THE VIRGINIA ENTERPRISE

VIRGINIA, MINN.

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CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS.

—Berlin has 14 persons whose annual income exceeds $250,000.

—The word "cossack" is Turkish and means "free man" or "free lance."

—A Venezuelan orchid now on exhibition in London is valued at $5000.

—Boston is agitating the question of prohibiting the ringing of church bells.

—The number of persons cremated in Germany from 1878 to 1899 was 3110.

—Canadian towns and cities are steadily growing, and many of them quite rapidly.

—Tobacco is now raised in County Meath, Ireland, where it grows luxuriantly.

—The evictions in Ireland of the past year were only 454, the lowest in twenty years.

—Some of the English towns are being infested by fraudulent collectors for the war fund.

—One hundred wounded Germans were found in the hospital at Jacobsdal, in South Africa.

—There is a movement in the Malay States to send a mounted volunteer corps to South Africa.

—It is a curious fact that a negro has never been known to tame an elephant or any wild animal.

—In the years 1890-1893 the number of families who left Alsace-Lorraine for France was over 7000.

—Trolley lines in Connecticut last year carried 59,084,702 passengers, and the steam lines, 50,269,468.

—Among 100,000 Germans there are twenty-one suicides every year, most of them aged between 20 and 30.

—Though Spain is an agricultural country, it had to import last year more than $15,000,000 worth of grain.

—The plum known as the "Abundance" is a cross between a Japanese plum and the American wild plum.

—Roumania is to have three new railway lines constructed at a cost of $16,546,000, exclusive of rolling stock.

—At Zurich the theological faculty of the university finds that it has only eight students for ten professors this winter.

—A news vender of North London was sentenced to a seven-day term in jail for crying false war news on the streets.

—It is predicted that our whole remaining area of white pine forests will be practically denuded within five years.

—The balance of trade in favor of the United States for the seven months ending January 1 amounted to $313,728,182.

—Gen. Funston is stationed in the central part of Luzon and has 4000 men under him, scattered about in small garrisons.

—Shipping tolls at the Suez canal in January yielded $1,364,400, against $1,416,000 in January, 1899, and $1,408,000 in 1898.

—London medical papers discuss an outbreak of typhoid fever at Exeter, which has been traced to consumption of raw cockles.

—The California currants sold in this country are so carefully cleaned that they command better prices than Corinthian currants.

—The great need of Havana is a modern slaughtering plant, and plans have been made for one to be built at the expense of the city.

—Prof. Agassiz's exploring expedition with the Albatross has found the ocean five and one-half miles deep near the Island of Tonga at Eua.

—Descendants of the missionaries in the Hawaiian islands constitute about one-twentieth of the white population, exclusive of the Portuguese.

—A compilation of dates from the year 416 to 1867 indicates that Japan must expect a destructive earthquake about once in two and a half years.

—Colorado produced last year $31,122,166 in gold, $12,680,256 in silver, $4,641,529 in lead, $1,854,226 in copper and $577,500 in zinc and manganiferous iron.

—Statistics of the Massachusetts railway commissioners show that the average cost of railway equipment per mile of main track in that state last year was $46,149.

—The timber supply of Georgia has been estimated by lumbermen of that state as sufficient to last only nine years at the present rate of sawing, 2,600,000 feet daily.

—Hamburg and Bremen cannot agree as to which has the larger fleet, but both are proud of the fact that Germany has the two biggest steamship companies in the world.

—Judge Woodward of Wilkesbarre, Pa., discharged a prisoner the other day because he was unable to decipher the commitment papers made out by a justice of the peace.

—Payments out of the British exchequer by the formal returns averaged during February almost exactly $5,000,000 per week over the average of the preceding year.

—The President's summer tour this year will begin in July or August and will include a trip to the launching at San Francisco of a battleship, to be christened Ohio.

—Nome City, the new mining town on the Alaskan coast, already has a newspaper—a four-page sheet which measures about 12x16 inches, but which sells at 50 cents a copy.

—Rats have lately been overrunning certain parts of the northern district of Dundee. Recently a 6-year-old girl, who is both deaf and dumb, was badly injured by these pests.

—Through state aid there have been built in New Jersey about 450 miles of hard roads. Counties, boroughs, townships and other municipalities have constructed as many more.

—Russia is probably the only country that could raise a regiment composed entirely of generals, who number 1248. They receive in salaries an aggregate of 7,000,000 rubles a year.

—The Yorkshire (Eng.) brewers are gradually bringing into use motor traction cars for the conveyance of beer to their customers. The cars are stated to be much more economical than horses.

—Alabama's output of coal in 1870 was 13,200 tons and in 1899 7,000,000 tons; of iron ore in 1870, 7060 tons, and in 1899 1,083,905 tons. The thirteen cotton mills of 1870 had increased to fifty-two in 1899.

—English insurance societies are badly divided over the question of war risks. Some refuse to have the volunteers at any price, while others think the men as safe in South Africa as at home catching influenza.

—Several new 10-inch guns mounted on disappearing carriages have been placed in the fortifications guarding San Francisco harbor. Experts say the harbor is now proof against anything that may try to steam into it.

—Since vaccination has been compulsory in German cities, in 1874, only a few cases of smallpox has been observed, and most of these occurred in foreigners coming from countries without compulsory vaccination.

—The Sultan of Turkey is most inquisitive as to what is said and written about him abroad. Every day translations are laid before him from the newspapers of the world, and these are all closely perused.

