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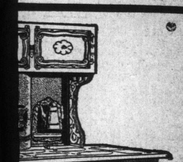

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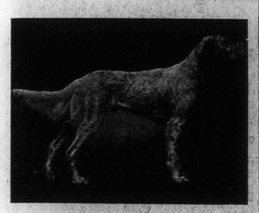
ENGLISH SETTERS IN VICTORIA

In presenting photographs of some of the English Setters which won at the Victoria show this year it is with pleasure that the writer is able to say that they are all home bred. The Victoria City Kennel Club this year went to considerable expense in securing the services of an expert judge for all classes. Exhibitors appreciated the efforts of the club in this respect and supported Mr. John Davidson with strong entries in all classes particularly in the Setter breeds. Mr. Davidson was most courteous in explaining whenever asked, the different points of merit of the respective dogs, and more than once after the judging was over allowed the discussed animals to be brought before him and explained to owners and interested spectators the essential points of superiority of one dog over another. The value of this to local fanciers taken into consideration Mr. Davidson's experience and reputation as a judge of sporting dogs, can well be imagined. Last year's judging rather upset English Setter calculations, and local breeders were given to believe that the type aimed at and bred to was wrong. However, under a recognized English Setter authority, the winners turn out to be the type favored here, and I think the photographs will show that the type, at any rate, are correct. A picture of every winner cannot be given, but those presented are the dogs which attracted the most attention and were recognized as the pick of the lot, as to soundness and evenness of type, character and expression, combined with quality.

No. 1, Count Rego, is a rich orange Belton, with even marked head and patch

CHAMPION ROY MONTEZ.

Black, white and ticked dog; owned by Mr. C. W. Minor, Victoria, B. C. Bred by T. H. Hardy, now of Boise City, Idaho. By Ring (Rock-Lola Montez), ex Diana Montez (Don Dell-Lola Montez III). Born April 28, 1896. Principal winnings: First open and winners, Nanaimo, 1901; first open and winners, Victoria, 1901, and Canadian Kennel Club's special for best setter in show of any sex or breed; first open and winners and special for best of breed, Seattle, 1902 and 1903. Winner of championship honors under Canadian Kennel Club and Pacific Kennel League rules.



ROCKLINE YOUNG ROY.

Born April 27, 1903, by Ch. Roy Montez, ex Zola Montez. Bred by C. W. Minor, owned by Miss W. M. Davie. Winner of second puppy class, Victoria, 1904. Photo March, 1904.

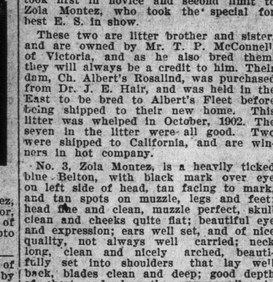
on loin. He is a medium sized dog of beautiful symmetry, which is enhanced by grand action and style, flat coat and straight silky feathering; head clean and long, with muzzle of good depth and squareness; ears set low and of excellent quality leather; neck long, might be a little cleaner at throat, set into well formed shoulders; chest fairly deep, long and cleanly hung; legs well boned with good pasterns and feet; ribs by no means flat, but might be better sprung; loin nicely arched and strong, and when we come to quarters, it is impossible to wish for better; stifles show great length and bend, with hocks well let down.

Count Rego has many wins to his credit, commencing at eight months, and now wants but one point for his championship. Rego's winnings are: First, in puppy, novice, open and winners, with special for best E. S. in show, Victoria, August, 1903; first, puppy and opens, Duncans, July, 1902; first, limit, open and winners, Nanaimo, September, 1903, and special for best E. S. in show; first, open and winners, New Westminster, October, 1903; first, limit, res. winners, Spokane, October, 1903, Ch. Stylish Sergeant, owned by J. Riplinger, of Seattle, taking first. In Victoria, April, 1904, Rego took first in open and winners, defeating Stylish Sergeant, and took special for best E. S. in show, and with his sister, Fanella, took second for best brace to Zola and Ray's Last Montez. The photograph was taken in August, 1903, when he was ten months old.

No. 2, Fanella, is also an orange Belton, no patches and lighter in color than Rego. Her head is fine and clean, well set on to a nice neck; in shoulders and front she is very good, she is being out in hind parts must give way to Rego. Like him she has good bone, legs and feet. Fanella has been shown once before, taking first in puppy class. This year she took first in novice and second limit to Zola Montez, who took the special for best E. S. in show.

