

QUEEN VICTORIA'S HOME.

Arrangement of the Apartments at Windsor Castle.

Rooms in which None But Members of the Royal Family are Permitted to Enter—Rich and Costly Decorations.

The state dining-room at Windsor castle is, according to the Pall Mall Gazette, a very fine apartment in the Prince of Wales' tower. It was redecorated shortly before the jubilee in gold and white, after a very tasteful design chosen by Princess Beatrice. The furniture is of a Gothic pattern, and is said to have been designed by Welby Pugin. The doors are ornamented with most exquisite Chippendale work. In the center of the north window, which looks out on the north terrace, the Home park, and Eton college, is displayed a massive gold punch-bowl, which was designed by Flaxman for the prince regent. The table, which is a very fine piece of work, is made in the form of a trochus shell. The whole cost two thousand guineas. This room was nearly destroyed by fire in 1833, and again by water in 1891. It is only used on grand occasions, when the queen's party is over sixteen. When it is under that number the queen prefers to dine in the oakroom, which looks out on the inner quadrangle, and contains fine pictures of the queen's four daughters-in-law. When the party is too large for the dining-room St. George's hall is used.

The three drawing-rooms are connected with the dining-room, with the corridor, and with each other by folding doors, and all the doors are decorated with the same unique Chippendale work. The three drawing-rooms face the east and look down on the splendid east terrace and gardens over the broad expanse of the Home Park towards Datchet, Old Windsor. The crimson drawing-room is next to the dining-room. It is decorated and upholstered in crimson satin brocade, which, together with the richness of the embellishments and the wealth of gilding with which it is adorned, gives this room a very gorgeous appearance. Superb carvings, the finest ormolu work, and the most exquisitely inlaid cabinets line the wall, and conspicuously placed in one of the windows is a large malachite vase, which, like the one in the grand reception-room, was given to the queen by Czar Nicholas, of Russia.

The crimson drawing-room opens into the green, which is similarly decorated, and furnished in the richest satin brocade, but the prevailing color, as might be expected, is green, by which I do not by any means mean eau de Nil, but green of a somewhat crude shade. The principal feature of this room is the magnificent collection of Sevres china, which is said to be the finest in the world. This is another product of the extravagant tastes of George IV., and the sight of the innumerable lovely pieces, delicately molded and colored, is enough to make a collector mad with envy. However, as a rule, collectors have not much time to examine very closely, for it is only on rare occasions, such as a state dinner party or by special favor, that her majesty's subjects are admitted into the green drawing-room.

The white drawing-room is furnished in crimson and gold damask with white walls decorated in an essentially French style. The walls of this room are hung with numerous portraits of the royal family, while a number of exquisitely worked cabinets and a table beautifully inlaid with Florentine mosaic in the form of flowers and fruits are among the principal ornaments. It is in the white drawing-room that the queen holds private investitures of the knights orders, when a few ministers are summoned from town in order to form a council for the occasion. Luncheon is held first in the dining-room. The queen then proceeds by the corridor to the white drawing-room while the company pass through the crimson and green rooms to the same destination.

The drawing-rooms were arranged not long ago and the furniture rearranged, but otherwise they have been left untouched. The hangings and stuffs with which the chairs and sofas are covered might with advantage be altered, for though they are very rich the style is old fashioned, belonging to the early period of her majesty's reign, and shows only too clearly and somewhat plainly to the eye the advances that art has made since then. The queen, however, is very conservative in her tastes, and she likes the old fashions. One of the curiosities of this portion of the private apartments is Mozart's old harpsichord which stands in one of the tall windows which overlook the private garden. It is a quaint, rather shabby-looking instrument with a double set of keys. These fine rooms are all connected by the grand corridor. It is very handsomely decorated, the ceiling in gold and cream and the walls in sage green and gold. It is hung on one side with pictures of the events in this reign from Wilkie's "First Council" to Linton's "Marriage of the Duke of Albany." The other side is lined with portraits of statesmen, including Angell's picture of Lord Beaconsfield. Among the numerous curiosities are some magnificent china, a bust of Gen. Gordon, and his pocket Bible in a glass case.

