

OLD WORLD BRIEFS.

JOHN BULL AND HIS PEOPLE AND THEIR DOINGS IN ITEM.

Record of Occurrences in the Land That Reigns Unique in the World's History and Supreme in the Commercial Life of the World—Side Lights on Great Men and Events.

The fund for the national memorial to Queen Victoria now exceeds £103,000.

In certain London hotels wine left on the tables is the waiters' perquisite.

Ian MacLaren has been lecturing Punch for its caricature of Mr. Samuel Smith, M. P.

The net profit on the Leeds corporation tram during the past year amounts to £31,058.

A man has given a Reading mason a penny for finding a lost purse containing £300 in notes and gold.

It is proposed to erect a statue to the late Sir Arthur Sullivan on the Thames embankment, in London.

John Keat's autograph poem "Ode to the Nightingale," fetched £105 at Stubby's, London, the other day.

There are 836 places of public entertainment in London, with a combined seating capacity for 400,000 people.

People in the west end of London are spending much money this year on external floral decorations for their houses.

In the past forty years Great Britain has produced forty million tons of steel, or about one-third of the world's total product.

The Earl of Seafield holds Great Britain's record as a tree planter, having planted 60,000 trees on 40,000 acres in Invernesshire.

A London cashier named Robb was remanded for falsifying the books of his employer and stealing sums amounting to over £10,000.

The Manchester School Board has 47,000 scholars on the books and 1,577 teachers. There are 16,399 pupils and 966 teachers at the evening schools.

London, on all appearances, was never more prosperous than now. The theatres, music halls and concert rooms are crowded. Every hotel is full of visitors.

The value of fish landed in Great Britain and Ireland last year was fully nine millions and a half sterling, as compared with less than seven millions in 1892.

The value of haddock landed on English coasts is usually £800,000 greater than that of herrings, and constitutes one-third of the value of all the fish annually taken.

Miss Ellen Terry has a friend who obtains the portrait of the actress as soon as published and puts them in her rooms. "It made me quite wretched when I last called," said Miss Terry. "There was I weeping in her bedroom and mad in her dining-room, while in the front parlor I was positively dying in three different positions."

An extremely pretty "daffodil" wedding took place in Devonshire the other day. All the bridesmaids were in daffodil China silk Empire dresses, with toques to match, and carried crooks surmounted by a bunch of the spring flowers.

At the wedding breakfast, which was a good old-fashioned sitting down one, no flowers were used but daffodils.

Referring to the subject of temperance recently the Archbishop of Canterbury said that a very few years ago the man who did not indulge in intoxicating drink was regarded as an "odd" man, but that public opinion was changing so rapidly that it seemed likely that before long the "odd" man would be the man that did indulge.

Dr. James Gow, the new headmaster of the Westminster School, London, is the first layman to hold that office since Queen Elizabeth refounded the school. At Cambridge he was chancellor's medallist and Fellow of Trinity College, and he has given further proof of his learning by his books, which embrace such subjects as Greek, mathematics, and the odes and epics of Horace.

Miss Baden-Powell, only sister of Major-General Baden-Powell, is to be married shortly to Sir William Dillie Berry, B.A.N.I., who so greatly distinguished himself in Cape Colony. Many old friends will be interested in knowing that Sir William Berry was the favorite nephew of the late Mrs. John Leslie, of Ottawa, Ont. He is a cousin of Mrs. James A. Leslie and of Mrs. T. Alfred Cude, of Riverside, Perth.

The royal monogram which is to be placed upon the King's liveries is of the nearest possible style, and consists of the letters E. R. and VII. beneath them. The somewhat flamboyant manner in which the royal cypher appeared upon the livery and harness of the previous sovereign now gives place to a severe style, and this applies not only to the full state trappings, but also to the Ascot and Goodwood liveries, both of which are also in preparation.

The new throne for the use of Queen Alexandra is an almost exact replica of the old one. Its design is mainly Tudor-Gothic, the seat being embroidered in gold and silver after the Gothic pattern of the one used by Queen Victoria. The back consisting of a very handsome embroidered Royal Standard, which is surmounted by a beautiful gilt scroll centre-piece on which are inscribed the letters "V. R." It was the King's special command that "V. R." should not be replaced by "E. R."