—The corporation of Lincoln, England, have resolved, if possible, to make the largest and deepest boring for water in the United Kingdom. It will be over 2000 feet deep and not less than twelve inches in diameter at the bottom.

—Kansas is to have a cucumber farm on a large scale. The project is to secure 1100 acres near Lawrence, on the line of the proposed electric railroad. The cucumber crop matures just as the school term ends, when pickers can be easily secured.

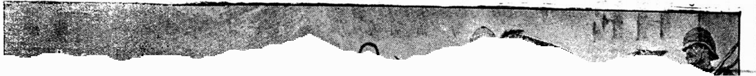
—Over the main gateway of the Paris exposition at the entrance to the Champs Elysees a startling innovation in sculpture will be seen. The figure of the "City of Paris" will be represented as a woman dressed according to the latest fashion of 1900.

—An interesting subject of discussion in the mining press of Europe is as to the location of the oldest coal mine in Europe. According to Herr Frantz Buettgenbach, coal was mined before 1113, and it has been thought that coal was first found in the Liege district.

—The city of Winchester, Va., passed a law last week which is designed to break up the mosquito pest there. The law requires that each property owner shall pour kerosene oil over every pool, sink or drain on his premises from time to time, and the police force is empowered to see that the ordinance is enforced.

GOSSIP FOR THE LADIES.

BULLER'S ARTILLERY IN A HOT PLACE.



In Gay New York.

Announcement is made of the engagement of Miss Katherine Stauffer Clark, the youngest daughter of United States Senator William A. Clark of Montana, to Dr. Lewis Rutherford Morris of New York city.

A LOVE SONG.

Who cares for winter wild without,
  Who cares for frost and snow,
When all the one he thinks about,
  Is where the roses grow?
Her smiles are sweet as sunshine bright;
  Her eyes like heaven's own blue;
She fills for me the world with light—
  Because she's dear and true!

Who cares for winds that bitter blow,
  For sleet or stinging rain,
When he at heart doth surely know—
  His love gives love again?
Her whispers are like leaves attune,
  With wonder of the wind;
Her very presence sweet as June—
  Enchanting heart and mind!
—William Brunton in Good Housekeeping.

IF THE HEART BE TRUE.

All things can never go badly wrong
If the heart be true and the love be strong;
For the mist if it comes, and the weeping rain
Will be changed by love into sunshine again.
—George MacDonald.

THE HIGH PLANE OF HOUSEHOLD DUTIES.

To the girls who are learning the practical lessons of every day domestic life present conditions come as a matter of course, while to the older women they are a revelation. You do not realize how it is all made so much easier to you than it was to your mothers, and how infinitely easier it is than your grandmothers ever dreamed it could be. Science has revolutionized domestic matters, and you are just in time to realize the greatest benefits from her discoveries. Knowing this, have you not a new respect for the every-day things which you have been accustomed to treat with indifference? Are you so much greater and wiser than the scholar and scientist that you can scorn and belittle that to which he considers it worth while to bring training and education and years of thought and study to improve.

In your hands is to lie in a great measure the unravelling of the domestic problem, which for so long a time has been vexing the home. For some inexplicable reason the duties which go to making a happy and a comfortable household have fallen into disrepute; the homely tasks which lie close at hand are looked upon with a disfavor, and in some cases, a contempt which they do not deserve. It has been the fashion to speak of the routine of household matters as "monotonous," and young women have openly scorned the assumption of them, as beneath the educated, cultivated woman. There has been a drifting away from the home and its influences, and the girls have been impatient to get out into the world and to strike out for themselves, in some new, untried way.

In a measure this is right enough. The eagerness to do something worth while, to become a part of the working force of the world, is a natural and a noble ambition for any girl. One would not give a fig for the girl who did not want to make a place for herself, where she might be recognized; who did not want her influence to be felt for the bettering of the world. Only the question comes, what is her better way, the wide road of the outside world, or the sheltered path about the home field.

This question every girl must answer for herself, as the best promptings of her inner nature suggests.

But there is one word of caution and suggestion to speak just here. When this question comes to be a personal one, be sure that you argue fairly with yourselves. Do not let desire stifle duty. It is so easy to make oneself believe that the thing which one wants to do is the right thing to be done. Eyes and ears are shut to the other side, and because one won't hear and see, she remains blind and deaf. Then, with only one side presented, says she has "argued the whole thing out."

The only way this can be done is for every girl who has the question to settle to be honest with herself, true to her own heart, to respect and honor the home side of life in its simplest relation and to remember that the homeliest and humblest tasks and duties become glorified and uplifted if done in the true spirit of service.

Of late years it has been considered "broadening" to look outside of the home for employment and interest, and there has been, in consequence, a belittling of home duties and avocations. The real importance of the domestic caretaker has been overlooked and undervalued. Other things have assumed such unfair proportions that there has come to be a false standard of measurement. It is going to be the work of the women of the near future, those who are girls now, to begin the correction of this standard, and to help put the science of domestic management upon the high plane where it belongs. Surely there can be nothing better and nobler than to provide the resting place for the world's workers, to make the home where the children shall be taught the nobler side of life, and where they shall be protected and made happy until the time comes for them to prepare either to become workers themselves, or to in turn make the home for the worker.