These two are litter brother and sister, and are owned by Mr. T. P. McConnell of Victoria, and as he also bred them, they will always be a credit to him. Their dam, Ch. Albert's Rosalind, was purchased from Dr. J. E. Hair, and was held in the East to be bred to Albert's Fleet before being shipped to their new home. This litter was whelped in October, 1902. The seven in the litter were all good. Two were shipped to California, and are winners in hot company.

No. 3, Zola Montez, is a heavily ticked blue Belton, with black mark over eye on left side of head, tan facing to mark, and tan spots on muzzle, legs and feet; head fine and clean, muzzle perfect, skull clean and cheeks quite flat; beautiful eye and expression; ears well set, and of nice quality, not always well carried; neck long, clean and nicely arched, beautifully set into shoulders that lay well back, blades clean and deep; good depth of chest and elegantly sprung ribs, in fact, these could not well be improved upon; loin sufficiently arched and very strong indeed, good quarters, with well knit stifles and great width of lower thigh (the photograph is not true in this respect, as the dog was so scrutched up to hide the goodness of hind legs); Zola has plenty of bone with good legs and feet; she now shows faulty in action,



ROD OF FURNESS.

By Ch. Roy Montez, ex Victoria Belle II. Bred by T. P. McConnell, owned by F. Schwoter, Victoria. Winner of first in novice and limit classes, Victoria, 1904. Black markings showing over back from other side give the appearance of a hollow back, not existing in fact.

ZOLA MONTEZ.

Born April 18, 1896. Bred by S. H. Hardy. By Ring, ex Diana Montez. Owned by C. W. Minor, Victoria, B.C. Winner of first novice, limit, open and winners bitches, and special for best bitch, Seattle, 1902. Winner of first limit, open and winners bitches, special for best bitch and special for best English setter in show, Victoria, 1904. Photo March, 1904.

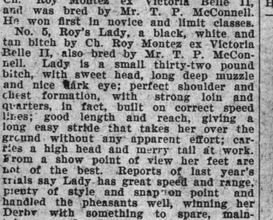
but it must be remembered that she is eight years and has borne a number of litters. Besides being so good a specimen Zola has proved herself an excellent dam; none of her progeny has failed to win when shown, and all have won firsts. She is also the dam of Lola Montez IV., who won the Pacific Northwest Field Trial Club's Derby in 1902. For the fourth time this year one of her puppies has taken special for the best E. S. puppy, either sex. Zola was bred by T. H. Hardy, now of Boise City, Idaho, is by Ring (Rock-Lola Montez) from Diana Montez (Don Dell-Lola Montez III), thus combining two crosses of old Lola Montez, and, through Rock, the McGregor-Sulin Lavrack cross-breeding now very rare. Photograph taken in March, 1904.

No. 4, Rod of Furness, a black and white, whose markings are rather against him at first sight. His head is his great point, measuring close on to ten inches, perfectly clean and true with long deep square muzzle and good eyes. His skull is not quite straight in front, is a trifle long cast and a bit gay with his stern; otherwise bears inspection well, moves easily, good coat, fine straight feathering, good bone, strong quarters, stifles well bent and hocks nicely let down. Rod is owned by Mr. F. Schnoter, of Victoria, is a well broken dog and all day worker, is litter brother to Roy's Lady, winner of the B. C. Derby. His breeding is by Ch. Roy Montez ex Victoria Belle II, and was bred by Mr. T. P. McConnell. He won first in novice and limit classes.

No. 5, Roy's Lady, a black, white and tan bitch by Ch. Roy Montez ex Victoria Belle II, also bred by Mr. T. P. McConnell. Lady is a small thirty-two pound bitch, with sweet head, long deep muzzle and nice dark eye; perfect shoulder and chest formation, with strong loin and quarters, in fact, built on correct speed lines; good length and reach, giving a long easy stride that takes her over the ground without any apparent effort; carries a high head and merry tail at work. From a show point of view her feet are not of the best. Reports of last year's trials say Lady has great speed and range, plenty of style and snap on point and handled the pheasants well, winning her Derby with something to spare, maintaining speed and range to the last. Owned by Miss W. M. Davie, Victoria.

No. 6, Roy's Last Montez, owned by C. W. Minor, of Victoria, is a lightly ticked blue Belton, with tan spots on head, chest, legs and feet. No. 7, Rockline Young Roy, owned by Miss W. M. Davie, is a heavily ticked blue Belton, with black ears, black or ear on right side extending a little up side of scull.

These two were bred by C. W. Minor, of Victoria, and are by Ch. Roy Montez ex Zola Montez, and are two of the last litter sired by the old champion, who died recently from the effects of arsenic poisoning. It is difficult to say which is the best of the two. Roy's last is more



ROY'S LAST MONTEZ.

