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They Get Engagements Through the "Universal Provider," With Whom They Reg. -Must Be Well Informed and More

"It was not till I prevailed upon Mr. Whiteley of Westbourne Grove to place my name on the register he keeps for supply. ing people with evening guests that I rocognized the justice of the appellation, the

universal provider,' " said a gentlemanly looking man recently. "My first engagement was at the house of a rich provincial manufacturer, who, having made a fortune, had left his native town and started an establishment in the west end. Some friends—for a consideration, you may be sure—introduced him to so many good people that he at last ven-tured to issue invitations for a dinner, with a ball to follow, but the day before the event the poor man had such a number

Whiteley, and I, among others, helped to fill the vacancies "It must not be supposed that the part of a hired guest is an easy one to play. The conversational tastes of the people we visit are so varied that I have not only to keep myself posted on all questions and gossip of the day, but be prepared to set the ball rolling on all sorts of abstruce topics from theology to spiritualism.

of refusals that he had to apply to Mr.

"As a rule, I generally get my instruc-tions some days beforehand, but if they don't come to hand I either call or write. Public questions require very delicate handling. For instance, if the discussion urns on the wretched Armenian business, I find that the ladies are for interference

at all costs, while the gentlemen are not.

"From dining out so much I have naturally cultivated a very fastidious palate. This is fortunate, for were I to eat otherwise than sparingly the brilliancy of my conversation would be sadly dimmed. Dinner conversation requires considerable management. When I first started, I used to let off some of my best jokes to while away that melancholy half hour which precedes the dinner. They were invariably so utterly wasted that I now never joke the first course, and then only slightly, till I see how the dinner is appre-

"Although I do well during the season I think I like Christmas best. Strange a t may seem, there are still a number of families who love to keep Christmas in the old fashioned way.

Not long since one of the sons of my host blurted out during the evening that it was his last night at home, as next norning a pal and himself intended starting for South America, and, after making heir way to the Amazon river, start orhid hunting to make their fortunes. "Being the favorite son, the family, of

course, were greatly disturbed at the news, seeing which I calmly announced that during my travels in South America I had personally explored every inch of the river.
You are too late, my boy,' I said. 'All he naturalists I met last year were terribly disappointed. The country has been literally stripped. You won't find an orchid

there, I can promise you."
"The grateful look the mother gave me pleased me almost as much as the £5 note my host slipped into my hand at parting. "The growing dislike of patrician young men to dancing sends many a Belgravian footman to Whiteley's during the season. Although we hired guests are treated with indeed, the higher we go the nicer I find the people are—still some of our tasks are far from pleasant. 'Look here, Mr. ——,' far from pleasant. Look nere, Mr.
young Lord — once said to me: 'My sister's been and fallen in love with a cad of
a fellow I hate. Now, I want you to cut
him ent. You're a good looking fellow, so I think you'll succeed. If you try, but fail, I'll give you £5; if you succeed, I'll make

"I did succeed, but my rival took it out of me in Regent street the night after he got his conge. I am a bit of a bruiser my.

Two other hired guests and myself were once the means of bringing about the marriage of a very accomplished, amiable, but dreadfully plain girl. At the house, where I was engaged I noticed that not on-ly was she not asked to dance, but was completely ignored by all the marriageable men present. But after the hired gueststhere were three of us-had trotted her; out dozen times and whispered it about the toom that she was a very nice girl and not a bit ugly when you came to talk to her, other fallows took her on. When I met her at a ball six months

later, I was glad to hear she was engaged.
"A distinctly unpleasant episode occurred to me last Christmas. One of the daughters at a house where I was engaged to dance lured me during the evening inte a violent firtation. As she knew who I was her conduct naturally surprised me.
"Still, the way in which she encouraged

me was so unmistakable that at last I desided she was really in love. For quite a couple of hours I debated with myself what to do, deciding that it would be my duty to tell her during the next dance that

an impassable gulf separated us.
"I might have saved myself the trouble for after a short conversation with a good looking fellow she had not spoken to during the evening she came to me and said:
'Please forgive me. It was very wrong, I know, but I have only been flirting with you to make Charley jealous: I had a row with him yesterday. I think I'll make it up now. Don't say a word. I told Charley you were a South African millionaire Please don't tell him who you really are.' -Pearson's Weekly.

