BASKETS

We have just opened out a large consignment of Waste Paper Baskets, Ladies' Work Baskets, Trinket Baskets, Music Racks, Paper Holders, etc., all suitable for Xmas presents. Call and make your selection. We will put it aside for you.

E.N. HUNT

190 Dundas St., London.

THE QUEEN OF

might have been but a flash of the ex- of this money, and some hidden, but piring fire, he was sufficiently imcould hear someone, whom the shadows concealed from him, stealing towards the door he had just quited, as if proposing to escape while he was busied household. at the mantelpiece securing a light. There had been so many reports in the newspapers of clever audacious burglars taking advantage of the temporary absence of the servants to enter gentlemn's mansions, and rifle some unoccupied room of whatever it contained that was valuable, that Aymer began to suspect he must have inter-rupted a party of these unpleasant vis-tors in the midst of their work of plunder. It was not an agreeable supposition, and e saw the necessity of acting with caution, if he would either capture the thieves, or prevent them de combat, till they had effected their give, or lend-

Stopping short by the table, he felt for the lamp. His surmise was correct; It was warm-it had just been extinguished. His next act was to pull open a drawer, in which he kept a small revolver, and, with this in his left hand, step back to the door and feel for the key. It was gone; he remembered now that he had broken it a few days previously, and forgotten to give orders for it to be replaced by a new one; but there was a bolt, and this he slipped, presently, he began to laugh at her refor he was determined that the person or persons, of whose presence he was now convinced, should not escape him. Rapidly, but very cautiously, he went back to the fireplace, and began rattling my knees—figuratively, this time—for in a noisy search for the vestas, but at the same time he held his breath and listened. He heard the stealthy footsteps he had detected hurry to the door and attempt in vain to open it. Then there was a suppressed sob, followed by the rustle of feminine garments; and when the lamp was illuminated it shone on the figure of a woman, whose drooping face was buried In her hands, whose head and figure were concealed by the large dark shawl and furiously beautiful." In which she had enveloped herself. Aymer thrust the revolver into the grawer; but he took a long and comprehensive glance around the room be-

fore he approached that drooping form. admired disorder which used to fret touched? Shall I turn out my pockets, he says this government admired disorder which used to free disorder which used to free to prove to you that I have none of it the countess and amuse Vivien. Here to prove to you that I have none of it the says this government must fully the continue the meantime, and until the congress that is not the United States in matters of criminal procedure about me?"

The says this government must fully the meantime, and until the congress that is not fully the first time I will be struction of the Nicaraguan Canal is struction of the property of the treaty of 1820. lay the smoking-cap Cressida, at the about me?" countess' suggestion, had embroidered missiles to frighten away an intruding cat, while foils, guns, riding-whips and gloves, with a score of other masculine to lend to anyone who wishes to bortreasures, graced the walls, and lay on

every table and chair. Yes; there they lay, untouched.
Nothing had been disturbed: but—and
a deep flush of mingled anger and surprise rose to the young earl's browhis desk was unlocked, the secret drawer open, and its contents exposed to view, as if, at the moment of his entrance, the intruder had been in the act of turning them over.

Who was this intruder? He hesitated no longer; but sprang towards her, and snatched off the shawl that enveloped her. She made no effort to prevent it, but,

as if the conviction that longer concealment would be useless, she permitted her hands to drop by her sides, and raised her white face; but only to let it sink on her bosom again, convulsed with shame, as she saw him recoil from her, uttering the words: You, Marie-Can it indeed be you?"

CHAPTER XXVII.

If the feelings are very much excited, it is always difficult, if not impossible, to take any correct note of time; and so, perhaps, Lord Esselyn deceived himself when he judged that several minutes must have elapsed before Marie spoke. When she did, it was so faintly, so hoarsely, that he could scarcely distinguish what she

"Unfasten this door! There is no need to take precautions as if I were a common thief! I would have eluded you if I could; but, now that you have respondence to care to peruse it, Alas! recognized me, you can do your worst. I will make no more attempts to escape; you may do with me as you

"Why are you here at all? Why hav

Telephone 485.

New Roquefort ...Cheese

JUST ARRIVED.



you left my sister?" he sternly as he could.