And there is one more thing to remember, and that is that the woman or girl who disdains household duties, and affects to have no knowledge of them, writes herself down as a vulgarian of the most hopeless stamp, who knows nothing of the trend of events, and fails most signally to read the signs of the times.

This is the sermon the woman might have preached from the text, which was of her own giving. And every word is gospel truth.—Boston Herald.

HOW TO SELECT A WIFE.

Since marriage is the perfect state, why is it that we poor mortals so often make the wrong selection in the choice of a wife? Is it due to our system of separating young people just when they should be growing up together, of allowing boys and girls to meet as strangers when it is most essential that they should be well acquainted, of knowing nothing of each other's characteristics and having only their feelings to guide them, or, in other words, when each is a mystery to the other?

The women of today are better educated on this subject than the men; their ideals are higher, their advisers are better. Men as a rule are too self-confident; they believe they "know it all" and they are imposed upon by the girls least worthy of their regard or respect, who lack character, intellect, and in fact everything but beauty and the art of imposing upon them. Few men are a match for a designing woman; the better the man the more easily is he victimized because he attributes to the object of his affection all sorts of impossible virtues.

The majority of unhappy marriages are due to the lack of any fixed ideals of married life, and in this respect men are the chief sinners. They marry because their friends marry, or because they want a home, or because they imagine they are in love with a pretty face; all insufficient reasons for taking upon one's-self the responsibilities of marriage before one has met the proper mate. A happy marriage is the making of any man, and the happiest people are the married ones.

When a man contemplates marriage seriously, and sets out to find himself a wife, he should be worthy of one; he must not expect a foolish girl of 20 to develop, even as the years go on, into anything but a foolish woman; a girl who at the age of 20 has not begun to realize that life is not all frivolity will never realize it. However young the wives men marry, unless there is the proper material to work upon, they do not make good wives. The right material is plastic, the wrong is liable to ugly twists; the right material is also open to ennobling influences that not only lift her but have their beneficial effect upon the husband.

The right sort of woman makes life on this earth about as pleasant as it is well we should have it.—John Strange Winter in the American Queen.

TO WIN THE CHILDREN.

"No subject can be of more vital importance in the home and to us as mothers than home influence," says Bertha Wood Larrabee, in the Mothers' Journal. The mother who has won and knows how to keep the confidence of her children has learned one of the most precious lessons of motherhood. It is one of the most natural things in the world for a child to trust and confide in mother, and unless some barrier blocks the way a child will always naturally and voluntarily make a confidante of its mother.

"The mother who begins with her children by allowing them—not teaching them, but just simply allowing them—of their own free will to confide in her has a hold on her children that she will never lose. In order to keep the confidence of her children, let every mother prove herself worthy of confidnce. Let her life be such that the child, even the baby, who learns sooner than we think, may see nothing but what is pure and tender. Let him always find her full of sympathy and ready to listen to the childish stories. The mother who does this will know all that transpires in her child's life, not only when he is with her, but when he is out with other children; for the child mind will be so anxious that dear mamma shall know all that has happened that it will tell all with an innocence and trust that comes only with intimacy.

"When children return from their play, give them an opportunity to tell what they have been doing, and many a story of wrong innocently done will be as innocently related. Here, then, is the mother's opportunity; she may now tell her children of the wrong, show them why it was wrong, and she will still have their confidence; but if instead of receiving her children with loving arms and listening to their childish stories she has, perhaps, rather harshly, told them to keep quiet, and not come where she was with their muddy boots, she has lost her best opportunity to know of the wrong that has been done; or if, upon hearing of that wrong, she has scolded them for their childish mistake, she has lost their confidence, and the evil once committed will be more easily repeated, and when repeated will be concealed, and the second step downward has been taken."

THE HONEYMOON.

The honeymoon is that period which follows marriage when each sees in the other the perfect ideal. The time is not necessarily of one or two months' duration; it not infrequently extends throughout the lifetime, though the period may last but a week, when the bandages are rudely torn from the eyes and the idol is revealed a mortal with all a mortal's faults and failings. This is the trying time, which makes or mars married life, and which makes the first year a trying one.

The real habits, manners, tempers and whims are seldom known, for the longest courtship fails to reveal them; only the close relation of marriage shows the true character. The first discord is apt to arise over some triviality. It should never be allowed to rise. There should be no first quarrel; the sky is never quite the same thereafter. Both should be willing to discuss fully and fairly any subject on which they do not perfectly agree, and to give way to the judgment of the other when right or truth demands it; for if husband and wife have not mutual confidence and love to meet each other half way in the settlement of all questions, then their chances of happiness are not worth very much.

A woman should not take offense too easily. She should at the beginning of married life realize that her husband will not sympathize with her every thought and feeling any more than she sympathizes with his preferences and whims; nor, if the truth were to be told, would she care for him if she could mold him to her purpose—if, in other words, he were without individuality. Upon all essential points husband and wife naturally stand upon the same ground, and upon matters of divergent opinions each should have the privilege of holding what appeals to his judgment; for it is only in allowing people to live their own lives that the honeymoon may be extended throughout a lifetime.—Mrs. Ernest Turpin in American Queen.

THE VOICE TELLS.

"I shall never forget the first time I saw So-and-So," said someone, speaking of a very homely woman with a very finely-educated mind. "It was at a woman's convention, and when I saw her I thought she was the maid belonging to one of the speakers. But the moment she began to talk I saw my mistake. She was one of the homeliest women I ever saw, and hadn't the least idea of how to dress, but the audience was fairly charmed with her."

