has ninety-three ways of saying 'dear.'"

The philologists testify equally to its great adaptability to the discussion of spiritual themes; and one of the dukes of Argyle is quoted as saying that he should use English to address his queen, French to persuade the lady of his love, and Gaelic to speak of his God. For lyric poetry, for the description of nature, for deep and intense expression of love and hate, for the communication of truth with power, for wealth of metaphor, for expressing shades of emotion incomprehensible in a less adaptable tongue, Gaelic is the language par excellence. Similarly, no treatise on philosophy or science could be written in Gaelic without the wholesale importation of foreign terms.

Gaelic is closely related to the native tongue of the Scotch Highlanders; more accurately Scotch and Irish, as well as the dying Manx, are branches of the Gaelic tongue. A Boston gentleman was lately interested to find that his Irish maid and his Scotch gardener, neither of whom knew English, could converse without great difficulty in their common tongue. Still more loosely, "Gaelic" is used as the equivalent of "Celtic." In this sense, it is in addition the language of Wales and of Brittany, and was, up to the middle of the last century, the lingua rustica of the Cornish coast of England, just across the channel from Brittany.

AIMED AT BELL TELEPHONE CO.

Bill in Virginia Requiring It to Connect With the Local Companies.

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 5.—If a bill which has passed the House of Delegates becomes a law the power of the Southern Bell Telephone Company in Virginia will be curtailed. This measure, offered by Mr. Duke of Albemarle, requires all telephone companies to connect with one another. This will give local companies whose fields are now circumscribed the opportunity to reach all parts of the State over the Bell wires.

$35 will buy a set of fashionable Black Bear, long round boa and extra large muff. Bear is the most durable of all the fluffy furs. C. C. SHAYNE, Manufacturing Fur Merchant, 41st and 42d Sts. between Broadway and 6th Av.