Reverend Johnson.

In a certain western town, according to Texas Sittings, the clergy of the various religious sects were very tolerant toward each other. On the occasion of the Jewish rabbi's silver wedding, he invited the Protestant clergyman and also the Catholic priest. While the reverend clergymen were enjoying the good cheer set before them, the Catholic priest said to the rabbi: "I know that you are a very liberal-minded gentleman; but could you bring yourself to eat pork?" "Certainly I could relish some ham, at least on one occasion." "And that would be?" "At the marriage dinner of your reverence."

A REAL SNAKE STORY.

The Serpent Got Into the Hornets' Nest to Catch the Hornets.

A citizen of Fredericksburg, Va., claims that while traveling to Tappanhook he saw a large blacksnake slowly crawling among the branches of a tree that stood by the roadside. Following the snake with his eye the observer saw an unusually large hornet's nest attached to one of the branches of the tree, and toward which the snake was advancing.

When close to the nest the snake coiled itself about a limb, releasing its tail, and with it gave several hard raps upon the exterior of the nest as if knocking for admission. The noise of the blows and the swaying of the nest caused the hornets to leave their home and prepare for an attack upon the intruder. The snake ceased tapping with its tail as soon as the hornets left the nest, uncoiled itself and quickly disappeared, taking the place of the hornets within their nest.

Presently the snake's head was seen to peer out, and its bright black eyes glistened as he anticipated a feast from which the bravest man would shrink with fear. The snake drew his head within the entrance hole to the nest until nothing was seen of it except an occasional forked tongue that darted in and out with lightning rapidity. Thinking the coast clear the hornets began to return to their nest, when the snake took them in as fast as they could enter. Watching the proceedings for some time our informant concluded that all the hornets had been safely hived, and he stood up in his buggy, tapped the nest with his whip, and awaited the result.

No hornets appearing, the nest was then knocked to the ground, opened, and his snakeship found in a torpid condition, with his size greatly increased. The snake was killed and a post-mortem held with the following result: Stomach stuffed with dead hornets.

ESQUIMAUX IN SUMMER.

What Will Be Done to Keep Them Clean and Healthy.

Considerable anxiety is expressed by exposition officials concerning the effect the Esquimaux village at the world's fair will have on the reputation of Jackson park as a health resort. The entire park has been sewered and its sanitary conditions rendered as nearly perfect as possible. The village, however, has been located in the one corner most affected by every unfavorable feature. A part of the space assigned to it is occupied by a sheet of water that is generally stagnant in spite of all endeavors to keep it pure. The Esquimaux themselves, says the Chicago Inter Ocean, are not the cleanest people in the world, and unless they are very closely watched they are liable to assume a condition not pleasing to the fastidious. They delight to daub themselves with oil, which often becomes rancid and very offensive. The attempt to reproduce the conditions that surround these peculiar people in their native land induced the company owning the concession to erect huts that are impossible to ventilate. Then, too, there are the bounds maintained in the village. These animals are neither beautiful nor clean, and unless given better quarters than they now occupy will prove a nuisance.

Even now the atmosphere that surrounds the village is not too sweet. When the hot days of July arrive it will be difficult to keep it from giving offense. Should an epidemic break out in the village it will, at least, give the officials a good scare, and prove more serious to the Esquimaux themselves. Those who are in charge of the village, however, declare that they can keep it as clean and healthy as any other portion of Jackson park. They guarantee their wards to breed neither the cholera nor the smallpox. At present the attendance at the village is quite liberal.

SOME SUBJECTS FOR DEBATE.

English University Students Discussing a Curious Variety of Questions.