GIRLS WITH TOO MUCH CANDOR.

Some girls are very complacent over their candor. Now let me whisper to you, that while you must invariably speak the truth, you are not always called upon to indulge in brutal and officious truth-telling at the expense of kindness. You may be perfectly sincere, yet not go into society armed with a club with which to knock your acquaintances down. Nor are you to be always acting the role of a self-appointed policeman. You need not tell your friend that you do not like her new hat and that its shape does not suit her head. She has the hat and must wear it. You need not interfere with another friend though she come late to church. Her own family can speak to her about this. The popular girl is never intrusive. She says a sweet and pleasing thing if she honestly can, or else she remains silent. And this is but saying that a popular girl cannot get along without being a sensible girl. Dear girls, there are better things than being popular; do not try to be so at the expense of any fine quality. Be your best always, and make your lives a blessing to others. Let popularity come if it will, but never set it in the first place, as a thing to seek.—Margaret E. Sangster in Ladies' Home Journal.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.

After all, the cheerful spirit is but an example of "that brave attitude toward life" of which Stephenson wrote. It is a courageous bearing of inevitable burdens, a determination not to fret and not to add to the sorrows of the world. The gospel of happiness is one that every woman should lay to her heart. What it means to a man to come home to a cheerful wife, only he knows who has to fight the hard battle of life. A complaining wife can kill the last bit of hope and courage in a troubled heart, while a cheerful helpmate gives new life to begin the fight all over again. The mother who allows her children to grow up moody and discontented, subject to blues and sulks, is failing in her first duty. She is handicapping them in the race of life. The sunshiny man or woman has everyone for a friend, for this troubled old earth must borrow its mirth, "it has troubles of its own," and some of the disagreeable, jaundiced countenances we meet on life's highway are enough to turn honey into gall and wormwood.

THE HOME WEDDING.

"For the home wedding," writes Mrs. Burton Kingsland, "the house is made bright with flowers. The mother and sisters of the bride receive the guests. The father first appears when he enters the room with his daughter. As the hour strikes, the clergyman takes his place, facing the company, followed by the bridegroom and his best man, who stand at his left awaiting the bride. Two ushers mark off an aisle with broad white ribbons, attaching them at the ends, and they precede the rest of the bridal party, who enter at the farthest corner of the room. The bridesmaid or maids follow the ushers, and the bride comes last with her father. Or, the ushers may precede the best man and the one bridesmaid, and the bride and bridegroom follow. At a house wedding they often have no attendants and rarely any music. At the

British artillery preparing to retreat in the face of the enemy. The horses, which have been kept in comparative safety, have just been brought under the galling fire of the Dutch sharpshooters. Throughout the South African war the English gunners have been compelled to expose themselves constantly when in action and their efficiency has suffered in consequence of their heavy losses.

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conclusion of the service the clergyman congratulates the bride and bridegroom and then retires. They then turn to be greeted, first by their parents, next by the members of the two families and near relatives, afterwards by everyone present. All wish them happiness. Refreshments are served in the dining room and may be simple or elaborate, as one chooses."

The opening of the door to permit the departure of a bride and groom has heretofore been the signal for a general pelting with rice—a Chinese custom conveying wishes for good health and prosperity. But this custom has been so abused with vulgarity, often producing injurious results, that it is being discarded at the weddings of careful people, and showering the bride with rose leaves or loose flowers has been instituted. These flowers are then again picked up and kept as souvenirs by the guests.

NEW SHIRT WAISTS.

The new wash shirtwaists are very long-waisted in front and rather short at the back. Fitting correctly under the arms and with wide shoulders, they look a good deal like last year's waists till contrasted with a left-over. Then it will be seen that this season's waist is built along better lines and with more graceful jauntiness. Shirtwaists or wash silks are going to be worn a great deal, and the run on flannel waists is tremendous. Almost all waists are made with self cuff and a collar band, with an attachable shaped stock collar. When a linen collar is worn or a white stock and scarf are chosen, linen cuffs should be set inside the waist cuffs. Only a white stock should be worn with a colored or print shirtwaist unless the stock harmonizes with the shade of the waist.

SALAD HINTS.

Cream or Neufchatel cheeses or the home-made cottage cheese should be served with fruit salads, and any kind of thin, crisped crackers, or bread cut in thin slices, the crust removed, and then the slices rolled and tied with baby ribbon to make them attractive.

Bear in mind that it is quite as important to have the salads thoroughly chilled as to have soups perfectly hot. Lukewarmness is not commendable in either of these courses any more than it is in friendship or religion.—Ella Morris Kretschmar in the Woman's Home Companion.

POISON IN NUTMEGS.

Cases are not infrequently reported in which children, and sometimes grown persons, are poisoned by the free use of nutmegs, it not being generally known that this article of common household use is really a deadly poison. This is true, in fact, of most condiments; but the misuse of these articles, such as pepper, capsicum, etc., are so obnoxious to the taste, except when taken in very minute quantities, that the consumer is warned in a very positive manner before he has an opportunity to do himself serious injury. This is not the case, however, with the nutmeg. This nut, which contains a poisonous principle, may be consumed without inconvenience, in quantities sufficient to produce fatal consequences.

The New Geology.

