

The Woman's Room.

CRAWFORD AND ITALIANS.

Novelty Replies to an Attack Upon Him by the Don Chisciotte.

The Don Chisciotte, of Rome, one of the Italian papers that have attacked F. Marconi Crawford for his alleged breach of courtesy to the Italians, recently published the following communication from the north. The letter contains more than a biography; it never could the temper and inner life of the man. It strikes straight out with plain phrases, thus:

Sir: In an article which was published in the Don Chisciotte on Friday, Oct. 14, entitled "Un Ospite che Potrebbe Tornare" ("A Guest Who Might Return"), there are several, certainly involuntary, errors concerning which I request you to have the courtesy to publish the following statements:

In the first place the above mentioned article causes it to be understood that I was born and educated in the United States, that some few years ago I came to Rome, where I was welcomed, caressed and flattered as "the most celebrated novelist" (which I am not); that after accepting every hospitality, I returned to America for the purpose of writing all that I could in the newspapers against that same Italy toward whom I was so deeply indebted, and what was more, that I had precisely, and with intention, chosen the occasion of the Centennial of the United States in order to publish my work calculated to offend him.

Were all these statements true—as without doubt the writer of that little article must have known—they would be perfectly justified in qualifying me as the ordinary foreigner, and I myself would add, of but little respectability, to whom the journalist refers.

His Life Story.

I was born in Tuesday, 1854, of American parents. Thomas Crawford, my father, was a distinguished sculptor (see British Encyclopedia, Larousse, Brockhaus and others), who lived at Rome from 1857 until 1887, the year of his premature death. My mother, a part of my youth was passed at Rome, and after having studied in various colleges and universities in America, England and Germany, I remained in Rome until the year 1887, when I returned to the United States, where I was appointed Professor Valeri, a friend of my father's, and I also attended the lectures on Sanskrit and comparative philology given by the learned Professor Valeri.

At the time I was already occupied with English literature. I afterward passed four years and a half in the East Indies and in the United States as a journalist, critic, and finally concluded my career in New York city, where I took up my residence in the province of Naples, just as my father had resided at Rome, and where I possess a small estate.

Stranger I am, it is true, and an American and a Republican, but certainly not any ordinary passing stranger.

No one will deny my right to speak, according to my manner of understanding the world, of the actual state of Italy and of her social and political conditions.

I wrote, therefore, an article for the New York Herald at the request of the editor at the time when the popular agitation at Milan, Naples and elsewhere, was going on.

The article was published at New York in the edition of Sunday, May 15.

I do not know whether H. R. H. the Count of Turin had at that time already arrived in the United States.

HE SAID NOTHING NEW.

Now for many years, and in more than twenty novels as well as in other of my works, I have never ceased to express precisely the same opinions as those contained in the letter to the New York Herald. Many of the phrases and all the opinions will be found in my books, and as my friends in Italian—whether Roman or Neapolitan—have done me the honor of reading several of these works of mine, it is very evident that they could have turned their backs upon me long ago had they wished to do so.

I was never "presented" to that courteous and cultured society, but rarely go into it, being by profession a man of letters, and as by no means a society man; but it would be a marvel indeed if two generations of men honestly residing in Italy from 1857 until 1888, members of a family belonging to the aristocracy of the United States, had not entered into friendly relations with some Italian families.

Incidentally, the above very sensible opinion does not appear to be shared by the great majority of our American cousins, who are apt to be led astray by the megalomaniac nonsense with which the columns of their yellow journals abound.

On the other hand, I have never knocked at closed doors, have never asked anything of society, and have accepted but little, as every one who knows me is well aware.

WOMEN THE WORLD OVER.

Such an account made three pairs of eyes open wide. We had lived like societies, and open like men. Then we were to be the club, and Chinese cash, 1,003, in American coin represented about 80 cents. And still we had been charged an amount twice as great as Chairman would be expected to pay—Saturday Evening Post.

Something more than good intentions goes to the successful handling of a bicycle. At a party near Liverpool, England, to which many guests rode on their wheels, the hostess made elaborate arrangements for the care of the machines, and a system of clocking, similar to that in use at hotel coking rooms, was adopted. The clock being provided with a check ticket. The housekeeper was entrusted with the care of the bicycles and the issue of the tickets, and as they were to be used in the afternoon, the hostess and labeled, so that there would be no difficulty when they were required again. But the housekeeper was not a cyclist, and did not understand the mechanics of the passenger. She pinned the clock in the front tire of the machine where they could be seen, taking good care that the pins were secured in the tire—and the cyclists, one and all, walked home—Youth's Companion.

WOMEN THE WORLD OVER.