Ciass Passions In France.

In France a government always does wrong to rely solely for support upon the exclusive interests and selfish passions of one class. This can only succeed with nations more self interested and less vain than ours. With us, when a government established upon this basis becomes unpopular, it follows that the members of the very class for whose sake it has lost its popularity prefer the pleasure of traducing it with all the world to the privileges which it assures them. The old French aristocracy, which was more enlightened than our modern middle class and posaristocracy, which was into sessed much greater esprit de corps, had alreedy given the same example. It had ended by thinking it a mark of distinction to run down its own privileges and by thundering against the abuses upon which it existed. That is why I think that, upon the whole, the safest method of government for us to adopt in order to endure is that governing well—of governing in the inter-est of everybody. I am bound to confess, however, that even when one follows this course it is not very certain that one will endure for long.-Recollections of De

THE ILLS OF LIFE. Almost all the ills of life arise from wrong action of the stomach, liver and bowels, therefore wisdom is shown by using Burdock Blood Bitters to regulate, strengthen and purify these organs, thus preventing and curing all diseases from a common pimple to the worst scrofulous sore.

DON'T WASTE COAL

The World Is Burning Up Its Fuel Supply Too Fast.

The whole system of locomotion is threatened with imminent revolution. The two horses, one of flesh and one of iron, one eating oats and the other coal, find their vocations going away together. Science threatens to burntheir carcasses on the same pyre. Electricity offers itself as a locomotive force for the nations. The steam locomotive, vaunted emblem and token of the greatest of centuries, finds it-self at the close about to be relegated tothe great ash heap of curiosities before which civilization stands laughing. But the thing is not yet certain. We cannot make haste to dig a grave for the locomotive. It may be that the twentieth century will still demand that heavy, clumsy, but very efficient brute whose office it has been for two generations to carry man and his for two generations to carry man and his products to the ends of the earth. The substitution of electricity for steam as a motive force on the great railways of the United States, which now seems so imminent. will be, if it comes, the most mar-velous single change that has ever occur-red among the physics of the civilized life Oddly enough, the event is held back by

one of the caprices of progress. The strength of the locomotive is its imperfection. The application of steam to enginery is accompanied with an error which, has cost civilization mere dearly than any other flaw in her apparatus. The acceptance of electricity as the one great motive force is strongly impeded by a circumstance which, according to all logical deduction, ought long since to have been obviated. This circumstance lies in the application of heat, or rather in the evolution of heat and its economy in the production of power. Fully four-fifths of all the fuel of the

world is thrown away. The 70,000,000 people in the United States are burning up their own most precious resources with an absolute waste of more than 80 per cent of the whole. Victor Hugo chided the Parisians for sending annually through the sewers 25,000,000 francs into the sea. What shall we say of the whole world shoveling coal into the roaring throats of 100,000,000 furnaces? There is not an engine anywhere, or ever was, that economizes more than 20 per cent of the fuel which it devours.—John Clark Ridpath in Brooklyn Times.

SUPREME JUSTICES' GOWNS.

Our Early Statesmen's Task In Selecting a

Fitting Court Dress. Ex President Harrison tells of the conention created over the question of an appropriate court dress for the justices of the federal supreme court in The Ladies' Home Journal. "When the constitutional organization of the court had been settled and the high duty of selecting the justices had been performed by Washington," he says, "the smaller but not wholly unimportant question of a court dress loomed up and much agitated and divided the minds of our public men. Shall the jus-tices wear gowns? And, if yea, the gown of the scholar, of the Roman senator or of the priest? Shall they wear the wig of the English judges' Jefferson and Hamilton, who had differed so widely in their views as to the frame of the constitution, were again in opposition upon these questions

relating to millinery and bairdressing. "Jefferson was against any needless official apparel, but, if the gown was to carry, he said, 'For heaven's sake discard the monstrous wig which makes the English judges look like rats peeping through bunches of cakum.' Hamilton was for the English wig with the English gown. Burr was for the English gown, but against the English gown was taken and the wig left, and I am sure that the flowing black silk gown still worn by the justices helps to preserve in the courtroom that dignity and sense of solemnity which should always characterize the place of judgment.