Born April 27, 1903, by Ch. Roy Montez, ex Zola Montez. Bred and owned by C. W. Minor, Victoria. Winner of first in puppy dogs and special for best English setter puppy, Victoria, 1904.

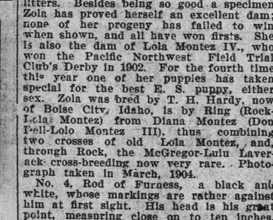
numbers many field winners in his pedigree. He was a champion under C. K. C. and P. K. L. rules. The photograph is a true one of his body. For his head, may say that it was nearly evenly marked, black and white, very faint tan edging to marks, very long deep square muzzle, dark eye and good expression, fine skull, clean in cheek and a head that kept its cleanness in spite of eight years, a head pronounced by all judges as very near perfection.

In this country, although the Setters are capable of winning high honors on the bench, the local sportsmen do not appreciate the difference between the much used terms of "bench show" and "field type," because the bench winners are the field dogs, and none of the winners or their ancestors were ever kept for the bench alone. All that are given here are known good workers. They are not big field trial winners, as there are not the opportunities for entering them, all are good workers, and many are knowledged to be up to the field trial form. Now that there is a prospect of a circuit of trials on the Northern Pacific Coast, at Steveston, B. C., Oregon and Washington, local owners will have a chance to test their belief in the ownership of Setters that can hold their own with imported dogs under all judges alike in the field and on the bench.

WINNIFRED M. DAVIE.

FANELLA.

Bred and owned by T. P. McConnell, Victoria. By Albert's Fleet, ex Ch. Albert's Rosalind. Born October 15, 1902. Winner of First puppy, Duncans, 1903; first novice, second limit, Victoria, 1904. Only times shown. Photo April, 1904.



ROCKLINE BLUE ROCK.

Born April 24, 1894; by Grouse P., ex Nellie. Bred by F. Turner, owned by Miss W. M. Davie, Victoria. Photo April, 1904.

PARLIAMENT

Its Romance, Its Comedy, Its Pathos. By E.O.S.

(Continued From Last Week)

ber of the Opposition to Charles James Fox. "He is already," was the reply and the moment Pitt resumed his seat he hastened to congratulate him on his success.

Lord Palmerston was first returned to Parliament as a member for Newport, Isle of Wight, at the general election in 1807, being then twenty-three years old. He was appointed a Junior Lord of the Admiralty in the Duke of Portland's Administration, and on February the 3rd he made his maiden speech. The Whigs moved for the production of papers to show on what grounds the Government had advised the expedition against Copenhagen. Palmerston displayed in his first speech on this motion (a vindication of the necessities of secrecy in diplomatic correspondence), the shrewdness, tact, and humor that characterized most of his parliamentary addresses. Writing to his sister the next day in an unwarranted mood of self-depreciation, he said: "You will see by this day's paper that I was tempted by some evil spirit to make a fool of myself for the entertainment of the house last night; however I thought it was a good opportunity of breaking the ice, although one should founder a little in doing so, as it was impossible to talk any very egregious nonsence upon so good a case."

Mr. Balfour, the present Prime Minister, was two and a half years in the House of Commons before he ventured to address it. He was in his twenty-sixth year when on August 10th, 1876, he delivered his maiden speech. It was in the debate on the Indian Budget, which is usually introduced at the tag end of the session and excites but little interest among the members generally. The first appearance of Mr. Balfour in debate attracted no special attention. Eleven or twelve years were yet to elapse before he established firmly, while filling the office of Chief Secretary for Ireland, his conspicuous ability as debater, administrator and statesman.

THE QUAINT SIDE OF PARLIAMENT.

Every human institution, probably, has an element of the quaint or the ridiculous in its composition. Certainly, Parliament, solemn and majestic though it be, as befits the greatest and most powerful Legislature in the world has its quaint side, without which the business of law-making at Westminster would often be dull and prosaic indeed.

The rules of procedure that for centuries have regulated the proceedings of the House of Commons, are a fruitful source of embarrassment and confusion to new members. Some members, indeed, never master the usages of the House thoroughly, and they go through Parliamentary life with a reproving cry of "Order, Order!" from Mr. Speaker continually ringing in their ears.

"How can I learn the rules of the House?" was the question put by a newly elected Irish member to Parnell. "By breaking them," was the prompt reply of the Irish leader, who as is well known, spoke from experience on that point.