'The housekeeper sent me away. She said I looked pale and fatigued, and bade me go and rest awhile." "And you came here because it was quieter than any other part of the house, and my sudden entrance startled you; that was your only reason for trying to hide from me. Am I not right?" cried Aymer, joyfully seizing upon such extenuating circumstances; for he was very loth to condemn her,

"No!" said Marie, "setting her teeth together; "I will not lie, even to save myself from disgrace. It was not chance that led me here tonight." "Then you did have some other motive for coming to my study, and for touching—" He glanced significantly at the open desk, and again her face was hastily concealed, as if the shame of this discovery were more than she

even on the evidence of his own senses.

to answer him. "Yes, I had some other motive; I confess it. But what I proposed taking from your desk I would have replaced at some future period. I hoped to do so before you could miss st."

could bear, but still she did not refuse

Aymer thought he understood it all now. In the secret drawer he had placed, a few days earlier, a consider-Though reminding himself that this spoken to his sister, in Marie's hearing, pressing, need might have tempted her pressed with the circumstances to be to appropriate a portion of it, until her on the alert, and now he fancied he own purse was replenished. If so, the person most in fault was the countess, who was sadly dilatory in paying the salaries due to the members of her

Aymer was young and romantic enough to feel both grieved and annoyed to find his fair Marie-this pretty refined unknown-descending to commit such an act as this! Still, he was too generous to reprobate it very seri-She was alone, and friendless ously. he would remember this, and urge her to have more faith for the future in the kindness of Vivien, who would have

aided her freely if appealed to. "We will say no more of this stupid affair," he exclaimed; "I am sure it will not happen again. Why did you from taking advantage of his own de-fer selese condition, to render him hore

A cry of angry astonishment from his auditor made him stop, in no little confusion.

"Great heaven! he thinks that I came to steal from him-to take his gold! Am I fallen so low in his opinion as

Aymer began to feel as if he were the culprit, and not Marie, when she confronted him with her dark eyes flashing unutterable scorn; and yet he was relieved, too-so much so, that

sentment. "Don't stab me with your frowns, mademoiselle, though I plead guilty of deserving them! I beg your pardon on the pipes and cigar-cases lying upon it my unlucky speech; but when damsels they ought not to fly into a passion because a very natural construction is put upon the circumstances under

which they are discovered." "Natural!" she echced, disdainfully. Your excuse does but aggravate the affront. Do I look like a pilferer?" "You look, at the present moment. like Juno, in one of her thunder and

lightning moods-terrifically furious, "What have I done that you should insult me by such an accusation?" she exclaimed, still panting with wroth. "Will you not examine your desk before I leave the room, and assure your- tions of Secretaries Alger and Long sult of the war with Spain. Such dise approached that the self that your treasured money is untions of secretaries Alger and Lors cussion will be appropriate after the
res as he had left it, in that most self that your treasured money is unfor an increase of strength. Of Cuba,
cussion will be appropriate after the

talked to as if I were over-fond of gold army will be mustered out, he says, ernments which have existed since our and presented to fifth, the fisch as a land silver," retorted Aymer. "What as soon as the regular army is increas- occupation and government. target the last time he amused himself have I done to have this accusation with firing at a mark. In oppostie cor- brought against me? I always thought hers were his slippers, employed as my cash and I parted company too easily; and I may surely add, in my own defense, that I am always ready

> "This is nothing to me!" said Marie. impatiently. "I bid you count it, that you may assure yourself that I have ot tampered with it!"

"Hang the money! Has it not been thrown in my teeth sufficiently?" cried Aymer, beginning to get cross, too. "I have acknowledged that I made an absurd mistake when I allowed myself to suppose that you were to honor me by

making use of it." "A false speech, my lord," she interposed, before he could say more. "Such an act and honor are not to be named in the same breath! You did think I had been robbing you; so why try to gloss it over?"

and her nostrils dilating as she surveyed him. She was gaining the ad- Johnson Coolidge, of Massachusetts. vantage so entirely that Aymer was bliged to act on the defensive.

"Would it not save a great many words and much unnecessary trouble if Mademoiselle Marie were to frankly tell me what it is she has been seeking in my desk?" Her color rose, and she was at a loss

order prompted her to assort the papers it contains, for I cannot flatter myself she takes sufficient interest in my cor-

no one writes billet-doux to me that are worth perusing.' [To be Continued.]

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At the Opening of the Second Session of the Fifty-Fifth Congress.

He Recognizes Britain's Friendly Offices-Urges an Increase in the Army and Navy-Favors Nicaraguan Canal Construction-Says Nothing About the Philippines.

