

FOUR

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ST. JOHN STAR.

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HOME RULE.

Has Home Rule for Ireland ceased to be for the present a life issue in British politics? This is a question which is being asked by many journals in Great Britain and the majority of them answer the question in the affirmative. The opinion expressed is that the resolution moved by Mr. Redmond a short time ago which declared that the present system of government in Ireland is in opposition to the will of the people and does not command the confidence of even a section of the inhabitants of Ireland is nothing more than a hollow victory and judgment from the words of Mr. Asquith, is meaningless. The Liberal leader who has since been elevated to the position of Prime Minister said: "I cannot vote for this motion if it means that the present government is to deal with Home Rule, as was before the country at the last election, and I and others pledged ourselves not to proceed with it during the lifetime of the present parliament."

GRANDFATHER.

So many things 'tuffer at— So many jobs around the place! They didn't seem 't be no end To what his hands 'ud find 't do— A crepin' vine 't trill er trim A fence 't patch, er gate 't hang; He HAD 't do 't, seemed 't him, Afere he died.

"He HAD 't do 't," used 't say, An' when the blossom, overnight, 'N'd bloom again, it seemed 't fill His simple heart with rail delight; We didn't know, ner understand, How much the family rally owed Him in way of horsefacedness. An' rail content—we never knewed Until he died!

IN POOR FORM.

"It was surprised," said the Rev. Mr. Goodman, sternly, "to see you playing golf last Sabbath. I should think you'd do better." "Oh!" replied Hardman, "I usually do. I was in wretched form last Sunday."

NOT A KINDERGARTEN.

"I have never loved before," he said. "Well," she replied, "I am not running a kindergarten."

NEW WORLD RUINS.

Englishman—"What a pity your country has no ruins!" New Yorker—"Ruins? I guess you haven't seen the Metropolitan Street Railway."

SERVED HIM RIGHT.

"Gracious!" exclaimed Mr. Swellman, "the baby has eaten a lot of that dog biscuit!" "Never mind, dear," replied Mrs. Swellman, "it just serves 'do right, for he's taken the baby's food many a time. Yes, Fido, naughty! naughty!"

DISTRUST OF FIGURES.

Hewitt—"Figures won't lie." Jewett—"That's what I tell the people I meet in business, but they won't believe me." Hewitt—"What is your business?" Jewett—"I'm collector for a gas company."

THE UNDECIPHERABLE WORDS.

Representative Cushman, of Washington, came to Speaker Cannon with a letter written by the Speaker himself. "Mr. Speaker," he said, "I got this letter from you yesterday, and I couldn't read it. After I studied it quite a spell, I showed it to twenty or thirty of the fellows of the House, and between us we have spelled out all the words except those last three. We can't make them out. We want to know if you won't translate these last three words." Uncle Joe took the letter and studied it. "Those last three words that stuck you and everybody else," he said, "are 'Personal and Confidential.'"

GIRL'S BODY, IN RIVER REVEALS LOVE STORY.

Year-Old Secret Wedding Was Brought to Light by Discovery of Suicide.

PITTSBURGH, May 7.—Finding of the body of Margaret Gunther, a pretty schoolgirl, in the Ohio River, at Rochester, Pa., last night, disclosed the details of a sad romance that had been hidden for a year.

The girl, 22 years old, was a favorite in one of the big steel company's offices, in the Frick building. She had been missing for two months. A note which was found on her body, reads: "My friends—The only man in the world is dead and I cannot live without him. Mrs. Clarence Wilson."

The story of the secret wedding of the girl to a fellow clerk, Clarence Wilson, nearly a year ago, was uncovered later in the day. A few weeks after the wedding the young bridegroom died. Out of her meager salary the girl paid the list of the expenses of the funeral two months ago, and then followed him.

DOG'S BODY SENT 1000 MILES FOR BURIAL. Owner's Family Meets Casket and Follows Funeral to Cemetery.

LONG BRANCH, N. J., May 7.—Excited after it had been embalmed, the body of "Kaiser," a white fox-terrier dog, the property of H. P. Kingsland, of New York, reached Long Branch today from St. Augustine, Fla., and was buried with ceremony in the Kingsland dog cemetery in Ocean township, near Eberston.

The dog was sent south last winter for its health. At St. Augustine it was treated by a specialist. The body of the dog was met in New York by Mr. and Mrs. Kingsland, who accompanied it to the Kingsland estate, where the internment took place under the direction of a local undertaker.

Already two headstones have been reared to dogs, which died several years ago. Another one will be built to the memory of "Kaiser."

UNLUCKY MONTH OF MAY

We often flatter ourselves that the superstition came to an end a century or two ago, yet there still are many people who cling, if not unconsciously at least without any well-defined reason, to customs which are the relics of pagan mythology or of medieval credulity.

Perhaps none of these still-current traditional ideas retains so much of its old-time vigor as the prejudice against marrying in May, which prevails throughout the Occidental world, though nowhere quite so strongly as in Scotland. That it is an absurdity nearly all of us are prepared freely to admit; but, notwithstanding this, the majority of women, and now a few men, would rather be married in any month of the year than the fifth.

