

heaven," and, like one of the American friends of little Lord Fauntleroy, Mr. Hobbs, the grocer, he decided to live in the neighborhood of earls and people of ancient lineage. He acquired a deer forest in Scotland, in which his sons say he never shot, and he spent a very great deal of money in maintaining houses at London, Brighton, and Pembroke.

Altogether, Mr. Winans seems to have passed the last thirty years of his life in the same style and comfort as one of the best of the landed gentry of England. When he died in 1897, leaving many millions of dollars, the Crown claimed legacy duty upon an annuity of \$10,000, which the deceased had left under his will. His sons sought to prove that their father had not acquired an English domicile, and their lawyer, a clever Queen's counsel, stated that Mr. Winans sold his deer forests in 1895, and had showed his sons plans of a magnificent house he intended to build for himself at Baltimore.

However, the Court has delivered judgment in favor of the Crown, the judges apparently having no hesitation in saying that an American citizen who selects England as a place of residence for thirty years has certainly acquired an English domicile.

#### Cheerful Kruger.

The cheerful resignation to circumstances of the aged European tourist from the Transvaal, Mr. Kruger, is just, as natural as that exhibited by Mouldy Mike who, upon being asked by a housekeeper why he tramped through the country, said: "Well, mum, I've heard that these 'ere palace-cars is rather stuffy, mum."

Upon his arrival in France, Oom Paul announced that the Boers were determined to fight the "barbarous" British to the last extremity, and that if the independence of the Transvaal and Orange Free State is lost, it will be because "every man, woman and child" has been killed. However, the world has already grown weary of watching Paul perigrinating about the country, and upon being asked by Dame Europa what he now proposes doing, he has virtually announced his intention of remaining among his friends in Holland until the Transvaal becomes less stuffy.

Perhaps, when the destruction of "every man woman and child" in the land he deserted renders it a safe retreat for him, Mr. Kruger will return to weep over the desolation and misery caused by his greed and obstinacy.

#### Off With His Head.

"What right had the major-general to interfere and set at naught an engagement made by the acting D. O. C.? And why did he not reply to our telegram instead of sending a telephone message through Col. Farley? Is he such an autocrat that he believes it beneath his dignity? If he is under the impression that we are going to keep him till he becomes acclimatized to

the democratic methods of this country, he is mistaken. He will go off like the others, this major-general."—*L. Soleil.*

Unless the gentleman now in command of the Canadian militia has changed in character and disposition since the days when he acted as an aid-de-camp to his father, the last military governor of Nova Scotia, he will enjoy a hearty laugh at the threat to "send him packing whence he came."

If Major-General O'Grady Haly has not been invested with the absolute, independent power to prevent the band of the Royal Canadian Artillery playing at political gatherings, it is time the right should be conferred upon him. The parties who prate about the "democratic methods" of this country are only displaying deplorable ignorance when they question the right of the major-general to interfere in matters which concern the force he commands.

There has been too much of this senseless screaming at Imperial officers, who have the pluck to do what they conceive to be their duty,

#### A Fraternal Insurance Decision.

Insurance companies have frequently had to resort to the law courts for a decision between rival claimants for money under life policies. We recall a singular case involving the necessity of proving, if possible, the death of a passenger by the White Star steamship "Atlantic," wrecked at Prospect, Nova Scotia, about a quarter of a century ago. A lawyer visited that province in search of evidence that the drowning of the passenger in question occurred before the natural death of a relative in New York.

The latest case of a somewhat similar character is reported from Chicago, where the respective heirs of a Mr. and Mrs. Marty have been disputing for possession of the insurance on the life of the husband. Mr. and Mrs. Marty, and their only child, were burned to death in a fire which destroyed their home. The insurance was in the National Union, a fraternal benefit association, which asked for the guidance of the Circuit Court in the payment of the amount of the policy, the sisters of Mr. Marty and the family of his wife both claiming the money. The decree of the lower court was in favour of the heirs of the wife. However, the Appellate Court has decided that in the absence of proof, the deaths of husband and wife must be presumed to have occurred simultaneously, and that as, in such case, the wife did not live to inherit the estate, her relatives would have no interest in it. The money was ordered to be paid to the relatives of the husband.

However, as the fire which consumed Mr. and Mrs. Marty occurred in February, 1898, it is quite likely that the lawyers will have a small claim on this long fought for fraternal benefit insurance.