Washington, Dec. 6.-President Mc-Kinley's annual message, read at the opening of the second session of the fifty-fifth congress yesterday, proves missioners are noted. Then the mesnot to be the sensational document sage continues: expected, although he consumed about 1,800 words in writing it. It is largely a historical account of the reeent conflict with Spain and the United States' relations with other powers. On the Philippines the message is totally bare do not discuss at this time the governof recommendation. On the army and ment or the future of the new posses-"It's the first time I have ever been earnestly commended. The volunteer my duty to continue the military goved. He is silent on the question of the repeal of the war stamp tax.

Congress assembled under circumstances of unusual public interest. The same congress six months ago deckred war against Spain, and now with tion to its people to form a governthe war fought and won, it comes to- ment for themselves. This should be gether again for legislative questions undertaken at the earliest moment control be considered, brought on by the sistent with safety and assured success. eventful months just passed. As usual, It is important that our relations with all Washington turned its attention to these people shall be of the most the capitol for that gala event which friendly character, and our commercial marks the opening day of a session. relations close and reciprocal. The weather imposed no barriers, for should be our duty to assist in every the hurricane had given way to clearing skies and balmy air. The galleries were filled with a deeply interested dustry of the people, and assist them crowd of spectators, while on the floor to form a government which shall be the scene was decidedly animated. In the diplomatic gallery, just before the senate convened, appeared Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British ambassador, and party; Wu Ting Pang, the Chinese minister, and attaches of his legation, and some other members of his mistake, and how charming she Lord Herschell, the chief representalooked with her lip souting resentfully, tive of Great Britain on the joint high commission, accompanied by Mr. T.

The Message. THE WAR.

There is no "imperialism" in the president's message. It declares that Spain forced the open rupture, that and ready intercommunication befor a reply; seeing this, Aymer mercilessly pursued his advantage.

Spain forced the open rupture, that and ready interest and western seatessly pursued his advantage.

Spain forced the open rupture, that and ready interest and western seatessly pursued his advantage.

Were made with extraordinary disboards, demanded by the annexation of boards, demanded by the annexation of "Perhaps she came to place within it some pretty little gage d'amour—I beg ducted with unheard-of-freedom from pective expansion of our influence and pardon-gage d'amitie, I should have losses; that the army and navy both aid. No? Perhaps, then, the spirit of acted with the greatest gallantry. The national policy now, more imperatively peace negotiations, the message says, are practically complete.

Reference to the new possessions is deferred until the peace treaty is The president says Cubans must have an opportunity to form a government for themselves.

An international agreement for uniform cable tolls is declared to be

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

The president intimates that the United States Government will probably soon reach an understanding regarding the shooting of the miners at Congress, the president says, should

act at once for the completion of the Nicaraguan Canal. The Chilian claim commission's work should be extended. The open door in China will help United States trade.

needed. The United States will be handsomely repressited at the Paris Exposition—a \$ 00,000 appropriation needed. Effor are progressing to have rance and Germany relax prohibiions of United States fruit products. The United States' relations with Great Britain are most friendly. Her

tions are tending to favorable con-The Red Cross work should be exended to sea duty by all nations.

The Hawalian commissioners' report should be most carefully con-sidered, and provision is needed for structed to secure the fullest measure

The United States cordially sympathizes with the crar's disarmament recommendation. The United States envoy to Turkey is charged to demand a cettlement of our indemnity claims. The Venezuela arbitration treaty

is a success. A permanent universal law is needed against privateering.

SOUND CURRENCY. Recommendation is made that United States notes redeemed in gold shall be paid only in exchange for gold, renewed. Sound currency legislation is still greatly needed. Domestic paper currency must be kept safe, yet in proportions to the needs of our coun-

THE ARMY AND NAVY should be made. Steamship lines to

The postal service is advancing of the Spanish war. Secretary Long's call for three battleships and twelve armored cruisers city was sincerely lamented is heartily approved. The grades of admiral and vice-admiral should be re-Forestry legislation shows good re-

sults. The alien contract labor law is shown by experience to need some am- ties for the passage of four United A measure providing better protec-

tion for seamen is proposed. THE EIGHT-HOUR DAY. The rightful application of the eighthour law for the benefit of labor and of the principle of arbitration are sug-

gested for consideration.

CASUALTIES IN THE RECENT WAR. The president places the total casualties in killed and wounded in the

army during the war, as follows: Officers killed, 23; enlisted men killed, 257; total, 280; officers wounded, 113; enlisted men wounded, 1,464 total, 1,577. Of the navy: Killed, 17; wounddied as result of wounds, 1; invalided from service, 6; total, 91.