The Old and the New Terror.

It is known generally that the monitor Terror, which has just gone into commis-sion, has been building for a score of years. The same is true of the other monitors— Puritan, Monadnock and Amphitrite. The Miantonomoh, which went into commission about two years ago, was also started at the same time that the others were laid down. That was in 1874 and in

This group of monitors represents a different grade of vessel from that for which they were intended originally. The delay in finishing them has resulted in making them modern. They are now unsurpassed in their fighting qualities. They have modern guns, modern armor, modern engines and twin screws. These ships have been built and rebuilt. To convert them into fighting machines of an advanced type it has been necessary to rebuild them under the guise of "repairs." It is believed generally that the Terror has never been in commission until recently. The executive officer of the Terror sur-prised his mates in the wardroom the oth

er day by saying:
"Do you know, I once sailed into Havana harbor on this very ship—that is to say, the Cerror was in commission when I was a young officer, and I was attached t her. This is supposed to be the same ves-sel. It is a new ship instead. Still there must be some one piece of the old ship in this one. She has been completely rebuilt under the 'repairs' system. Some day I'm geing to try to hunt around and see if I can find that piece of the original vessel. It must be here somewhere, but I venture to say it will be many modus before we find it."—New York Sub.

Primacy of Ancient Literature.

You do not know the world until you know the men who have possessed it and tried its wares before ever you were given your brief run upon it. And there is no sanity comparable with that which is schooled in the thoughts that will keep. this such a schooling that we get from the world's literature. The books have disappeared which were not genuine—which spoke things which, if they were worth saying at all, were not worth hearing more saying at all, were not worth hearing more than ence, as well as the books which spoke permanent things clumsily and without the gift of interpretation. The kind air which blows from age to age has disposed of them like vagrant leaves. There was sap in them for a little, but now they are gone, we do not know where. All literature that has lasted has this claim upon us-that it is not dead. But we cannot be quite so sure of any as we are of the ancient literature that still lives, because time has lived so long. It holds a sort of circuity in the aristocracy of natural selection .- Protessor Woodrow in Forum.

The first king of the Vandals was Gunderic, who ascended the throne in 406 A. D. Their last king was Gelimer, 531-534.

The arbor vitee is indicative of unchanging friendship, the symbol being ne doubt suggested by the evergreen of the plant.

AFTER THE BALL. He'll get well now," they said out side.

"There isn't any doubt.
For by the doctors' bulletin
They've got the bullet out,"
—Chicago Tribuna

"The good dye young." This is be-cause early piety turns their hair pre-maturely gray.



The murderer who, at dead of night, creeps, stealthily out to bury the dead and mangled body of his victim inspires men with horror and dread. There is a murderer abroad who yearly slays one-sixth of all the human race who go down to untimely deaths. This dread monster is called consumption. The approach of consumption is slow and insidious. First there is a slight disorder of the digestion. The appetite is poor and the nourishing properties of the food are not properly assimilated. The blood becomes thin and impure. The body begins to starve. It is the start of the food are not properly nourished and are inert and half dead. In this condition they offer a good soil for the germs of consumption which invade and attack them.

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Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It invigorates the digestion and appetite and makes assimilation perfect. It builds up and purifies the blood. It makes new and healthy tissue to replace the old, inert matter which it causes to be carried off. It drives out all disease germs. Thousands of cases given up as hopeless have been cured. cases given up as hopeless have been cured.

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