



W. E. Henley's edition of Byron's works, which the Messrs. Macmillan will issue, will include, besides the complete poetical works, the letters of Byron, public and private. There will be ten volumes.

Mme. Helloc, in her new volume, "In a Walled Garden," describes her life in Rome with Mrs. Jameson, and in the Paris of 1870, and gives a full account of many famous people whom she herself has known intimately, among them being George Eliot, Cardinal Manning, Joseph Priestly, Mrs. Booth, Mary Hewitt, Basil Montague and the Proctors.

Alexandre Dumas says he has arrived at an age when the best thing a man can do is to hold his tongue. He quotes Guy de Maupassant as saying to him one day: "If I were rich enough not to be obliged to write, my dream would be to write only one more book, a short one, at which I should always continue to work, and which I should order to be buried on the day of my death." "I think," Dumas adds, "that I am beginning to realize the dream of Maupassant."

"Mark Twain" is being made a great social lion in Australia. At Melbourne and other cities he was formally welcomed by the municipal dignitaries; he and his wife and daughter have been the honored guests at many social entertainments; and in some places since his advent the American drawl and accent have become the latest fad. His lectures are always crowded, and the demand for his books has been so great that the local supply has been exhausted. The sea voyage was of great benefit to the humorist, and the entire party are in the best of health.

Apropos of the rumor that Lord Salisbury means soon to appoint Alfred Austin poet laureate, this story is told: "On the death of the Duke of Clarence, he sent to a morning newspaper some mourning verses, for which the editor returned him a check for twenty-five pounds, but the poet sent it back with the statement that 'he could not accept payment on account of a nation's tears.' When the Duke of York married his brother's fiancée, Austin sent the same journal an epithalamium. The editor this time failed to send a check, and was reminded of the fact by the poet. The editor recalled the former incident, but Mr. Austin replied that the cases were quite different. 'What I could not,' he said, 'consent to make money out of a nation's tears, there is no reason why I should not be paid for adding to a nation's smiles.'"

HEADSMAN OF NAPLES.

Death in Exile of a Man Who Had Taken Many Lives.

On the little island of Ustica, forty miles from Palermo, Italy, there died the other day a man who was for years the terror of the peoples of Naples and the kingdom of the Two Sicilies. He was Gaetano Impellerizzi, once the headman under Ferdinand II., of Naples. The useless executions attributed to Impellerizzi are countless, and, with the cruelty which he showed, led to his denunciation by Mr. Gladstone forty years ago in the philippic which the statesman directed against Ferdinand. The executions were only in part public; it was the executions in secret—usually at night—which gave the man his power. It was he who executed in San Francisco place, Naples, the Calabrian Angelus Milanoque, who on Dec. 9, 1856, had made a bayonet thrust at King Ferdinand II., and patriots innumerable became his victims.

When Garibaldi entered Naples in September, 1860, the excited populace went in search of the hated headman, but he cared much for his own life, although he thought little of that of others, and escaped with his wife. Later he was imprisoned on the island of Ustica, where he became an officer of the fort built in those days to protect the island against pirates. He was in receipt of a pension of \$5 a month—much more than he deserved. He was 81 years old at the time of his death.—New York Tribune.

"Fighting Bob" Was Mad.

During the Chilean war Americans were very badly treated, and "Fighting Bob" Evans did not like it. All classes down there use tremendous quantities of garlic, and the result is unpleasant, for your nose is offended constantly, even in the street. One night a boat was sent ashore from Captain Evans' ship, and, believing it safe, the sailors who had acted as oarsmen left it on the beach for a few minutes while they went to slake their thirst. Upon their return they discovered that a party of Chileans had loaded it with stones. "Fighting Bob" was fighting mad when he heard of it the next day, and was asked what he was going to do about it. "Do about it?" returned the sailor; "why, I'm going to turn my men into traveling arsenals, and if the thing ever happens again, or if our flag is again insulted, I'll make hell smell like garlic!"

Statues of American Heroes.

The Society of the Army of the Tennessee has appointed a committee to solicit funds and to importune congress for an appropriation to erect a statue to Gen. Grant in Washington. It is a singular fact that while any number of statues, equestrian and otherwise, have been erected in Washington to the memory of leaders in the great civil war, none has yet been reared to the great triumvirate, the giants of the struggle, Grant, Sherman and Sheridan.

How Long.

A very learned man, the Rev. Edmund Ledger, of England, has just demonstrated, after a series of nice calculations, that the sun cannot maintain a temperature sufficient to support life on the earth for more than 10,000,000 years longer.

The Uninhabited World.

Dr. Oppel, the great German geographer, says that there are still 1,700,000 square miles of the earth's surface that are uninhabited and ownerless.

An Arkansas lover wrote to his sweetheart: "There is not a globe of blood in my heart that does not bear your photograph."

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THE COCOANUT PALM.

Its Manner of Growth and Its Relentless Energy.

Those who have never seen a long, straggling grove of coconut trees, by the seashore, with their feet buried in the gleaming sands and their heads held aloft in the azure of a tropical sky, can form but little idea of the pleasurable interest of these interesting palms.

Though facetiously described by Mark Twain as "gigantic feather-dusters, struck by lightning," they are, nevertheless, princes of the vegetable world and sometimes attain the height of 120 feet, with stems two feet in diameter. Many of the tallest specimens, however, are blown by the wind to such abrupt angles that their attitude is materially diminished.



COCOANUT GROVE BY THE SEA.

The arch enemy of these palms on the shores of most of the coconut islands of the Pacific and Indian oceans is what is known as the "robber crab," a singular crustacean which sometimes reaches the length of nearly four feet, though the average measurement is twenty-three inches from the point of the front claw to the end of the abdomen.

The grip of their powerful pinchers is said to be sufficient to break the arm of a strong man; and it has been asserted that these fierce creatures occasionally carry off and devour very young, helpless children, though one finds it difficult to credit the statement.

There are practically no bonds to their depredations, as they are carried on mainly in the nighttime and with greatest regularity, while their number are so great as to discourage any attempts at extermination.

If surprised while sleeping, however, in the daytime, in holes or hollow stumps, they are captured without danger, if the formidable claws are deftly seized in a bunch.

Scaling the long, slim tree trunks till they reach the branches, they sever the largest and choicest nuts from their stems by tearing away the strong fibers until the prize falls to the ground.

Then, swiftly descending, the thief drags its unwieldy booty to its neighboring den, and proceeds patiently, bit by bit, to remove the tough outer husk. This accomplished after several days' work, one of the pinchers is inserted in an "eye" of the inner shell, and the nut either pounded upon a rock to crack it, or broken up into small pieces with the claws. Now comes the feast, which lasts about a week, when a second coconut is added to the menu.

The man with a new gold watch seldom knows what time it is.



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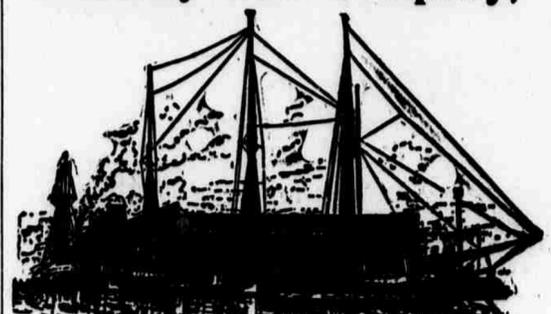
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