The college debating societies at Cambridge, England, seem to discuss a curious variety of questions. A recent list of motions, as given by the Toronto Mail, includes the following oddities: At Christ's, "That Robinson ought not to have been frightened at the footprint in the sand," which excited a great variety of opinions, and ultimately was lost by twenty-six votes against 16 ayes, eight auditors remaining undecided. At Jesus, the still more startling proposition was moved, "That radicalism spells ruin," which was, of course, carried by a large majority. At Queen's a disapproval of "Woman's encroachments upon man's dominion" was carried by nineteen to thirteen. And at St. John's the heresy, "That university education unfits a man for practical life," was rejected by twenty-six against six. At King's the society found themselves equally divided as to the truth of the assertion, "That art had ceased to exist." At Trinity hall it was decided "That political prisoners should wear the prison dress." At Pembroke a resolution, "That personal liberty is too much restricted in this university," was, singular to say, rejected. Sydney college voted, by a large majority, "That the learned professions are not yet played out," and Cavendish, also, by a large majority, approved Lord Tenison's doctrine, "That to have loved and lost is better than never to have loved at all." Ayerst hall refused to condemn theaters, and Selwyn voted "That war is necessary to the welfare of a nation."

A Queer Railway Rate.

In Norway there is a premium on marriage by giving married people a discount. Thus a man and his wife can travel for a fare and a half, a schedule of rates much more satisfying to everyone than "children half price," and much more reasonable. It is suggested that this privilege is liable to abuse. A prudent man might prolong his courtship indefinitely at reduced rates. This, however, could be easily prevented by obliging married people to carry their certificates about with them, as they could easily do, in red morocco cases, like commutation tickets on railroads.

OLE MAKES A GOOD CITIZEN.

The Scandinavian Readily Adapts Himself to American Institutions.

There is no nation in Europe that is more adverse to violence and has less sympathy with Utopian aspirations than the people of Norway and Sweden, says a writer in the North American Review. They have been trained to industry, frugality and manly self-reliance by the free institutions and the scant resources of their native lands, and the moderation and self-restraint inherent in the cold blood of the north make them constitutionally inclined to trust in slow and orderly methods rather than swift and violent ones. They come here with no millennial experience, doomed to disappointment, but with the hope of gaining, by hard and unremitting toil, a modest competency. They demand less of life than continental immigrants of the corresponding class, and they usually, for this very reason, attain more. The instinct to save is strong in the majority of them, and save they do, when their neighbors of less frugal habits are running behind. It is therefore a fact, which all students of the social problem arising from immigration have remarked, that the Scandinavians adapt themselves with great ease to American institutions. There is no other class of immigrants which is so readily assimilated and assumes so naturally American customs and modes of thought. And this is not because their own nationality is devoid of strong characteristics but because, on account of their ancient kinship and subsequent development, they have certain fundamental traits in common with us, and are therefore less in need of adaptation. The institutions of Norway are the most democratic in Europe, and those of Sweden, though less liberal, are developing in the same direction. Both Norwegians and Swedes are accustomed to participate in the management of their communal affairs, and to vote for their representative in the national parliament; and although the power given them here is nominally greater than that they enjoyed at home, it is virtually less. The sense of public responsibility, the habit of interest in public affairs, and a critical attitude toward the acts of government are nowhere so general among rich and poor alike as in Norway and Sweden, notwithstanding the fact that the suffrage is not universal.

NOT SO VERY REMARKABLE.

Army Officers Have Made Harder Riders Than the Germans.

The recent test of speed of horses and that of the endurance of officers and men in which a hundred German officers engaged from Berlin to Vienna, and a hundred Austro-Hungarian officers from Vienna to Berlin, have been freely commented upon, but are not considered by army officers as so very remarkable.

In 1877, says the New York Tribune, Capt. Ezra Fuller, of the Seventh United States cavalry, during the pursuit of Chief Joseph, was sent out by Gen. Miles from Fort Keogh to ascertain and give warning as to the route which Chief Joseph was taking over the mountains. Capt. Fuller rode his own private horse, his guide had two Indian ponies, and an extra horse was taken along to carry the rations for the party.