The hat plays an important part in Parliamentary customs. It also contributes occasionally to the gaiety of the House of Commons. No incident is greeted with more hearty laughter than that of a member, after a magnificent peroration, plumping down on his silk hat on the bench beside him. The bashful and awkward member generally figures in these accidents. But the misfortune of forgetfulness has befallen even a cool and collected Parliamentary hand, and the result—a misshapen hat—has completely spoiled the effect of his most eloquent speech. A few years ago a London member, after his maiden speech, sat upon a new silk hat which he had provided in honor of the occasion, and as he was ruefully surveying his battered head-gear, an Irish representative, rose and gravely said: "Mr. Speaker, permit me to congratulate the honorable member on the happy circumstance that when he sat on his hat his head was not in it." The call of "Order, Order!" from the Speaker was drowned in roars of laughter.

But the story of the humor of the Parliamentary hat is not yet ended. When a member is alluded to in the course of a speech he raises his hat, and he performs a similar act of politeness when a Minister answers a question put by him. A member addressing the House stands, of course, uncovered. But this rule does not always prevail. There is an occasion when it is positively out of order for a member to speak on his feet and with his hat off. He must speak in his seat with his hat on his head. When a debate has terminated, and the question is put from the chair, an interval of two minutes—during which the electric division bells ring out their summons all over the precincts of St. Stephens—is allowed to enable members to get to the Chamber. This time is taken by a sand-glass on the table, and when it is elapsed the doors of the Chamber are locked. At this particular junction it is essential that a member who desires to address the Chair on a point of order should retain his seat and wear his hat. If he were to follow the ordinary practice and stand up uncovered, he would be roared at and shouted at from all sides of the House for his breach of etiquette. Mr. Gladstone had occasion once to address the Chair just as a division was about to be taken, and forgetful of the rule for the moment, he rose to his feet. A shout of "Order, order!" forced him to his seat again on the front opposition bench; and as he never brought his own hat into the Chamber, he was obliged to put on that of one of his lieutenants who sat on the bench beside him. Now, Mr. Gladstone's head was of abnormal size. He had to get his own hats made to order. It is improbable that the hat of any other member in the House would have fitted him; but the hat available on this occasion only just covered his crown, and the members roared with laughter at his comical efforts to balance it on his head during the few minutes he occupied in presenting the point of order.

But there is nothing more amusing, perhaps, in all the quaint and curious customs of the House of Commons, than the strange ceremony which marks the termination of every sitting. The moment the House is adjourned, stentorian-voiced messengers and policemen cry out in the lobbies and corridors, "Who goes home?" These mysterious words have sounded every night for centuries through the Palace of Westminster. The custom dates from the time when it was necessary for members to go home in parties accompanied by linksmen for common protection against the footpads who infested the streets of London. But though that danger has long since passed away the question "Who goes home?" is still asked, night after night, during the session of Parliament. No reply is given and none is expected.

"STEWARD OF THE CHILTERN HUNDREDS."

A member of the House of Commons cannot, according to the ancient law of Parliament, resign his seat. Once he is duly elected he must retain the trust confided in him by his constituents till the dissolution of Parliament, unless he is removed by death, or because a bankrupt or a lunatic, or is expelled from the House, or accepts an office of honor or profit under the Crown. The latter condition, however, affords a practical, though rather ludicrous, means of escape for a member who desires to rid himself of his representative and legislative responsibilities. He accepts the office of "Steward of the Chiltern Hundreds." It seems that centuries ago the Chiltern Hills, a portion of the highland of Buckinghamshire, being covered with timber, afforded protection to numerous banditti, and it was the duty of the Steward of the Chiltern Hundreds—an officer appointed by the Crown—to protect the inhabitants of the neighboring districts from their depredations. The duties have long since ceased, but the nominal office has been retained. By accepting it a member who wishes to resign, vacates his seat, and a writ for a new election is, in consequence, issued on the application of the Whip of the Party to which the retiring member belonged. The office is resigned as soon as another member desires to escape from Westminster. It is the gift of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. It cannot be conferred twice in one day, but there are two other offices of a similar nature, "Stewards of the Manors of Hendred, Northstead and Hempholme," or "Exchequer of Munster," at the disposal of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in case he should receive two or more applications from retiring members on the same day.

THE CURRENT COIN OF THE POLITICIANS.

It is interesting and instructive to trace the origin of our party nomenclature, and of those effective and picturesque phrases and familiar colloquial expressions which are the common property, or the current coin of all politicians. Most of these striking sayings are associated with the names of eminent statesmen. Indeed, it is one of the incidents of Parliamentary history that the memory of many a politician, distinguished and powerful in his day, lives mainly in his sayings. In some instances the phrases or catchwords were really coined by the speakers who first contributed them to our political currency; but in other cases they were not so much original expressions as quotations from obscure sources so strikingly applied as to fire the popular imagination.