The president says: It will be observed that while our navy was engaged in two great battles, and in numerous perilous undertakings in the blockades and bombardments, and if I shall be authorized to communicate more than fifty thousand of our troops to you a favorable conclusion of the and battle and many skirmishes in ada. It is the earnest wish of this unfamiliar territory, we lost in both government to remove all sources of arms of the service a total of 1,668 kill- discord and irritation in our relations ed and wounded; and in the entire with the neighboring Dominion. The campaign by land and sea we did not trade between the two countries is lose a gun, or a flag, or a transport, or constantly increasing, and it is importaship, and with the exception of the ant to both countries that all reasoncrew of the Merrimac, not a soldier able facilities should be granted for or sailor was taken prisoner. On Aug. its development. 7, 46 days from the date of the landing of Gen. Shafter's army in Cuba. and 12 days from the surrender of Santiago, the United States troops commenced embarkation for home,

24. They were absent from the United States only two months. The peace negotiations, the signing of the protocol, the suspension of hostilities and the appointment of com-

and our entire force was returned to

the United States as early as Aug.

The negotiations have made hopeful progress, so that I trust soon to be able to lay a definite treaty of peace before the senate, with a review of sions which will come to us as the reent must fully treaty of peace shall be ratified. In

GOVERNMENT OF CUBA. As soon as we are in possession of Cuba and have pacified the island, it will be necessary to give aid and direcproper way to build up the waste places of the island, encourage the infree and independent, thus realizing the best aspirations of the Cuban people. Spanish rule must be replaced by a just, benevolent and humane government, created by the people of Cuba, capable of performing all international obligations, and which shall encourage thrift, industry and prosperity, and promote peace and good-will among all of the inhabitants,

whatever may have been their relations in the past. THE NICARAGUA CANAL. In discussing the Nicaragua Canal,

the president says: That the construction of such the Cuban war was undertaken for maritime highway is now more than the sake of humanity. It declares that ever indispensable to that intimate commerce to the Pacific, and that our than ever, calls for its control by this government, are propositions which I doubt not the congress will duly appreciate and wisely act upon.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

On Chinese affairs the message says: The United States has not been an indifferent spectator of the extraordinary events transpiring in the Chinese Empire, whereby portions of its maritime provinces are passing under the control of various European powers; but the prospect that the vast commerce which the energy of our citizens and the necessity of our staple productions for Chinese uses has built up in those regions may not be prejudiced through any exclusive treatment by the new occupants has obviated the need of our country becoming an actor in the scene. Our position among nations, having a large Pacific coast, and a constantly expanding direct trade A commission to study commercial with the farther Orient, gives us the equitable claim to consideration and and industrial conditions in China is friendly treatment in this regard, and it will be my aim to subserve our large CPR COLOSSAL interests in that quarter by all means appropriate to the constant policy of our government.

AMERICAN CITIZENS WILL BE PROTECTED.

ground for disquiet in view of the unrest and revival of the old sentiment of opposition and projection. offices during the war are recognized. high joint commission negotiament of opposition and prejudice to alien people which pervades certain of the Chinese provinces. As in the case CPR of the attacks upon our citizens in Szechuan and at Kutien in 1885, the sidered, and provision is needed for aiding destitute seamen in Hawaii.

The new Mexican extradition content of protection, both local and imperial, for any menaced American interests, the new Mexican extradition station of demand, in case of lawless in-

utes need amending. A conference re-garding the Mexican free zone neces-reparation appropriate to the case. reparation appropriate to the case. Warships have been stationed at Tien-Tsin for more ready observation of the disorders which have invaded even the Chinese capital, so as to be in a position to act, should need arise, while a guard of marines has been sent to Pekin to afford the minister the same measure of authoritative protection as the representatives of other nations have been constrained to em-

FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH BRITAIN.