Miss Natalie Schenk, who started a chain letter in June to raise \$3,000 for the Red Cross, is trying to raise \$100,000 for the same purpose. She sent out the first letter in June. Before July was over the letters were arriving by bundles and the postmaster was in despair, and the letter, which, by the way, frequent relays, spent their days in Schenk's stable opening envelopes and filling tubes with money, checks and stamps. Between June 20 and Oct. 21 Miss Schenk received 200 letters, containing a total of \$20,000. Frequent appeals have been sent out asking the public to stop the chain, but it seems bent on earning its title, and goes on.

Letters are still coming at the rate of 100 a day.

Miss Ethel May Charles, reported to be the first woman architect in England, has just completed her time in an architect's office in London, and will be admitted as an associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects this month. She has won several prizes for designs, and intends to open an office in a good business locality. The architectural profession is held by the London papers to be peculiarly adapted to the talents of women.

The three prizes of \$50 each in the Century Magazine competition for the best story, poem and essay, open to students who received the degree of B. A. in 1887, have been won by three young women, although more than 100 men entered the contest. Vasar furnishes two of the prize winners and Sixth one.

Women wood carvers are becoming more numerous in this country, but in Sweden it has been a woman's occupation for some time, and the best known carver in Stockholm is Froken Gobel, who employs fifteen girls. These workers not only do the light and delicate work, but also require more vigorous handling of the chisel as well.

Many carvers receive from \$20 to \$25 a week. Some women in New York earn a handsome income at serving crumb trays, footstools, brooms, brushes, and other articles. The work requires the study of anatomy, but grotesque figures and "line" work can be done without that.

The Russian minister of public instruction lately informed the superintendent in Moscow that, in view of the difficulties of procuring a sufficient number of teachers in the provinces, he proposed to employ women as teachers in the lower classes. They must be qualified as home governesses or teachers of French, who have had special preparation in that language and several years' experience as teachers. The minister public instruction added that the candidates must make formal application to him and wait until they are given a place.

The woman's journal states that this is the first time that a woman has been allowed to teach the other sex in Russia, and that the lowest primary grade. Even this was only permitted in some parts of Russia. It is a step toward the equality of the sexes, and the instruction of women, who, although well qualified as French teachers, could never hope to fill a place in a college, and they have had to depend entirely on private lessons for their maintenance.

The German emperor is said to have been greatly pleased with her visit to the harem. Although the seraglio is different from what it was in past years, the curtain is still very strictly drawn as to what passes within it. It is quite possible that the kaiserin in the person of the sultana, as no one ever asks after or even mentions the wife of a Mohammedan of high rank to his face. But while the sultana-wives of the caliph-mat come and go, the sultana-versed-mother of the sovereigns is theoretically unchangeable.

The sultan, when his own parent dies, immediately adopts another lady in her place. The sultana-wives are, however, usually in a motherly way. Some improvements, according to the modern Western ideas, in the interior of the harem were noticed by the kaiserin with pleasure. The empress of Germany was gratified by the appearance of refined simplicity in place of lavish luxury of former times. This change has doubtless brought about by the fact that many of the women of the harem are highly educated, the sultana having gradually come to hold very liberal views on this point, although he was conservative enough as to their strict seclusion. They are allowed occasionally in closed carriages, their faces covered with yashmaks. Gaudy native costumes of brilliant stuffs are no longer worn by Turkish women. The sultana now follow French fashions, do their sisters of various lands.

WOMAN BREAKS JAIL.

Dauville Prisoner's Unique Plan to Free Herself and Husband.

DANVILLE, Ill., Jan. 14.—The most daring jail delivery ever accomplished in the country was performed today by Lizzie Baumgartner, who claimed to be from St. Louis. She and her husband, Harry Baumgartner, had been locked up on the charge of shoplifting.

When arrested the woman was placed in the woman's room in the jail. Her husband was confined in an ordinary cell. She made a knife out of a razor and two pieces of broomstick and a piece of a corset stay. During the night she picked a hole through the ceiling of her room, and with a candle charred the boards above. Then she cut the boards with the razor. She covered up the hole with pieces of her clothing and pasteboard. This afternoon she was admitted to her husband, and he was admitted to her room. When the turnkey went downstairs they both climbed up the pipes, through the hole into the attic. Then, going down through the residence part of the jail, both walked out of the front door.

Miss Tempa Newton, daughter of Deputy Sheriff Newton, was seen walking down the front steps and talking to Sheriff Sloan, who caught the fugitives in a house half a mile away. Mrs. Baumgartner wore men's clothing.

THROUGH CARS TO CALIFORNIA.