Heretofore the geological history of the earth has been studied only in the record of stratified rocks and their contained fossils. But in every place there have been land-periods in which, of course, erosion took the place of sedimentation. This kind of record is very imperfect, because there are no fossils. Until recently no account was taken of these erosion periods except as breaks of indefinite length in the record—as lost intervals. But now, and mainly through the work of American geologists, interpretation of these erosion periods has fairly commenced, and so important has this new departure in the study of geology seemed to some that it has been hailed as a new era in geology, connecting it more closely with geography. Heretofore former land periods were recognized by unconformities and the amount of time by the degree of change in the fossils, but now the amount of time is estimated in existing land surfaces by topographic forms alone. This idea was introduced into geology by Maj. J. W. Powell, and has been applied with success by William Morris Davis, W. J. McGee and others.—From "A Century of Geology," by Prof. Joseph Le Conte, in Appletons' Popular Science Monthly.

A Southern Woman's Enterprise.

A young woman whose home is within a few miles of Augusta, Ga., makes a comfortable living for herself and her mother by growing bulbs and selling them to Northern seed houses. She inherited about fifty acres of land which the neighbors said was too poor to sprout cowpeas. She bought a mule and went to work clearing up and fertilizing. Now she has a beautiful bulb and flower farm.—Indianapolis News.

QUEEN WEARS THE GREEN

Enthusiastic Celebration of Shamrock Day.

HER VISIT TO DUBLIN.

Ireland and the Shamrock Now Monopolizing the Attention of London People.

London, March 17.—Shamrock day promises to vie with Primrose day in the hearts of the people, judging from the enthusiasm with which, for the first time in the history of the nation, Loyalists all over the United Kingdom are celebrating and everywhere the green is conspicuous. From Windsor castle where the Queen observed the day by wearing a sprig of genuine four-leaved shamrock, to the east end of the slums of London, where the ragged urchin glories in his morsel of green weed, nearly everyone sports something in the shape of a green favor. A word from her majesty has turned the emblem of semi-disloyalty into a badge of honor and has made the shamrock the most prized of all the plants in the British isles.

By the Queen's order the bills in the curfew tower of Windsor castle, honored St. Patrick this morning; Irish airs played by the Grenadiers enlivened the Queen's luncheon, and on London's mansion house floats a new loyal Irish flag with the Union Jack in the upper corner and a crowned harp in the center of a green field, as distinguished from the Irish flag which bears the harp without the union or crown. The street venders have done a roaring trade with flags, buttons, clover, moss spinach, bits of green ribbon, etc. Houses and stores lavishly display green flags and bunting, and Irish soldiers and sailors showing special pride in wearing the national emblem.

Great Britain Irritated.

London, March 17.—Between the lines of the politely-worded editorial comments on President McKinley's expression of willingness to aid in the restoration of peace between Great Britain and the Boer republics can be discerned many evidences of an inward irritation which the less responsible public does not hesitate to outwardly express, while even members of the government privately display pique that of all the powers America should have consented to assume what one official designated as the "ungracious role of suggesting some form of interference," to which he added this expression: "Englishmen cannot help contrasting the perfect correctness of the attitude of openly-unfriendly France with the offer of the United States, which, if it had come from a less disinterested source, could only have been regarded as an unfriendly act."

There is no doubt that the overtures of the United States, even through carefully worded, have sensibly irritated Great Britain as a whole, while circles especially friendly to the United States express open regret at the opportunity offered to critics to compare the refusal of M. Delcasse, the French minister of foreign affairs, to gratify the hostile sentiment in France by making proposals to Lord Salisbury which were sure of rejection with what they testily call the "interference" of Washington, and which, though only tentative and clothed in words of perfect friendliness and courtesy, came at an inopportune moment, when the supreme self-sufficiency of the British empire is the predominating feeling of the day. Everywhere one hears expressions of satisfaction that while the answer to the proposal was clothed in words of perfect courtesy, the language of Lord Salisbury in "brushing aside" President McKinley's proffer was so extremely definite as to kill all possibility of a repetition of the offers from any source, unless those proposing them are desirous of being recognized as openly antagonistic to this country.

No Outside Interference.

Emphasis is laid on the fact that Great Britain declared at the outset her unwillingness to consent to any outside interference, and therefore, as, according to the well-established principle of international law that the right of intervention is conditional on the willingness of both parties to the quarrel to accept the good offices of a mediating power, such interference was, in this case, outside the bounds of diplomatic possibilities and gave Lord Salisbury full justification for his "retort courteous."

Outside the international politics, Ireland and the shamrock largely monopolize the attention of London. The internecine strife in the Nationalistic ranks engencompelled to expose themselves constantly when in

dered by the Dublin corporation's address to the Queen and the bitterness felt in Loyalist circles in Ireland at the outward exhibitions of disrespect of her majesty, keep the officials guessing as to what is likely to occur at the Irish capital next month. An official in the office of the chief secretary of Ireland, Gerald Balfour, said he was not surprised at the Nationalists opposing the address of welcome, "which, necessarily, was either hypocrisy or a lie, in addition to which it would go far to stop the flow of American contributions."

Speaking of the Queen's visit, the same official said he had little doubt that "wigs would litter Dublin green" before the visit was concluded.

Supply of Shamrock Insufficient.

In the meantime St. Patrick's day is being observed throughout the United Kingdom as never before. The supply of shamrock is quite insufficient to meet the demands.

