

We extract from the *Atlantic Monthly* the following paragraphs. The strictures of the writer are none too severe. In the fearfully rapid demoralization of American social life which the past five years have witnessed, "round dances" play a prominent part:

"What a glaring inconsistency is there manifested in the toleration at the time of a posture which, under any other circumstances, would blast a reputation! No pure woman would suffer a man to retain her hand in his, much less to encircle her with his arm, in the ordinary relations of social life; and yet at the bidding of fashion, and because the additional stimulus of music is superadded, she will not only permit these liberties, but will remain willingly strained to his breast for a quarter of an hour at a time, publicly exhibiting herself in a position which in itself she virtuously condemns.

"Favors which would properly be denied to the most favorable of her acquaintances off the dancing floor are there accorded freely even to notorious libertines, for no guarantee is required from those to whom fashion intrusts the persons of her female devotees, all mental or moral disqualifications being condoned by the single merit of dancing well.

"Many a young girl who intuitively shrinks from the endearments innocently proffered by her affianced lover, unthinkingly subjects herself to the contaminating embrace and irreverent comment of debauched wittlings, whose every thought is a concealed insult. Not that we would imply a sweeping censure upon the male portion of the community, for many—perhaps most—are gentlemen, and, as such, incapable of harboring an idea repugnant to female purity.

"But in so composite a society as ours some evil characters are inevitably introduced: and, even of those whose antecedents and position should vouch for their refinement, there are many whose coarse tastes and dissipated courses render their contact with virtuous women almost a sacrilege."

UNITED STATES AND CANADA BOUNDARY LINE

This line running in accordance with the Ashburton Treaty, cost the labour of 300 men eighteen months. For 300 miles a path was cut through the forest, 30 feet wide, and cleared of all trees. At the end of every mile is a cast iron pillar, painted white; square, four feet out of the ground; and bearing in raised letters on its sides, the names of the Commissioners who ran the line, and the date.

COLD FAVOURABLE TO LONG LIFE.

SIR HENRY HALFORD was informed by the Russian Ambassador, Baron Brunow, that there was a level country of about 100 leagues square, sloping in the south, on the borders of Siberia, where a year rarely passed in the course of which some person did not die of the age of 130. The question asked, of course, was, "can you depend upon your registers there?" To which the reply was: "anybody who knows the practices of the Greek Church will tell you that the Bishops are more careful of their registration there, if possible, than your parochial clergy are in England."

In the year 1835, there died in the Russian Empire 416 persons of 100 years of age and upwards; the oldest was 135 years, and there were 111 above 110 years old.