Quick Time—Best Service. Tourist car running through to Los Angeles under the new every Thursday via the North-Western Line. St. Paul, Minn. to O. R. Y.—The Pioneer car line from the following fast time: Leave Minneapolis 7:30 p. m. St. Paul 7:45 p. m. Chicago 10:30 p. m. St. Louis 11:30 p. m. San Francisco 8:45 a. m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. For tickets at all other intermediate points, apply to the agent, St. Paul, Minn. agent, St. Paul.

Mrs. Senator Davis' Revenge.

The Climax of a Great Social and Political Drama.

The fact that Charlemagne Tower, of Philadelphia, has just been named as ambassador to Russia does not make the following story from the New York Journal any less interesting: The majestic figure of Mrs. Cushman K. Davis bars the path of ex-Gov. William R. Merriam to the vacant Russian embassy.

Will she be finally successful in keeping him back, or will the eminent statesman succeed in dodging past her. A vivacious struggle is going on, and in the opinion of Washington politicians the chances are now greatly in favor of the lady.



MRS. CUSHMAN K. DAVIS.

Mr. Merriam as ambassador to the czar, but Senator Cushman K. Davis is one of the most powerful members of the senate, and Mrs. Davis says Mr. Merriam must not be appointed.

This is the climax of a mixed social and political drama, which concerns the whole United States and possibly the outside world.

What was the beginning of it? Simply that Mrs. Merriam did not consider Mrs. Davis fit to mingle with the social elite of St. Paul, Minn. Now Mrs. Davis, being found fit to mingle with the Empress Eugenie, the crowned head and aristocrat of Europe and the elite of Washington's diplomatic society, does not forget Mrs. Merriam. This lady, too, would like to move in those exalted spheres, but Mrs. Davis has the power to consign her to outer darkness. Well does the poet say that a nameless place hath no fury like a woman scorned by the elite.

The interest of this drama is obviously far more than social. Cushman K. Davis and William R. Merriam are Republican politicians of national eminence. The former is chairman of the senate committee on foreign relations, an office now of peculiar importance and responsibility.

Mr. Merriam, who was once governor of Minnesota, is not so powerful politically as his rival, but he is still one of the leading citizens of his state, and President McKinley considers him a suitable ambassador to Russia, a great power, whose relations with this country call for the highest order of diplomacy.

The senator's political advisers and the Merriams began years ago, when Cushman K. Davis was a rising young man. Mrs. Merriam was the leader of St. Paul society and would soon recognize the present Mrs. Davis, who was originally a seamstress, and married her husband after he had obtained a divorce from his first wife. Mrs. Davis again and again, and so did all his friends.

Mrs. Davis is not a person to be snubbed with impunity. She is hand-some and socially distinguished. The larger society in which she now moves does not trouble about the episodes of her early career. She is popular in Washington and in the city, and her husband, who is a conspicuously able man and likely to reach to higher things.

After a rapid struggle upward from poverty and obscurity, Cushman K. Davis was elected governor of Minnesota in 1878. He was married at that time to his first wife, who was well received in local society, though by no means a shining light.

About the year 1875 Miss Anna Agnew, a very handsome young woman, entered the Davis household in St. Paul. She was the daughter of a prominent family. After that the course of domestic happiness did not run smooth. Finally Mr. and Mrs. Davis agreed to be divorced. The first Mrs. Davis went to Kansas, where she is still living.

A year or more later Mr. Davis married Miss Agnew. This step created some sensation in St. Paul, although it might have been expected. Society in that city is even more puritanical than in New York. Mr. Davis merely says that he has decided that the matter has a change of wives.

Miss Agnew—the present Mrs. Davis—was born in Ireland. To her beauty and cleverness she added many accomplishments. Although poor, she had cultivated her mind. She was deeply devoted to her husband, and determined to aid him in his ambitious career. Many of the first families of St. Paul at that time and still is the leader of the 400 of St. Paul. Her husband is a rich banker. She cheerfully assumed the duties of a hostess, and the approval of the new Mrs. Davis. She did not call upon her, she cut those who called upon her, and, of course, she went to no place where she was unable to meet her. Her daughter dutifully followed her example. Most of the other women who considered that they made up St. Paul society did the same thing.

There were many amusing incidents of this social war. Mrs. Davis captured a visiting prince as her guest. He had already been staying with the Astors, Vanderbilts and others at New York. Mrs. Merriam had the bitterness of never meeting the prince, because Mrs. Davis had secured him. Mrs. Davis was under the wing of Mrs. Davis. Many of the first families of St. Paul were weak enough to drop their haughty reserve in order to meet him. A sensation was created in 1887 by the publication of a book called "A Social Conspiracy." Mrs. Davis was clearly the heroine of the book, and St. Paul society was unmercifully rid-

COCA BAKING POWDER ABSOLUTELY PURE Makes the food more delicious and wholesome

MONEY WILL BE EASY

THAT IS THE OUTLOOK IN NEW YORK BANKING CIRCLES AT PRESENT

TOO MUCH CASH ON HAND

Banks Would Like to Find Employment for Surplus Funds, Which Continue to Accumulate—Stock Dealings on an Enormous Scale Have Helped to Keep Money Moving.