"The Majesty of the people" was coined by Charles Fox. In 1798 a political dinner was given at the "Crown and Anchor" tavern in celebration of Fox's birthday, with the Duke of Norfolk in the chair. Concluding his speech in reply to the toast of his health, the great Whig leader said: "Give me leave, before I sit down, to call on you to drink our Sovereign's health—the Majesty of the people." It will be remembered that Carlyle, on the other hand, thought the people "mostly fools."

Among the political sayings we are indebted to Disraeli for: "Reaction is the consequence of a nation waking from its illusions" (1848); "A tu quoque should always be good humored, for it has nothing else to recommend it" (1855); "Fidelity is not the language of politics" (1859); "To assist progress, to resist revolution, is the policy of the Conservative party" (1859); "Party is organized opinion" (1864); "England does not love coalitions" is another saying of that great political phrase-maker. On that night in 1852, when Lord Derby's first ministry, in which Disraeli filled the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer, was defeated on an amendment by Gladstone to the Budget—an amendment which united Whigs, Radicals and Peelites—Disraeli, in a defiant speech before the fatal decision, said: "I know that I have to face a coalition. The combination may be successful—combination has before this been successful—but coalitions, though they may be successful, have always found that their triumphs have been brief. This I know, that England does not love coalitions." That particular coalition under Lord John Russell was certainly not successful. "There is one indisputable element of a coalition government," said Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, "and that is, is that its member should coalesce." In this case they drifted widely apart.

But Disraeli's most popular phrase was "Peace with honor." The occasion on which the words were used is well known. On the return of the two British plenipotentiaries at the Berlin Conference, in 1878, Lord Beaconsfield and Lord Salisbury, an enthusiastic reception was given them in London; and speaking on July 16th the former said: "Lord Salisbury and myself have brought you back peace, but peace, I hope, with honor, which may satisfy our Sovereign and lead to the welfare of the country." The phrase, however, like so many of his epigrammatic utterances, was not Lord Beaconsfield's own invention. It had been used before by two eminent statesmen, but it was Lord Beaconsfield's fine and apt application of it on a dramatic occasion that fixed it forever in the public memory and made it a current coin of everyday political speech. Lord John Russell, in the course of a speech at Dundee in 1865, said: "As Secretary for Foreign Affairs, it has been my object to preserve peace with honor." The phrase is also to be found in one of Burke's speeches—that imperishable oration on conciliation with America, delivered in the House of Commons March 22, 1775. "Great and acknowledged force," he said, "is not impaired nor in effect or in opinion by an unwillingness to exert itself. The superior force may offer peace with honor, and with safety."

An amusing story is told in connection with the phrase. In the course of a political lecture, illustrated by a magic lantern, in a country village, portraits of Lord Beaconsfield and Lord Salisbury, with the words "Peace with honor," were thrown upon the screen. An old lady among the audience, whose head was full of recollections of a notorious criminal, innocently inquired, amid great laughter, "Which is Peace?"

"Every man has his price." This cynical saying is generally ascribed to Sir Robert Walpole. "Yet," writes Mr. John Morley, "he never delivered himself of that famous slander on mankind." One night in the House of Commons he insisted that self-interest, or family interest, was at the bottom of the fine and virtuous declamation of the Opposition. "All these men," he said, "have their price." It was, therefore, not a general, but a political proposition. "Mend it or end it," was used by Mr. John Morley in reference to the House of Lords, in a speech made at St. James' Hall on July 30, 1884. Mr. Morley was much praised by the Radical newspapers for his jingle. They did not know, though we may be sure so staunch a lover of good literature as Mr. Morley did not forget, that the speaker was only borrowing a phrase from Sir Walter Scott. "My fate calls me elsewhere," says Halbert Glendinning in "The Monastery," "to scenes where I shall end it, or mend it."

Mr. Gladstone has enriched our political colloquialisms with such useful and striking phrases as "The flowing tide is with us;" "Advancing by leaps and bounds;" "Within measurable distance;" "Within the range of practical politics;" "Our friends across the seas;" "A nation rightly struggling to be free;" and a host of others. His also was the happy phrase, "Greater freedom and less responsibility," as a description of his state after quitting office.