Further on the message says: "Our relations with Great Britain have continued on the most friendly footing. Assenting to our request, the protection of Americans and their interests in Spanish jurisdiction was as-sumed by the diplomatic and consular representatives of Great Britain, who Permanent increase in the army fulfilled their delicate and arduous trust with tact and zeal, eliciting high United States colonies should be sub-eidized. States colonies should be sub-make fitting allusion to the instance of Mr. Ramsden, her Majesty's consul at most satisfactorily, as shown by tests Santiago de Cuba, whose untimely death, after distinguished service and untiring effort during the siege of that In the early part of April last, pur-

suant to a request made at the instance of the secretary of state by the British ambassador at the capitol, the Canadian Government granted facili-States revenue cutters from the great lakes to the Atlantic coast by the way of the Canadian canals and the St. Lawrence River. The vessels had reached Lake Ontario, and were awaiting the opening of navigation, when war was declared between the United States and Spain. Her Majesty's Government, thereupon, by communication of the latter part of April, stated that the permission granted before the outbreak of hostiliport without engaging in any hostile operation. The government promptly agreed to the stipulated condition, it being understood that the vessels would not be prohibited from resisting any hostile attack.

IN RESPECT TO CANADA. transported to distant lands, pending negotiations with Great Britengaged in assault and siege ain in respect to the Dominion of Can-

DEALING WITH THE TURK. The newly-accredited envoy of the United States to the Ottoman Porte carries instructions looking to the disposal of matters in controversy with Turkey for a number of years. He is especially charged to press for a just settlement of our claims for indemnity by reason of the destruction of the property of American missionaries resident in that country during the Armenian troubles in 1895, as well as

for the recognition of older claims of equal justness. He is also instructed to seek an adjustment of the dispute growing out of the refusal of Turkey to recognize the acquired citizenship of Ottoman-born persons naturalized in the United States since 1869, without prior imperial consent, and in the same general relation he is directed to endeavor to bring about a solution of the question which has more or less acutely existed since 1869 concerning the jurisdictional rights of the United

ARBITRATION FAVORED. The arbitral tribunal appointed under the treaty of February, 1897, between Great Britain and Venezuela, to determine the boundary line be tween the latter and the colony of British Guiana, is to convene at Paris during the present month. It is a source of much gratification to this government to see the friendly resort of arbitration applied to the settle-

ment of this controversy. MARITIME POLICY.

The annexation of Hawaii and the changed relations of the United States to Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines, resulting from the war, compe prompt adoption of a maritime policy by the United States. There should be established regular and fre quent steamship communication, en-couraged by the United States under the American flag, with the newly-ac quired possessions. Spain furnished to its colonies at an annual cost of about \$2,000,000, steamship lines necting with a portion of the world's markets, as well as the trade centers of the home government. The Unit-States will not undertake to do less. It is our duty to furnish the people of Hawaii with facilities under national control for their export and import trade.

THE ALIEN LABOR LAW. In conclusion the president says: The alien labor contract law is shown by experience to need some amendment; a measure providing better pro tection for seamen is proposed; rightful application of the eight-hour law for the benefit of labor and of principle of arbitration are suggested for consideration, and I commend the subjects to the careful attention of con-

A Substantial Gain.

"I was very weak and hardly able to walk. My blood was thin and I was as pale as death. Being told about Hood's Sarsaparilla I began taking it and in a few months I had gained 20 pounds in weight. I kept on with it until I was as well as ever." Arthur Mills, Dresden, Ont.

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The Board of Health of the State of Ohio, in its official report on the subject of tuberculosis, says; We should thoroughly realize that consumption is communicable and, therefore, preventable. The gravity of the disease should be appreciated. Ceaselessly, during every hour of time, by night and by day, fourteen persons die of consumption in the United States alone; and about one-seventh of all who die among

> some form. "Consumption in its earlier stages is, in many instances, curable as well as preventable, but the chances of recoverv are greatly reduced by living in an atmosphere highly infected by the germs of the disease, as the patient may reinfect himself.

the civilized races die of tuberculosis of

"The germs may be destroyed by burning the expectorated matter, or by casting it into a solution containing a disinfectant

strong enough to kill them." The only guaranteed remedy for consumption is Shiloh's Consumption Cure, which has been the standard remedy for the past fifty years. It heals the irritated surface of the throat and lungs. thus preventing infection by the germs of consumption. It is sold by all druggists on a positive guarantee that the purchase money will be refunded in case of failure to cure. 25c., 50c. and \$1 bottle throughout the United States and Canada. In England 1s. 2d., 2s. 3d. and

ties would not be withdrawn, provided the United States Government gave assurance that the vessels in question would proceed direct to a United States Red Cross Tea--Walla Galla

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AGENTS-E. De la Hooke, "Clock," corner Richmond and Dundas. Thomas R. Parker southwest corner of Richmond and Dundas streets, and F. B. Clarke, 416 Richmond street

OF CANADA

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