A high tribute was paid to the British nurses by Lord Roberts, who said, in a South African despatch: "I find it difficult to express the deep gratitude with which the Nursing Sisterhood has inspired all ranks serving in South Africa. The devotion, skill, courage and endurance displayed by the army nursing service, and by kindred organizations from the colonies, have excited my admiration and justified my opinion that I hold as to the necessity and economy to the service of an ample nursing service for our army."

Women are vastly more patient than men. It is scarcely believable that a woman, suffering past all telling, can attend to business, and bend and stoop with a back whose ache is agony. And beyond all this she smiles as she bends and stoops about her customer. A man might swallow down an oath or keep back a groan, but his face would be like a thundercloud, and his voice scarcely disguise his irritation.

For women who suffer from backache, bearing-down pains, or other pains due to womanly diseases, there is no other medicine equal to Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It regulates the womanly functions, dries weakening drains, heals inflammation and ulceration and cures female weakness.

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"I wish to thank you for the good Mac Brown, of Canton, Ill. 'I was troubled with several different pains, and indeed, I got all the time. I had a doctor, but he did not help me. I thought I was going to die. I had a very bad attack, but after taking five bottles of your 'Favorite Prescription' and three of 'Golden Medical Discovery,' I am feeling as well as ever. I have had no return of the trouble. My friends tell me I don't look as though I ever was sick." Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure constipation and its causes.

What to Do With Bad Temper.

Starve it. Give it nothing to feed on. When something tempts you to grow angry, do not yield to the temptation. It may be for a minute or two be difficult to control yourself, but try it. Force yourself to do nothing, to say nothing, and the rising temper will be forced to go down, because it has nothing to hold it up. The person who can and does control tongue, hand and heart in the face of great provocation is a hero. The world may not own him or her as such, but God does. The Bible says that he that ruleth his spirit is better than he that taketh a city.

What is gained by yielding to temper? For a moment there is a feeling of relief, but soon comes a sense of sorrow and shame, with a wish that the temper had been controlled. Friends are separated by a bad temper, trouble is caused by it, and pain is given to others as well as to self. That pain, too, often lasts for days, even years, for the burning of a steam boiler; it is impossible to tell before what will be the result. The evil done may never be remedied. Starve your temper. It is not worth keeping alive. Let it die!

The Effect of Total Abstinence.

Dr. Jas. Adams Rawlings, Consulting Physician to the Swansea General and Eye Hospital, says:

"The temperance cause will not make any great and permanent advance until we can persuade the common people that the use of alcohol is needless and dangerous. Universal total abstinence would lessen disease, prolong life, and promote happiness, to a degree which words cannot express. The Christian appeal from this physical basis is unanswerable. It seems to me, as the result of long experience, that one of the greatest duties of temperance reformers is the judicious and intelligent advocacy of the physical truth concerning alcohol."

The Fault of the Invitation.

Mrs. Blomarket cannot understand why Mrs. Upstreet did not accept her invitation. This is what the invitation said:

"I beg Mrs. Upstreet: I am going to entertain a few people on Thursday evening, the 27th, and this is to ask you to be one of the number. I know you do not care for society functions, but you will feel perfectly at ease at this one, as nobody of any consequence is invited."

What One Boy Could Do.

He was small for his age, worked in a signal box and booked the trains. One day the men were chafing him about being small. One of them said: "You will amount to much. You will never be able to pull those levers. You are too small." The little fellow looked at them. "Well," he said, "I can do something. That none of you can do." "Ah, what is that?" they all cried. "I don't know that I ought to tell you!" They were all anxious to know and urged him to tell them what he could do that none of them were able to do. Said one of the men, "What is it boy?" I can keep from swearing and drinking," replied the little fellow. There were blushes on the men's faces, and they didn't seem anxious for any further information on the subject.

How to Wash Real Lace.

Duchess point or any real lace may be cleaned by washing it carefully in tepid water with fine soap, rinsing well and pinning it carefully while wet on a board covered with flannel. An iron should not be allowed to touch this lace, and the points must be pinned very carefully, so as to keep the pattern true and even. If it becomes dry before it is pinned, moisten with a damp sponge and let the lace dry thoroughly before removing it. By careful handling the lace may be made to look as good as new.