Daniel O'Connell used to boast that he could "drive a coach and six through any Act of Parliament." The origin of the phrase is in the "Memoirs of Ireland," published anonymously in 1718, but commonly attributed to Oldmixon. In speaking of Stephen Rice, who was made Chief Baron of the Irish Exchequer by James II. in 1686, and was removed by William in 1690, Oldmixon says: "He distinguished himself by his inveteracy against the Protestant interest and the settlement of Ireland, having been often heard to say, before he was a judge, that he would drive a coach and six horses through the Act of Settlement." "Popular agitation," which was happily described by Peel—the first English statesman to yield to its pressure—as "the marshalling of the conscience of the nation to mould its laws," was the invention of O'Connell. Here are three sayings of the great Irish tribune which contain practically his whole political philosophy as a constitutional agitator: "Nothing is politically right which is morally wrong." (This has been erroneously ascribed to Mr. Gladstone.) "He who commits a crime gives strength to the enemy." "No political change is worth a drop of human blood."

"Defence, not defiance," was first suggested as the motto of the Manchester Volunteers in 1860 by Mr. John B. Marsh, a journalist, and a member of the corps. At that time there was much jealousy in France at the existence of the Volunteers in England, but the Emperor Napoleon, in a speech on military questions, soon afterwards said: "We can not find fault with a nation which has enrolled her citizens for defence, not defiance." The National Rifle Association afterwards adopted the motto. "Peace, Retrenchment and Reform" is the motto of the Cobden Club. "Peace and Reform" was the old Radical watchword, and to it Joseph Hume, the celebrated economist, added the middle word "retrenchment." It was Mr. Bright who used the expression, "The great bulk of the nation do not live in mansions; they live in cottages;" and Lord Castlereagh, who gave us "Ignorant impatience of taxation." The phrase "Masterly inactivity," expressive of so much prudence, caution and advantageous inertness in political affairs, was coined by Sir James MacKintosh. "Jack Cade legislation" was Sir James Graham's. It was Major Cartwright, a famous Radical in the first quarter of the nineteenth century, who coined "One man, one vote." The most valuable commercial asset of the Empire," was Mr. Cecil Rhodes' description of the Union Jack. "The balance of power in Europe" is a phrase for which we are indebted to Sir Robert Walpole.

"Thank God there is a House of Lords." Disraeli throws some light on the origin of this well-known saying in a speech delivered at a meeting of Conservatives, in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, April, 1872, when there was an outcry against the House of Lords for their reluctance to pass Liberal measures. He first referred to the fruitless campaign which O'Connell, "the greatest popular orator that ever existed," conducted throughout England against the Upper House in 1836 for rejecting the Irish measures of the Melbourne Administration. "There was a dissolution of Parliament. The great Liberal majority vanished. The balance of parties was restored. It was discovered that the House of Lords had behind them at least half the English people." He went on: "Such was the enthusiasm of the nation in favor of the Second Chamber that at every public meeting its health was drunk, with the additional sentiment for which we are indebted to one of the most distinguished members that ever sat in the House of Commons—'Thank God there is a House of Lords.'"

"The policy of pin pricks" is the most expressive and useful phrase that has for a long time been added to our political currency. It arose out of the difficulty between France and England with regard to Fashoda in 1898, and had a French origin. Mr. Chamberlain first drew attention to it in this country in a speech at Manchester on November 10, 1898. He said: "Let me read you one short extract from Le Matin, a French paper published in Paris. They say: 'We (the French) have inaugurated the policy of playing tricks on Great Britain—a policy which had no definite object, and which was bound to turn out badly. We now find ourselves confronted by a people who have at last been exasperated by the continued pin-pricks which we have given them.' I venture to say that that is absolutely true."

LAST SPEECHES OF GREAT PARLIAMENTARIANS.

Of all the partings by statesmen from the Parliamentary arena, the most impressive and dramatic was that of the Earl of Chatham in 1778. Ten years before Chatham, broken in health, mentally and physically, had resigned public life. While he had held office British Arms had everywhere been victorious. "We are forced," said Horace Walpole, "to ask every morning what victory there is, for fear of missing one." He had opposed, at first, the ill-fated policy of the Government of Lord North towards the American colonies, deprecating repression, advocating conciliation, but when the Duke of Richmond, as principal Secretary of State, gave notice that on April 7, 1778, he would move in the House of Lords an address praying and imploring for making peace with the revolted colonies, then in alliance with France, Chatham rose from his sick bed to oppose such a policy. The old statesman was carried down to the House of Lords, haggard and emaciated, wrapped in flannel. "Within his large wig," says a contemporary writer, "little more was to be seen than his aquiline nose and his penetrating eyes." As he spoke he leaned heavily on his crutch. "I am old and infirm," said he, "I have one foot—more than one foot—in the grave. I have risen from my bed to stand up in the cause of my country, perhaps never to speak again in this House." So he went on in broken sentences, with slow and feeble utterance. But towards the end, the unsubdued spirit within him seemed to overcome his feebleness of mind and body. His faculties regained some of their old clearness and force, his voice some of its old volume and music. "My Lords," he cried in a burst of animated eloquence which astonished and awed the listening House, "this Majesty succeeded to an Empire as great in extent as its reputation was unsullied. Shall we tarnish the lustre of this nation by an ignominious surrender of its rights and fairest possessions? Shall this great kingdom fall prostrate before the House of Bourbon? Shall the people that seventeen years ago were the terror of the world now stoop so low as to tell its ancient inveterate enemy, 'Take all we have; only give us peace?' It is impossible." The Duke of Richmond replied. Chatham rose again, but before he could utter a word he fell back on the bench, and, apparently in the agonies of death, was carried out of the Chamber. The startled and sorrowing House instantly adjourned. The dying statesman was removed to Downing street and thence, in a few days, to his home at Hayes, where he expired on May 11th following.