They were gone twelve days, during which they rode more than six hundred miles—not over the king's highway, but through an unknown mountainous wilderness. During this twelve days Capt. Fuller was unable to procure more than three feeds of grain for his horses. The Indian ponies gave out on the third day, and the guide then rode the extra horse.

Capt. Fuller once rode sixty-six miles in nine hours in search of deserters. Adj. Bell, also of the Seventh cavalry, rode through the Bad Lands, in North Dakota, in 1882, one hundred and five miles in twelve hours.

Many instances of long rides of United States cavalry officers might be mentioned in which the endurance of both men and horses was tested, and comparisons would show that American men and horses are second to none in tests of this character.

A MODEL CLUB.

Scheme to Entertain Clubmen Within Jackson Park Next Year.

The "World's Fair Club" is the name of an organization now being formed by the most prominent clubmen of the city. The idea is to conduct within Jackson park a model club house, which will be open during the fair to members and their guests. The club is intended for the accommodation of the ladies as well as the gentlemen of this city, and for the members of recognized clubs in other cities who may visit the fair.

The appointments of the club house will be of the highest class, and the accommodations will include dining, reading, reception, billiard and smoking parlors; also a central court and a roof garden.

For the further convenience of visiting members, it is contemplated to open a branch of the club in the center of the city, where information and assistance can be rendered in relation to the cashing of drafts, securing of hotel and other accommodation, transfer of baggage, etc.

A list of the best clubs of the country will be prepared, and members of those recognized will be welcomed to the club house.

Perpetual Motion Abroad.

The search has been continued throughout the centuries. It sent many a scholar to an asylum. But now, at last, has been discovered at Constantinople the secret of perpetual motion. Two respectable tradesmen write from that city: "We are clockmakers by trade, and have just invented an automatic mechanism of a force of forty pounds which will work continuously in whatever position it may be, and without being moved either by spring, or by steam, or by electricity, or by any motor power whatever that could impart an impulse to it. It is, in fact, perpetual motion, pronounced undiscoverable until this day."

BORING IN THE SEA FOR OIL.

American Drillers at Work for the Mikado's Government.

The Japanese government has had in its employ for over a year past two expert oil drillers from the Pennsylvania oil region, who are superintending boring for oil in the waters of the Japan sea, one hundred and fifty yards from shore, just outside Idzmozaki, a city about thirteen thousand population on the northwestern coast of Japan and about fifty-five miles southwest of Niigata. They have met with success. This venture is regarded by the Pittsburgh Dispatch as promising some important developments, especially as, instead of that government importing the refined oil from this country in the quantity they have been doing, they have now erected four or five refineries. With these they are refining their own oil, the producing of which is yet largely inadequate to their demand, and also beginning to refine the crude which they import from the United States and Russia. The most of the refined oil which they import from this country comes from Philadelphia. Their native oil is similar to the Pennsylvania oil, but a little darker and of forty-three gravity. The present price of oil there is from three dollars and twenty-five cents to three dollars and twenty-nine cents a barrel, or in their native currency from four yen and ninety sen to five yen. A yen varies with the price of gold, but these drillers said it was worth sixty-five and three-fourths cents in gold when they left.

At Idzmozaki, which is noted as a fishing town, the available shore line is very narrow, it being occupied by the city, immediately back of which the "mountains," about two hundred and fifty feet high, rise. The wells are crowding out into the waters of the sea, much as they have been doing at St. Mary's reservoir in the northwestern part of Ohio. About four hundred and fifty feet out the water is only some three and one-half feet deep. They usually put down a cribbing of logs or timber, which they fill in with earth and thus obtain the necessary though somewhat limited space upon which they can proceed with their operations and boring. They run out to the derrick from shore a narrow walk upon which the natives carry to land on their backs the oil, a few gallons at a time. Labor is very cheap there, and natives work for seven yen a month and "find" or board themselves, a yen being, as before stated, about sixty cents. They are not organized, have no such things as labor unions, and strikes are unknown. They have no set time for a day's work, which is practically during daylight, frequently beginning work at the wells at four o'clock in the morning.