Something Better Than Thrilling.

A babe is lulled, not forced, to sleep. A sweet, gentle voice has more power over the little one than does the trumpet. And we never wholly outgrow the child in our natures. There is strength in gentleness, in every sphere of human influence.

The song most sweet

Is that which lulls, not thrills, the ear."

HORSES' HATS.

An Expert Says They Do More Harm Than Good.

Fantastic summer hats for horses were never more prevalent than they are to-day. There is a mistaken notion that they are a boon to the animals. To jam this particular style of headgear upon a horse's head, already protected by a natural topknot, is in most instances only making the animal more susceptible to the heat.

According to the best veterinarians the spinal column is the part of the anatomy most sensitive to the sun's rays, and a horse with a light covering over his back can work two hours to the "hatted" horse's one. The average horse would, in their opinion, be a great deal better off in the summer time if his considerate owner left off protecting his head and simply exercised the ordinary precaution of resting him now and then in the shade.

Many men use the poorest sort of judgment in the methods they employ to relieve horses from heat. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals does not approve of the sponge, because in nine cases out of ten it is only dampened once in the morning and for the rest of the day absorbs the heat and creates it upon the horse's head. To shower a horse and then allow the thick topknot to dry out until it becomes a stiff shell through which no air can permeate is of more injury to a horse in 30 minutes than if he worked two hours in the sun without any protection or rest.

Farmers laugh at the two storied awnings, felt protectors and straw hats which the city horses are made to wear. They have found that the exercise of a little common sense in caring for a horse is worth a hundred artificial safeguards. It is very seldom that one hears of prostration among farrier horses, although they work from day to day in the open field, where the sun beats down fiercely.

The hat had only been in existence since 1897, when it was introduced from Paris. In the opinion of many it will pass away, as did the ear tassels and fly nets so prevalent in the early eighties and the trousers and overalls as protection against the heat and mosquitoes.

According to French authorities the drivers of 25 and 30 years ago who stretched an awning from the wagons to the horses' collars had the right principle for protection against the heat, and a prostration then was the exception and not the rule.

A True Hero.

Sometimes it requires more bravery to do a little thing all alone than to do a great thing in company with others. Thus a soldier may be a hero on the field of battle, but lack the courage to stand alone on a platform and make a speech.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, in his essay on "Heroism," says that genuine heroism is persistence. As an illustration he tells how his little son Waldo on his way to school had to pass a house where lived a French family. The child heard the family talking their native language, which he could not understand, and that made him have a sort of superstitious fear of them. So Mr. Emerson used to walk to school from school with the little fellow.

But one day he decided that the child was old enough to overcome his fear and pass the house of the French family by himself. He went to school with the lad and told him that he must return alone.

After school was dismissed Waldo walked manfully toward home until he had nearly reached the French house. Then he stopped, and leaning against the fence, began to whimper.

Miss Elizabeth Hoar, a neighbor, saw him and went to the rescue. "Come, Waldo, I am going your way and you can walk with me," said she.

The child looked up tearfully into her eyes a moment and then said in the most doleful voice: "I don't think that was what my father meant for me to do." Then he trudged on by himself.

Tickled for 400 Years.

A very old clock has just been stopped near Edinburgh. The old clock is the clock of four hundred years. It told the time to the Duke of Somerset and his army so far back as 1547, when on the field of Pinkie, hard by, they tried to force the Scots to give their young Mary Wemyss Montague to Edward VI. of England. Prince Charlie and his Highlanders, too, marched under it in 1745 to do battle with Sir John Cope at the neighboring village of Prestonpans. Now it has stopped, "never to go again," it is passed to a museum to rest until time shall be no more.

Costliest Painting in the World.

The Duke of Marlborough is the possessor of the costliest painting in the world, which was at one time the property of the first Duke of Marlborough. The picture is known as the Blenheim Madonna, painted by Raphael in 1507, and valued at no less than £700,000. The picture is eight feet high and represents the Madonna and Child seated on a throne, with a figure of St. John the Baptist on the left and that of St. Nicholas of Bari on the right.

