

## Mainly About People.

THE most recent, and, at the same time, most startling of automobile excursions, is that which Dr Lehweß, of the Automobile Club, proposes to undertake in the early part of next year. His scheme embraces a journey from Peking to London on a motor-driven vehicle, a voyage of 8,000 miles. The best stretch of road will be in India, from Lahore to Calcutta. John F. Fraser, who has cycled in the Far East says there are not three consecutive miles of road in England as good for wheeling as the 1,200 miles' stretch of road from Lahore to Calcutta.

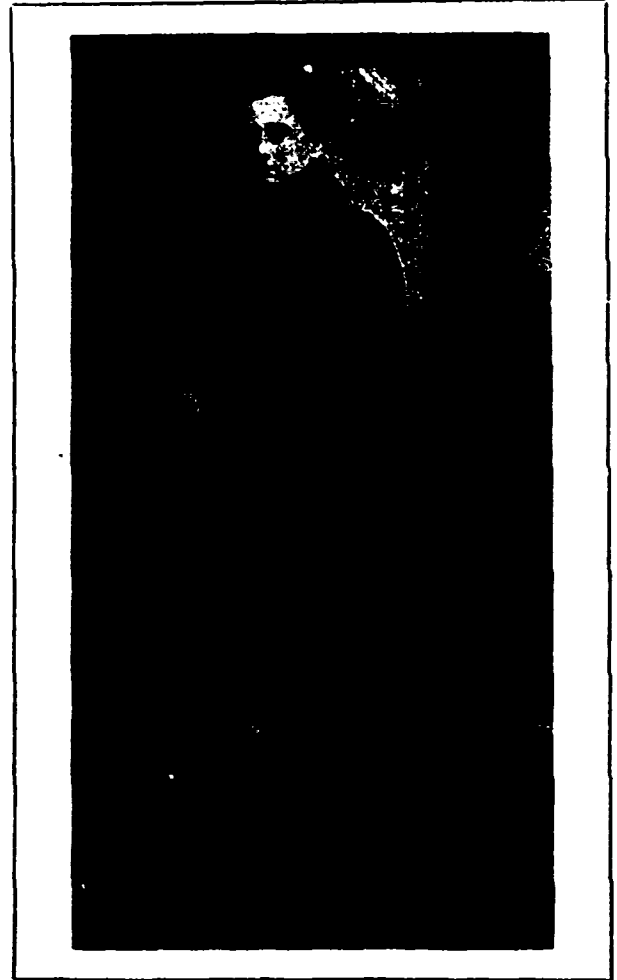
PRINCESS LOUISE, Marchioness of Lorne, has been paying a round of visits, and one who has met her as a fellow-guest in a country house, furnishes a few observations which are of general interest. Princess Louise is far more particular than the Princess of Wales or Princess Christian that due recognition of her Royal rank should be made, but it is noted that no lady member of the Royal Family takes so little baggage or displays so few dresses when on country visits. She is devoted to embroidery, and always works as she talks. A very lively conversationalist, she not only speaks freely of family affairs, but plainly reveals where the rose-leaves are crumpled. Like all the Queen's daughters, she revels in a little bit of scandal, and she invariably writes it to "Mamma," as the Queen is called. She plays the piano well, in a florid style, and she carves beautifully. She is an excellent walker, enjoys a rubber of whist, but prefers a new game of patience.

THE late Sir William Penn Symons who was mortally wounded in the battle of Glencoe, was a good horseman and swordsman, and a crack shot with rifle and revolver. He came to the front in a field of action where these qualities were of eminent value. It was in the trying years that followed our victorious march to Mandalay. Theebaw's power had collapsed like a house of cards, and all seemed peace and submission, when, suddenly, insurrection flared up through hundreds of miles of swamp and forest. The Burmese guerillas had to be met with tactics like their own. Armies were useless. The rebels, here to-day and gone to-morrow, had to be hunted down and cut off by bands that could move as quickly as their own leaders, who had learned all the tricks of jungle warfare. Symons, with his little columns of mounted infantry, was the man who, through weary months of marching and fighting, broke down the resistance of the chiefs. A hundred times he faced death at close quarters, and always came off scathless, till his followers came to believe that the dashing soldier bore a charmed life.

THE DUCHESS of Devonshire, more than any other lady of the Unionist party, has shone as a political hostess; her parties at Devonshire House are thronged with celebrities, and here one may meet leaders of both parties and their wives. The Duchess is a daughter of Count von Alton, a noble and distinguished family, whose romantic Schloss is just outside Hanover; when she first settled in England, as the bride of the Duke of Manchester, her beauty and grace were on every tongue. Soon after the death of the Duke of Manchester she became the Duchess of Devonshire, and since then has given added lustre to the glories of Devonshire House, Chatsworth, Bolton, and the other lordly mansions, too numerous to mention, belonging to the Dukedom. During Lady Salisbury's illness, most of the Foreign Office presentations, and so forth, have fallen upon the Duchess of Devonshire, and right well has she performed the duties.

## LADY MIDDLETON.

THE late Lady Middleton, of whom this is a lifelike portrait, was one of the most charming women Canada has produced, and the announcement of her death was profoundly regretted by all who had the pleasure of her acquaintance. Lady Middleton was Mlle. Cecile Eugénie Doucet, daughter of M. Theodore Doucet, notary public, of this city, and sister of



THE LATE LADY MIDDLETON.

one of Montreal's most respected citizens of the same name and profession. She met General (then Colonel) Middleton when he was in Canada with his regiment in 1870, and was married to him the same year, and accompanied him to England, living successively at Aldershot, where her husband was brigade-major, and at Sandhurst, where he was commandant of the Royal Military College. In 1884 when he was appointed to the command of the Canadian militia she returned to her native land. After his removal to England in 1892, General Middleton became keeper of the Crown Jewels, with headquarters at the Tower of London, and he and Lady Middleton occupied apartments in St. Thomas' tower, over the Traitors' Gate—one of the most interesting parts of this historic old keep. Here they resided till last year, when Sir Frederick died. Lady Middleton expected to take apartments shortly at Hampton Court. She grieved deeply over the death of her husband, and this, doubtless, hastened her own end. There are three children—Charles, who is in the service of the Niger Company, Africa; William, who is in the British navy, and a daughter, Mrs. Lemesurier, who lives in England.

Lady Middleton, during her last sojourn in Canada, was one of the most popular and admired women in Ottawa society.