A BIG CLAM MINE.

Thousands of the Bivalves Stored at the Mouth of Delaware Bay.

A clam mine, full of live clams, and of great breadth and depth, has been discovered at the mouth of the Delaware bay, off the Fishing creek shore. This has proved a valuable find, and recently about one hundred boats, containing from three to five men each, were at work on the mine, says the Trenton Free American. The product of the great bed is shipped daily to Chicago, a speculator of that city agreeing to take the entire output of the mine at about thirty cents per hundred delivered at Bennett's station, on the West Jersey railroad. There has recently been a corner in the clam market, and choice articles have been sold at as high as one dollar per hundred to restaurant keepers.

The pocket of clams covers a wide area just beyond the low-water mark, and, consequently, all who wish to may dredge without fear or favor. It was discovered some days ago by William Harper, of Green Creek, who found dozens of prime clams imbedded deeply in a small cake of ice washed ashore close by Highland and Arlington beaches. Marking the spot carefully he waited until the ice was entirely out of the bay, and then taking a boat he patrolled the bayside from end to end until he located the mine. For a day or so his liberal finds attracted no attention, but one by one the idle fishermen and farmers rowed out to the mine and fished themselves. The find being located beyond the low-water mark the mine is public property, and is being worked for all it will bear.

The other day over fifty thousand clams started on their journey west from Bennett's station. The bags were piled so high as to almost hide the station house. Every now and then a discovery something like this is made, but the present mine exceeds any previous find known on the Atlantic coast. About three years are required for clams to grow properly and attain a marketable size and flavor. This bed is said by experts to be about three years old.

Why Lord Sherbrooke Broke Down.

The late Lord Sherbrooke was an albino, and to this defect in his eyesight a painful reversion in the house of commons was due just before he became a peer. He was a peer of unusual brilliance and power, and came into the house prepared to make a slashing onslaught on the ministry. His introductory remarks gave promise of a notable speech, but he had hardly opened his mouth when he was reduced to utter helplessness by the discovery that there was some confusion in his notes, which owing to his weak sight he could not rectify. A colleague attempted to assist him, but the orator was so unnerved and mortified by this accident that he completely lost himself. The other members of the house were profoundly touched by the painful breakdown. The death of Lord Sherbrooke leaves but five living ex-chancellors of the exchequer—Mr. Childers, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Sir William Vernon Harcourt, Lord Randolph Churchill and Mr. Gladstone, who has four times held that high office. The present incumbent is Mr. Goschen.

ONE OF WATTERSON'S STORIES.

A Defalcation Case in Louisville and Its Remarkable Sequel.

"That was a queer story Henry Watterson told in his lecture about a defalcation case at Louisville," said a gentleman who heard the eloquent journalist to The Man About Town of the St. Louis Republic. "He said that several years ago a gentleman holding a commanding commercial and social position in the Kentucky metropolis had used the funds of the corporation of which he was the trusted financial head, and when the day of accounting came he found he was short in his accounts. The time was too brief to make the deficit good and his own funds were in such shape that he was inextricably entangled. He was an honest man, but in a moment of over-confidence had permitted himself to deviate from the narrow path just enough to use the firm's cash as a temporary loan, promising to return it at once and promptly. As is always the case, he failed to keep his promise, and the delay was dangerous—when the time came he could not. Instead of waiting the inevitable discovery, he called a meeting of the directors, made a straightforward confession, resigned his position, threw himself upon the mercy of the court, so to speak, and pledged himself to pay every dollar if he were not exposed and prosecuted. An animated discussion followed, and a large majority were in favor of giving the delinquent a chance. His hitherto high standing and undoubted business ability were in his favor, not to mention that he might have skipped if he had desired. Two of the directors held out. They thought it would be compounding a felony, and it was an awful thing to let such a man loose upon the unsuspecting community. But they were outvoted, and the defaulter was given another chance. He is now a prosperous and wealthy business man of Louisville. Two years after his misfortune one of the two men who had objected to his release was a fugitive in Texas charged with embezzlement, and at the end of another year the other fled to Canada to escape arrest on the same charge. In the whirligig of time this prosperous merchant, whose early misfortune these two men had endeavored to turn into disgrace and calamity, said Col. Watterson, was the foreman of the grand jury that indicted the two fugitives. Beware the false step, continued Col. Watterson, but don't always condemn the victim without giving him the benefit of the doubt."