The final appearance of Pitt, Chatham's great son, in public life, was at the Lord Mayor's banquet on November 9th of the same year. The news of Trafalgar had reached London the day before. Pitt's carriage was drawn by an enthusiastic crowd of admirers from Downing street to the Guildhall, amid the ringing of bells and the acclamations of the people. At the dinner his health was drunk amid unceasing cheers as Savior of Europe. "Pitt replied," writes Lord Roseberry in his monograph of the statesman, "in the noblest terms, and the last of all his speeches." It was expressed in a few brief words, "I return you many thanks for the honor you have done me," he said, "but Europe is not to be saved by any single man. England has saved herself by her exertions, and will, I trust, save Europe by her example." He died ten weeks later, on January 23, 1806.

It was in a debate on the campaign against Napoleon in Spain on July 21, 1812, that Richard Brinsley Sheridan—wit, dramatist and orator—delivered the last of his brilliant Parliamentary speeches. He strenuously urged that the long and bloody struggle against the domination of Napoleon should be waged to the bitter end. England, with all her faults, he said, was the greatest nation that ever existed; her constitution, wanting though it was in many reforms, was the best security for freedom that human wisdom had ever given to man. Nevertheless she might perish in the conflict. "Yet," he concluded, "after the general subjugation and ruin of Europe, should there exist an independent historian, after describing the greatness and glory of Britain, would say: She fell, and with her fell all the best securities for the charities of human life, for the power and honor, the fame, the glory and the liberties of herself and the whole civilized world." Sheridan failed to get returned to Parliament at the general election of that year. He died in poverty in 1816, but his remains were borne by princes, dukes and earls to a grave in Westminster Abbey, showing, as Moore put it:

"How bailiffs may seize his last blanket today,
Whose pall shall be held up by nobles tomorrow."

The most pathetic leave-taking which the House of Commons ever witnessed was, probably, that of Daniel O'Connell. The great Irish demagogue had been for years a commanding personality, mentally as well as physically, in the House. He had been the chief figure in many a noisy scene. He had often thrilled the House by his superb eloquence and the music of his voice; made it laugh at his rollicking humor; and moved it to anger by his stinging sarcasm and coarse vituperation. He appeared in the House on April 3, 1846, to speak against a Co-ercion Bill, which had been introduced to cope with the disturbed condition of Ireland. The change which had come over him was pitiable in the extreme. He was suffering from softening of the brain, the disease from which he ultimately died. The once tall and stalwart form was bent and wasted; the once loud swelling voice was broken and querulous. He spoke, however, for nearly two hours, standing in the place of the leader of the Opposition at the table. Benjamin Disraeli, alluding to the scene in his life of "Lord George Bentick," says: "To the House generally it was a performance in dumb show; a feeble old man uttering before it table; but respect for the great Parliamentary personage kept all as orderly as if the fortunes of a party hung upon his rhetoric, and though not an accent reached the gallery, means were taken that next morning the country should not lose the last, and not the least interesting, speech of one who had so long occupied and agitated the minds of nations." The speech is reported in the first person in "Hansard," and occupies over eighteen pages. In it O'Connell urged that the extension of the protection of tenant-right, which had prevailed as a custom in Ulster, to the farmers of the whole of Ireland, would do more to pacify the country than all the coercion acts that could be passed.

But Disraeli was mistaken in saying that this was O'Connell's last speech in the House of Commons. His final appearance was on February 8, 1847. The House was occupied with a Bill introduced by Lord John Russell, the Prime Minister, for the relief of the famine which was then ravaging Ireland. O'Connell was feeble in health and still more dejected in spirits. Members were saddened by his tottering steps and vacant looks. "Hansard," in introducing the brief report of his remarks, said: "Mr. O'Connell was understood to say," indicating that he was imperfectly heard by the reporters. His speech was an appeal to Parliament "to interpose generously, munificently—he would say, enormously," for the rescue of his country. "Ireland," he said, in his last words, "is in your hands, is in your power; if you do not save her she cannot save herself." He then left the House and set out on a pilgrimage to Rome, by slow stages, only to die at Genoa on May 15th following.