The new yacht built for the Queen in the government dockyards, at a cost of about $2,500,000, will probably never be used by her majesty. Her instability, palpably demonstrated at the time of her undecking, has caused the Queen to take a strong dislike to the vessel and the alterations necessitated so materially reduced her comfort and convenience that it is believed they will render the vessel unsuited for the purpose originally intended. The probability is that the yacht will ultimately be renamed Enchantress and converted into a dispatch vessel for the use of the admiralty.

Bicycles for Volunteers.

Of the $2,000,000 which the government purposes to spend in developing the volunteers $250,000 will be spent, at the rate of $10 per man, to encourage each regiment to form a company of bicyclists. Lord Lansdowne, the secretary of war, and George Wyndham, the parliamentary secretary of the war office, both ride wheels and they know from personal experience what can be done with the machine on the fine English roads. Of course they do not expect the soldiers to use the wheels on the South African plains or in the Indian hill country, but they aver that in assembling for home defense and in concentrating at any point on the coast battalions of bicyclists could transport themselves and their arms and ammunition and emergency rations with less fatigue and with as much speed as though on horseback. A volunteer trained to the use of the bicycle, they claim, would have at hand for instant use the means of reaching, by a direct road, a point of mobilization possibly twenty or fifty miles distant. With a bicycle it would be as though a charger stood ready saddled at the volunteer's door.

NURSES IN THE WAR.

Views of Some Who Are Now Serving in South Africa.

Nurses who are serving in hospitals in South Africa say it is astonishing how severely wounded many of the soldiers can be and still live. An added discomfort from which the wounded suffer is the intense heat. At Pietermaritzburg the thermometer often registers 138 degrees outside and 94 degrees in the wards. A temperature of 88 degrees is considered cool.

X-rays are universally used in the hospitals. After a battle nurses and surgeons are on duty night and day in the "theaters," as these places of suffering are called. In all cases the men consider it a disgrace to be ill of typhoid or dysentery, and would rather be wounded. They say the most awful experience is lying wounded on the field after a battle waiting to be picked up, and wondering if they will be found at all. Sometimes it is claimed that they endure forty-eight hours of this suspense.

Women nurses are not permitted to serve in stationary hospitals at all, while in base hospitals only four are allowed for every 100 beds. At Mafeking Lady Sarah Wilson is in charge of the auxiliary hospital. It is said that where women nurses are employed they give their patients unstinted care and sympathy.

The English ambulance trains used in South Africa are declared to be models of comfort and common sense, each being splendidly equipped with a kitchen, pantry and dispensary. The bunks are arranged on either side of a narrow center aisle, and have detachable sides, so that the patient can be easily slipped from stretcher to bed. One hundred men can be comfortably accommodated.

As they are without water for weeks on the field of battle, the men generally begged to be bathed before anything further is done for their relief. They are then put to bed and operated upon if the case is urgent, though this is not done on the train if it can be avoided. Each man is provided with a shirt, sponge, brush, socks, handkerchief, knife, fork, spoon and cup within reach. The trains carry two nursing sisters, several trained orderlies and surgeons.

In a recent discussion in England as to when a man should be considered incapacitated for service, it was stated that no

WOMAN'S SPRING WARDROBE.

How the Best-Dressed Women will Attire Themselves At Easter.

The new spring gowns, made all of one material, and not with separate waists as heretofore, will be much worn.

The separate waists will be of light silks and muslins or other thin materials.

Almost all the new spring stuffs are of a soft, clinging quality, which makes them adaptable to the present style of gown.

There are to be some lovely silk muslins with bunches of flowers and sprays of vines and buds worn.

The smartest shirtwaist will be made tucked back and front from the neck down, and the tucks will be rather wide than otherwise. The great tendency is to make the waist line as long as possible in front.

The tailor and walking skirts will barely sweep the ground and the long trains have entirely passed away with the habit and close-fitting backs.

The return of the bustle is heralded. It is not a large affair, but small, well-shaped.

Sleeves are still worn tight, and are much trimmed. They are quite long, and the smartest ones are made ending in a point which covers the top of the hand to the knuckles.

Collars are to be worn high, but not as stiff as they have been.

The new hats are made of some fancy straw braids, tulle, or silk nets of the most fantastic shapes. Breasts, birds, wings and feathers are much less worn, and you can't have enough flowers.—Edith Lawrence in the March Ladies' Home Journal.

THE BRIDE AND GROOM.

No More Kissing; the Ring; the Bride on Her Fateful Day.

"The wedding ring completes the circle, typical as is the ring itself of the perpetuity of the compact," writes Mrs. Burton Kingsland in the Ladies' Home Journal. "Inside the ring—always a plain gold one—are engraved the initials of bride and bridegroom, and the date of the marriage. It is placed on the third finger of the left hand because of the fanciful conceit that from that finger a nerve goes straight to the heart.

"Some say that the word 'obey' in the marriage service is an anachronism and holds only those who choose to be bound, but American women do not often feel their chains. In some provinces of Russia the bride's father gives her a little cut with a whip, which instrument of correction he then presents to the groom for future emergencies.

"The kiss formerly given by the young husband to his bride after the words, 'I pronounce you man and wife'—for which so many rehearsals were necessary—has gone out of fashion.

"It is a time-honored observance of wedding etiquette that the bride shall not be seen by the bridegroom on the fateful day until she appears coming up the aisle to meet him. Hence the custom of the bridegroom's waiting at the altar. The bridal procession is for him—not a pageant for the guests."

Why He Lingered.