MESSAGES TO THEIR DEAD.

Beautiful Custom in Nam of Sending "Lanterns" Out to Sea.

At full moon in October and again at full moon in November the three days' show is held, says the Saturday Review, and for some time previously the houses of grandees and peasants, the markets and bazars show signs of preparation for the coming event. The humblest style in which the ceremony can be performed is yet pretty enough. The broad, strong leaf of a pistachio is bent or folded into the shape of a boat or raft. In the middle of this simple structure a tiny taper is fixed upright. The "lantern," or raft, of which this is the simplest form, is then kept ready in the house until the auspicious moment—predicted by the family priest—has arrived.

Then at this moment, when the water is silvered over by the beams of the broad rising moon, the taper is lighted and the tiny raft is launched upon the waves. Very slowly at first it makes its way along the edge of the ebbing tide; then, wafted gently by the still evening air into the swifter current, it drifts further and further away until only a bright speck of light distinguishes it from the rippling surface all around. When the night is fine thousands of these little stars of light may be seen twinkling on the broad bosom of the Menam, all winding their silent way toward the boundless sea, all bearing silent messages to departed friends who have already gone to the great unknown land.

Wealth from the Sea.

Scientific journals in England speak approvingly of a new method of manufacturing caustic soda, chlorine and other chemical products directly from sea water with the aid of electricity. There is an immense saving of time, labor and material in the process. It is readily seen that man gets a fresh grasp on the hoarded treasures of nature through such a discovery. Perhaps the most interesting suggestion made in connection with this new method of manufacturing chemicals is that of Science Gossip to the effect that electricity may yet enable us to purify sea water so as to fit it for drinking purposes. One of the greatest terrors that confront the shipwrecked would be banished by such a discovery, provided that the electrical apparatus could be made portable enough to be taken off in a boat.

Antiquity of the Pump.

The common water pump of to-day is but an improvement on a Grecian invention which first came into general use during the reign of the Ptolemies, Philadelphos and Euergetes, 303 to 281 B. C. The name, which is very similar in all languages, is derived from the Greek word "pempo," to send or throw. The most ancient description we have of the water pump is by Hero of Alexandria. There is no authentic account of its general use outside of Egypt previous to its introduction into the German provinces at about the opening of the sixteenth century. Pumps with plungers and pistons were invented by Morland, an Englishman, in 1674; the double acting pump by De la Hire, the French academicien, some twenty years later.

Six Ways Around the World.

The time required for a journey around the earth by a man walking day and night, without rest, would be 438 days; an express train, forty days; sound, at a medium temperature, 23½ hours; cannon ball, 21½ hours; light, a little over one-tenth of a second; electricity, passing over copper wire, a little less than one-tenth of a second.

THE

THE TENSAS GAZETTE

A weekly newspaper published at

ST. JOSEPH, LA.

THE

OFFICIAL JOURNAL

—OF THE—

PARISH

OF

TENSAS,

—OF THE—

Board of School Directors

—AND OF THE—

Fifth Dist. Levee Board

Reaching every home in the parish, it is an excellent medium for

ADVERTISERS

—:—

who desire the business of this section.

DEMOCRATIC

—:—

in principles, it will ever advocate what seems to it to be the best interests of State generally, and the Parish particularly.

—:—

Blanks of every description for Magistrates, Constables and other Officials kept constantly on hand

Advertising

Rates Reasonable.

Subscription, \$2.00 per year