Here.

Here in the breath of the world, Here in the stretch of the sky, Life in the breeze of an open land— And what care I?

Nought shall I care what I am, (Only to know that I be Faithful and fond in thy loving hands— Faithful to thee.

Melba a Natural Song Bird.

Madame Melba prides herself on being a "natural song-bird." She did not pass through a protracted period of voice culture prior to her operatic debut. From childhood she has been able to sing with ease the most difficult music, and she mastered the complicated score of "Aida" in a few hours. "I cannot even remember," says the fair Australian, "when I first began to trill a note."

STONEHENGE.

The Most Famous Druidical Remains in Great Britain to Be Shown From the Public—A Shilling Fee.

Stonehenge, the most famous and best preserved ruin of Druidical temples and Druidical times, still in existence, is about to be shut off from the public by a great wire fence, erected by Sir Edmund Antrobus, to whom belongs that portion of Salisbury's Plain, upon which this grand old monument stands. Sir Edmund proposes to charge a shilling (that is 25 cents) for admission, his object being not only to keep out the vandals and to preserve these relics of the most ancient periods of British history from the degradation to which they have been subjected, but likewise to compel the public to assist him in providing for their care.

While this project seems to be a perfectly reasonable one, yet there are many who are offering strenuous objections thereto, taking the ground that Sir Edmund has no right whatever to keep the public away from what is in every sense of the word, a national monument. The matter, indeed, has been carried into court, and there it has been decided that Sir Edmund, as owner of the grounds on which the monument is situated, has a perfect right to inclose it if he sees fit, and the public have their remedy in prevailing upon the Government to expropriate the Baronet, and pay him for his land, thus converting it into national and public property.

Sir Edmund is a distinguished soldier, who served with much gallantry in the Guards of Egypt, and is married to Florence Sartoris, a niece of Mrs. Nellie Grant Sartoris.

I may add that Sir Edmund Antrobus, since retiring from the army, has assumed as partner the representation of the hereditary family interests in Coutts' Bank, and that the family of which he is the chief is one of the oldest houses of Cheshire, where the name of Antrobus was already honorably known in the 13th century.—*Marquis de Fontenay.*

French Cavalry at Sedan.

Both banks of the Givonne were in German hands; so was Balan, a small village nearer to Sedan than Bazelles, and soon after 1 o'clock no fewer than 426 German guns were halting shells into the French army, which stood in close formations within a space measuring less than two miles in breadth or depth. Out of this terrible cauldron of defeated troops about this time rode the French cavalry in a heroic endeavor to turn the fortunes of the day and retrieve the honor of France.

General Marguerite, called by some "the star of his arm," was struck in the face by a bullet while riding out to reform the ground before he charged. He now handed over the cavalry command to De Gallifet, who, for the second time on that tremendous day, led the flower of French cavalry against the enemy.

For the space of half an hour charged the German ranks again and again on the hillside north of Sedan.

But the courage of the gallant horsemen was all in vain. The army blanches was unequally matched against the breechloading rifle held in steady hands, and no effort of the French cavalry could withstand the slowly tightening grasp of that big circle.—*Chamber's Journal.*

The Weeping Willow.

To the poet Pope is generally given the credit of introducing the weeping willow into England. When the truth Lady Mary Wemyss Montague—celebrated for her charming letters descriptive of Oriental life, written during her residence in Turkey—has the best claim to it. She sent the poet a present of some weeping willow twigs, and in a basket made of willow twigs. He noticed one of the twigs had sprouted, and cutting it carefully from the basket, planted it in his garden at Twickenham, where he had the pleasure of seeing it grow to a tree.

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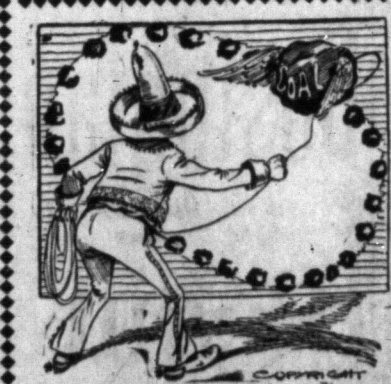
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