At a recent sitting of the grand jury an old gentleman of foreign birth was called in to tell about the stealing of his watch.

He said it was a silver watch, and had cost $15 when it was new, but that was long ago. Then he gave all the particulars with which he was acquainted concerning the theft of his timepiece, going into details concerning family affairs that amused some of the jurors and seemed to be tiresome to others.

His oldest son's little girl had once lost the watch, and they had found it under the back porch, and a man named Sowders had put in a new mainspring, for which he charged 35 cents more than the price agreed upon when the watch was left to be repaired.

At last the testimony was all in and the witness was excused, but he kept his chair.

"You must go," said one of the jurors.

Still the old man sat there.

"That's all we shall want of you," said the state's attorney.

The man who had lost a watch made no move.

"Come, come," said the foreman, "we want to proceed to other business."

Yet the old man kept the witness chair.

"Why don't you go?" demanded another of the jurors, who had approached and shaken the shoulder of the former owner of a watch, to make sure that no sudden, terrible stroke of any kind had come upon him.

"Vell," the witness asked, "vhere do I get my watch?"

The matter was explained to him, and as he left the room his face showed plainly enough that one more man had lost faith in the American jury system.

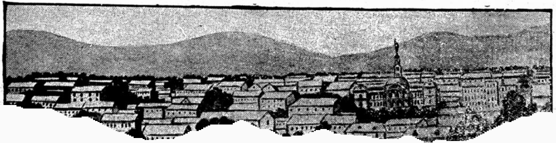
Private Charities Preferred by the Poor.

Anyone who is at all familiar with the

and rarely any music. At the Indianapolis News.

strife in the Nationalistic ranks engen-

WHERE KRUGER WILL MAKE HIS LAST STAND.



In a recent discussion in England as to when a man should be considered incapacitated for service, it was stated that no age limit should be set. In fact, it is claimed that age, so long as it does not accompany physical incapacity, has the advantage of youth in the varied experience it brings to the work.—New York Tribune.

Romance in Austrian Court.

The often-postponed marriage of the Crown Princess Stephanie of Austria to Count Lonyay seems to be on the eve of occurring at Trieste, where Count Lonyay has taken a residence and whither Princess Stephanie departed from Vienna Thursday. Neither the Vienna nor the Brussels courts are any more favorably disposed toward the groom than when the marriage was first mooted. [illegible] Leopold [illegible] scandal only a

Poor.

Anyone who is at all familiar with the feelings of the plain people must be aware that, as a rule, they are more willing to be sent, in case of sickness, to a hospital managed by a private corporation than to one managed by the public. Yet a vigorous agitation to abolish all public aid to private charities has been lately set on foot by many well-meaning citizens, who, it seems to me, look at the subject too exclusively from a theoretical standpoint. On the other hand, as the supervisor of Catholic charities in New York city has very well put that side of the question, the "private institutions give the use of their grounds, buildings and equipments to the public without charge, and in addition do the work cheaper than it could be done in public institutions."—E. P. Wheeler in Atlantic to Dr. Lewis Rutherford Morris of New York city.

George J. Gould and Russell Sage will be petitioned by the Public Education association to appoint certain free days during the spring for public school children on the elevated roads in the interests of nature study. The plan is to take the children to the country or to the various parks. The association will also ask for a free day at all big flower, plant and bird shows.

Mrs. Minnie Seligman Cutting, the actress, has been sued by Anna McNally, a dressmaker, to recover $481 for goods supplied and work performed by her for Mrs. Cutting. The latter denies that she owes the amount claimed.

A private view was given at Tiffany & Co.'s of the exhibit which will be sent to the Paris exposition. The display is one of the most unique as well as costly ever seen in this city. The value of the collection, it is said, is between $1,500,000 and $2,000,000. Most of the artistic designing was done under the direction of Paulding Farnham. The artistic effect of some of the vases and trinkets is remarkably fetching. The figures have been carved out of the solid metals, and not cast and then attached to the pieces, as is frequently done.

Frank Beard, who took a stenographic report of the Molineux trial, has sent in a bill for $4354 for his services. The comptroller looked it over, and it is understood that Mr. Beard will have to sue the city for his money.

The fire extinguishers at Tony Pastor's theater went on a rampage. The machines are the kind that are to be found in most theaters, which release a torrent of water all over the building as soon as the temperature of the building goes above the danger point. The apparatus got out of order and down came the water—200 gallons of it. A quantity of valuable costumes and scenery was ruined, and the stage made so wet that there is certainly no danger of its catching fire for a day or two.

Scattered about the rooms of an auction house in West Twenty-eighth street, like the discarded pages of a torn novel, the household goods of Kate Chase Sprague await their further scattering under the hammer of some glib auctioneer. They tell a tale of life and love's tragedy and sorrow. Printed in letters of red and black over the door is the invitation. It is an epitaph, and reads:

NEXT IMPORTANT SALE.

The contents of the colonial residence of the late Hon. Salmon P. Chase, chief justice of the Supreme court of the United States. Removed from Edgewood, near Washton.

It seems like a dissecting room—like some ghastly place where a post-mortem examination is being made. For here and there are the dismembered effects of her who once had Washington at her feet; the enchantress of a great senator; the destiny of men who helped to make the destiny of the nation; the woman in whose thrall congressmen, members of the cabinet, ambassadors, generals, even a President, were willing captives; the woman who made and unmade men, and who died in poverty after her own brilliant life had been wrecked.

