

ing to prominent Germans, the hypocrisy of the British press and British statesmen in this direction exasperate them even more than by plain-spoken intentions. It reminds some of them who have read Punch — and Punch has a great circulation in Germany — of a picture drawn by Reginald Cleaver some ten years ago. A daughter is pleading with her middle-aged mother in the Park: "Mother, why mayn't I go to the ball?" The mother replies: "My dear, I have been through all that sort of thing, and now see the vanity of it all." And the daughter: "But, mayn't I see the vanity too?"

Question of the House of Lords: W. S. Lilly.—The very reason for the existence of the House of Lords should be that it should not be swayed by popular passion, that it should be "above the vulgar range of low desire." Unquestionably, the House of Commons must continue to be what it has been for long years, the predominant feature in the constitution. Unquestionably, as predominant power it must retain an effective control of the national purse. But to be the predominant power is one thing; to be the unchecked power is quite another. The functions of an Upper Chamber must be chiefly corrective and suspensory; but if composed of men of light and leading, all holding their positions for life, by an independent tenure, it might well be a pioneer to lead the nation on the path of true progress.

Is There a Conservative Party?: J. A. Marriott. — It is common ground that political parties are, to an unusual extent, in a condition of disintegration. Political health depends on the preservation of a due balance in the party, between the integrating and disintegrating elements. But there are times when the latter acquire a predominance which seems permanently to threaten and does temporarily destroy the party fabric itself. Beyond all dispute, such a time is the present. To emphasize the fact would be to labour a commonplace. The essence of modern conservatism was never more felicitously expressed than in the adoption of the watchword, "Imperium et libertas." Both are seriously threatened. The first, by neglect of the primary duty of self-defence, by reliance upon the foolish vaporings of amiable enthusiasts; by the active hostility of the assailants of the Union; and above all, by indifference to the manifest hopes and ambitions of the Oversea Dominions. In regard to all these points, the duty of the conservative party is at once obvious and generally recognized.

"Joseph Haydn, the Story of His Life," translated from the German of Franz Von Seeberg, by the Rev. J. M. Toohey, C.S.C.