NEW YORK, Jan. 14.—The Financier says: "In the face of continued demand for funds, the New York banks are regaining cash and adding to their reserve, in large amounts. It has been anticipated that the banks would show a gain as the result of the past six days' business, but the advance was much larger than the early estimates expected. The continued expansion reflects gains not only from the sale of securities, but also from the sale of bonds, and from the activity noted during the close of the year. It is not probable that the loans represent sterling operations, as, under present circumstances, liquidation is more in order than expansion.

The expansion in loans, coming after the week ending Jan. 7, is only logical. Stock dealings are on such an enormous scale that borrowing on collateral is resuming the activity noted during the close of the year. It is not probable that the loans represent sterling operations, as, under present circumstances, liquidation is more in order than expansion.

The heavy cash receipts, coupled with the loan increase, are responsible for the addition of nearly \$3,000,000 to the deposit account, and increased to \$1,000,000,000. The gain in excess cash was only \$4,500,000.

The surplus reserve is now \$28,863,275, an amount larger than has been reached since Aug. 20 last, when exports were \$85,000,000 less and loans nearly \$45,000,000 more than present totals.

As the movement toward New York is likely to add heavily to the already idle cash here, it is only natural to anticipate an easy money market for a long time to come. The continued stock exchange transactions on a larger scale. Of course, unfortunately, the activity now so prominent in this seems to favor indefinitely expansion. With money abundant, approach to our own level, gold imports have been suspended. The resignation of the president conditions to note that the new house banks, while making new loans from week to week, in clear more idle money for sale, have yet to themselves like to see."

FLORIDA, HAVANA, NASSAU.

Double Daily Trains From Cincinnati, Louisville, St. Louis and Kansas City Via the Southern Railway.

The Southern Railway and connections have arranged to run double daily trains from Cincinnati to the South this winter. The new service will be inaugurated on Monday, Jan. 17, at Louisville and Kansas City. The new service will be inaugurated on Monday, Jan. 17, at Louisville and Kansas City. The new service will be inaugurated on Monday, Jan. 17, at Louisville and Kansas City.

HE HAD THE CASH.

Michigan County Treasurer Pays the State \$20,000 in Bills.

LANSING, Mich., Jan. 14.—State Treasurer Steel and his deputies got a shock this afternoon from which they will not recover in some time. The treasurer of Livingston county ambled into the office and announced cheerfully that he was prepared to make a payment on the state bonds apportioned to his county. The officer expected a draft or a check, but the Livingston county man stuck a hand into his pocket and brought out a bundle of \$1 notes. From various places about his clothing he kept drawing packages of \$1, \$2, \$5 and \$10 bills. The pile kept growing until \$20,000 was stacked up on the table. The office force was simply paralyzed with astonishment, but the county treasurer got a lecture and he will probably not forget in a hurry.

A plain talk

People who have been watching the announcements of this store, looking for a "mid-season sale" or a "stock reducing sale," have been disappointed perhaps. This store has no apologies to offer, only a fact or two to state.

CUPID RUNS COUNTER.

Salvation Army Lieutenant and a Cadet Want to Marry.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Jan. 14.—Salvation army circles in this city are disturbed, Cupid running counter to army regulations. Lieut. Stinnett, young, handsome and popular, is violently enamored of Pearl Vaughn, a winsome cadet of Springfield, Ill. They want to marry. The army regulations prohibit it. These provide that the lieutenant must secure permission from headquarters to court his sweetheart, and this pastime must last one year before permission to wed is officially announced. Lieutenant Stinnett and Cadet Vaughn threaten to retire from the army. Notice has been served on Capt. Strayce, the commander in charge here, that they will marry in spite of the army regulations. Miss Vaughn is said to be but twenty years of age, pretty and vivacious, and of good family. Lieut. Stinnett has been asked to retire from the North Broadway barracks for some time. He is temporarily at Alton, Ill.

These facts are these: First, no one believes in selling goods at a price lower than any other person. Second, no one believes in making prices at the lowest possible notch at the beginning of the season and keeping them there through the winter. Third, no one believes in making prices at the lowest possible notch at the beginning of the season and keeping them there through the winter.

WE DO save you money. We ask you to prove this by comparing Absolute quality and price with any other quality or price at any "sale" whatsoever. We have a century of honorable dealing has made us, and we intend to have honorable dealing kept right on making us. Yours for the best buys in the world, E. ALBRECHT & SON, (Established 1856.) 7 East Seventh Street, St. Paul.