The vogue of the automobile, which has ceased to create comment in the crowded streets of New York, only emphasizes the increasing popularity of equestrian exercise. The bridle paths of Central park have begun to fairly rival the celebrated promenades a cheval of the Bois de Boulogne or the splendid avenue in Hyde park.

A few years ago our equestrians were limited to the fashionable set. Now the fashionable and unfashionable canter side by side through the park and the uptown riding schools do a thriving business among the new rich and the semileisurely industrial class.

There are "select" organizations, and these are beginning to hold their annual reunions, to which they invite their ~~friends and acquaintances, and which are~~ to be classed among the Lenten pastimes. One of these soirees has just been given by the band of young people known as the Tuesday Evenig club. A prettier exposition of the haut ecole it would be difficult to imagine.

Young ladies and gentlemen were almost equally matched and formed such a cavalcade as is seldom seen massed together. Altogether, it was a highclass "society circus," in which a well-known and popular master of the hounds played the part of clown and contributed to the gayety of the spectators.

The effect was that of a cotillon performed on horseback. The most successful figure was decidedly the jeu de barre, in which a couple of young ladies endeavored to capture a shoulder-knot of red ribbon from a single cavalier.

The maneuvers of the single man to outwit his fair adversaries were at once graceful and amusing.

The honors in this sport were carried off, on the men's side, by an expert polo player, who managed to prolong the contest until it was a question if either of his fair pursuers would capture the shoulder-knot, and on that of the ladies by a quick-witted young girl who snatched the trophy from a more defenseless cavalier almost immediately.

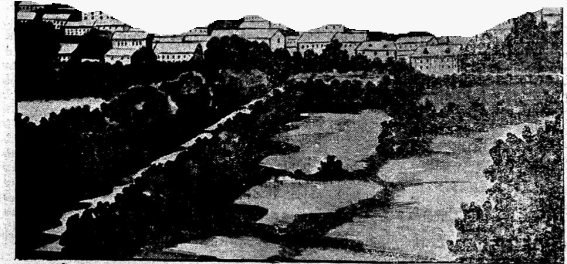
All manner of races, including those of the egg and spoon, the needle and thread, the saber and the rubber ball and a comic nightgown race, diversified the programme. The only mistake of the evening was the frame race, in which the nervous and high-strung animals were brought up against what must have been to them a blank wall—composed of thin white paper stretched over a frame and expected to pierce it. This was something they almost unanimously refused to do, often rearing and plunging to an extent that threatened to unseat their riders.

Altogether the open winter has been very favorable to equestrian exercise, and morning and afternoon see almost the same number of riders.

A Troop Ship's Water Supply.

The ship's ordinary supply would be totally inadequate for the requirements of, say, 1000 troops, besides horses; but the difficulty is overcome with the aid of a good condensing apparatus. From the tanks into which the water is condensed (about twenty tons and upward a day) extra iron pipes are run to suitable positons on different decks, and drawoff cocks are fixed. Under the cocks for supplying the horses tubs are placed into which the water is run. In the soldiers' quarters small pipes are fixed, and the supply is taken from spring cocks, the amount allowed being usually six pints a head a day, except when the vessel is in the tropics, when one gallon a head is allowed. To provide against any breakdown of the condenser, portable iron tanks, holding about 400 gallons each, are placed in the lower holds and filled. Life pumps are then fixed fore and aft on the main deck, and the suction pipe from the pumps is taken down close to these tanks and finished with a union, onto which a rubber suction hose is screwed, and led to each tank as required. A rising main taken from pump is turned down and run parallel with the main supply, and finished at the same points.—Building World.

—In Japan handkerchiefs are made of paper, cords are twisted from it and imitations of Cordova leather are skillfully contrived from it. In 1892 Japan produced $5,000,000 worth of paper.



Advices from correspondents inside the Boer lines state that Pretoria, of which we show a view above, is being heavily fortified with a view of making a final stand there, should the burgher armies be beaten back by the British in the field. The lion-hearted President of the South African republic declares that his men will die fighting in the trenches rather than surrender to a foreign foe.

ably disposed toward the groom than when the marriage was first mooted. King Leopold thinks it a scandal only a little less terrible than that of his eldest daughter, while Queen Henrietta hides her head in shame.

But Princess Stephanie, regardless of it all, throws up her court life, diamonds and gold-embroidered robes, has her income reduced from 800,000 to 200,000 crowns and goes to live with a poor country gentleman. The people of Vienna, it is said, scarcely talk of anything but this great sacrifice for the sake of love.

February Folk Lore.

There are many legends to explain leap year and February's curtailed existence, and there is a curious similarity between two belonging to vastly-different countries. A legend in Egypt says that the god of February plays forfeits with the moon and loses, while an old Norman folk story tells that February used to have as many days as the other months, but lost a day to January and to March in gambling. Another French legend explains that February originally had twenty eight days, but that one year an old woman who tended sheep laughed at him for being so mild, so the offended god borrowed a cold day from March and froze her and her sheep.

cheaper than

institutions."—E.

duced

BEGINNING OF CRONJE'S CAPTURE.

Artillery starting out on the bold dash into the very heart of the enemy's country that compelled the surrender of Gen. P. A. Cronje and his brave fighters. These are the guns whose lyddite shells made such awful havoc in the laager and forced the lion-hearted leader to capitulate.