One of the most notable last speeches in the House of Commons, both by reason of its own excellence and the circumstances attending its delivery, was that of Sir Robert Peel. The occasion was a debate in June, 1850, on the foreign policy of Lord Palmerston, who, by sending the fleet to blockade Greece for non-compliance with the demands for compensation for acts of violence towards British subjects, had provoked the resentment of France and Russia. Palmerston made a memorable defence of his policy in the famous "Dom Pacifico" speech which lasted over four hours and a half. "As the Roman in days of old held himself free from indignity when he could say 'Civis Romanus sum,'" cried the old statesman, in his peroration, "so also a British subject in whatever land he may be, shall feel confident that the watchful eye and strong arm of England will protect him against injustice and wrong." The concluding night of the debate was Friday, June 28, 1850. Peel rose to speak at 1 o'clock on Saturday morning. He condemned Palmerston's treatment of foreign relations. Late that Saturday afternoon, Peel left his residence for his usual ride in Hyde Park. Going up Constitution Hill the horse became restive and Peel was thrown violently to the ground. He died on the following Tuesday night and on Wednesday the House of Commons adjourned as a tribute of respect to his memory.

It was on June 15, 1852, that Peel's steadfast friend and colleague, the Duke of Wellington, addressed the House of Lords for the last time. A Bill for the reorganization of the ancient Constitutional force of the country, the militia, was before the House. Wellington was always exceedingly modest in his references to that crowning event of his great career, the victory of Waterloo, but in this, his final speech, supporting the Militia Bill, he described the fight as "the battle of giants." Just three months later the battle-worn hero died.

The farewell words of the Earl of Derby—"The Great Lord Derby," as he is called—in the House of Lords on June 17, 1869, were most striking. "His Majesty succeeded to an Empire They formed the peroration to an eloquent speech in defence of the State Church in Ireland, in the debate on the second reading of Gladstone's measure for the disestablishment and disendowment of that Church, and were as follows:—

"My Lords, I am now an old man, and like many of your Lordships I have already passed the three-score years and ten. My official life is entirely closed, my political life is nearly so, and in the course of nature my natural life cannot now be long. That natural life commenced with a bloody suppression of a formidable rebellion in Ireland, and immediately preceded the Union between the two countries, and may God grant that its close may not witness a renewal of the one and a dissolution of the other! I do not pretend, my Lords, to be able to penetrate the veil which hides from mortal vision the events of the future; but whatever may be the result of this great controversy — whatever may be the result of your Lordships' present deliberations — I say, for my own part, even if it should be that for the last time I now have the honor to address you, that it will be to my dying day a satisfaction to me that I have been enabled to lift up my voice against the adoption of a measure of which I believe the political folly is only equalled by its moral injustice."

Derby's words were prophetic of the approaching close of his career. He died on October 23, 1869, within four months of his last speech, after the Irish Church Act had received the Royal assent, but before the State Church of Ireland had actually ceased to exist.

The last night in the House of Commons of Disraeli—the successor of Lord Derby in the leadership of the Conservative party—was August 11, 1876. He was Prime Minister, 71 years of age, and the strain of leading the House of Commons, with its late sittings, was telling upon him. But no one who heard his speech that night in the debate on the Bulgarian atrocities suspected that it was his last appearance. The Government were supporting Turkey, purely in the interests of the British Empire. "Those," he said, "who suppose that England would uphold, or at this moment, particularly, is upholding Turkey, from blind superstition, and from a want of sympathy with the highest aspirations of humanity, are deceived. What our duty is at this critical moment is to maintain the Empire of England. Nor will we ever agree to any step, though it may obtain for a moment comparative quiet and a false prosperity, that hazards the existence of the Empire."

The next morning, to the astonishment of the country, his elevation to the House of Lords as the Earl of Beaconsfield was announced. His last speech in the Upper Chamber was delivered on March 4, 1881—six weeks before he died. When he protested with all his old eloquence and earnestness against the evacuation of Candahar by the British troops. Still, even if it should be abandoned, our hold on India would, he said, remain. "My Lords, the key of India is not Herat or Candahar," said he in memorable phrases. "The key of India is London. The Majesty of Sovereignty, the spirit and vigor of your Parliaments, the inexhaustible resources of a free, an ingenious and a determined people—these are