Announcements of marriages in the newspapers show this clearly enough. There are always fewer by many in May than in any other month; but in April and June the numbers are exceptionally busy making happy couples husband and wife.

OLD IN OVID'S DAY. How long this superstition has been in existence is not known, even approximately; but it is highly probable that it is of Roman origin. Ovid refers to it in his "Fasti" as a fad of the "common people," which practically means that it was some centuries old in his day. From Italy it spread all over Europe, and the evil consequences of a May marriage became fixed in the popular mind. "Marry in May and you'll rue the day" is an English folk-proverb. "The girls are all stark raving mad that wed in May" is another. An old poet tells us that "May never was ye month of love, and Ray expresses the same idea in the rhyme:

"Who marries between the stickle and the scythe Will never thrive."

That such a belief should become largely observed in practice goes without saying. In Sir John Sinclair's "Statistical Account of Scotland," a Perthshire minister says: "None choose to marry in January or May; and in a curious old almanac for the year 1559 by Lewis Vaughan, made for the merryland of Gloucester, we learn 'the times of weddings when it be by-gone and endeth, January 14, wedding goth out, be the merryland of Gloucester.' Vaughan's orthography is loose, but his information is exact.

ESTABLISHED BY CHURCH. The periods mentioned by the almanac-maker as "diss-seasons" for wedding were established by the Church, which made an absolute rule forbidding marriage between Rogation and Whit Sunday—i. e., the greater part of May—but it must be remembered that the church, in weaning its people from paganism to Christianity, very wisely made them marry by adopting the custom of the heathen. Nothing in this particular matter. May marriages were disliked on various grounds, and during the centuries now gone by there was always a rainy season, which was the end of Lent and the beginning of the supposedly unlucky month.

"Bespeak the priest, bespeak the minister too, Ere May, to wedlock hostile, stop the bans."

Constant coughing is a strain on delicate lung tissue. Brown's Bronchial Balm by its prompt action in stopping a cough, relieves this strain. Its healing properties quickly restore the irritated membrane to a normal, healthy condition. Better start taking it before the lungs have a chance to get sore.

Two stores—Corner Union and Waterloo streets, and South End Pharmacy, corner Queen and Carmarthen streets.

Prepared and sold only by E. CLINTON BROWN, DRUGGIST.

SIR WALTER SCOTT'S ANXIETY. Sir Walter Scott stepped as he was in the love affair. Although naturally put himself to considerable inconvenience to avoid a May marriage he is in the love affair. Although naturally put himself to considerable inconvenience to avoid a May marriage he is in the love affair.

Office hours from 9 a. m. to 12 m. and from 2 p. m. to 5 p. m. Phone 123.

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Tiger Tea.

Kirk Brown in a COMEDY DRAMA TONIGHT.

Auld Scots Sangs. Scottish melodies as they should be sung. The Royal Scots Concert Party. Under the auspices of the P. Y. M. A., in PORTLAND METHODIST SCHOOL ROOM, Monday, May 11th.

This party will give one of their magnificent entertainments. Do not miss hearing MISS FLORA DONALDSON, the Queen of Scottish song. Admission 25 cents.

For Fashion's Followers.

OUR SHOES ARE ALWAYS ATTRACTIVE. The Goddess of Spring will turn her back on you, Young Man, if you still cling to those Winter Shoes. The young man who wishes to keep in line with the styles can not pay too much attention to his Shoes, and he generally knows fine looking Shoes when he sees them.

D. MONAHAN, - - - 32 Charlotte Street. The Home of Good Shoes.

Skinner's Carpet Warerooms, SPRING 1908.

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WE TRUST YOU. \$1.00 a week pays the bill. Your business is private. Pay at the store. We send no collectors. Let us supply your clothing needs. Latest styles in Ladies' and Gentlemen's wearing apparel. Satisfaction assured or money back. Your credit is good at J. CARTER'S, 48 Mill St. Phone 1604.

Bargains at McLean's.

McLEAN'S DEPARTMENT STORE, Mill St.

VALUABLE ROYAL JEWELS.

When King Edward is in State attire, as for a drawing-room or a levee, his breast glitters under its burden of masses of precious stones. The total value of all the decorations belonging to His Majesty is not known, but it must amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars.

ROYAL BIRTH. Among foreign orders the ancient Order of the Golden Piece takes a prominent place, but its jewel pales before that of the Russian Order of St. Andrew. The King's badge of the latter order is a scintillating yellow diamond, in the center being the figure of St. Andrew. The rest of a badge, which is of a fair size, is set with diamonds, worth thousands of dollars, while a double-headed eagle surmounts all.

IMPORTANT ORDERS. The most important of all King Edward's orders, which number in all nearly one hundred, is, of course, that of the Garter. The badge of this order is a Star and a Garter. The latter, which is worn on the left leg, just below the knee, was formerly made of pale-blue silk, but now velvet of a darker hue is used. On this is inscribed the motto, "Honi soit qui mal y pense"—"Evil be to him who evil thinks. The star has eight points, least worn by the King being magnificently jewelled.

THE CHRYSAETHIUM. The badge owned by the King of the leading order of Austria-Hungary is a very valuable jewel, but in point of age, it gives place to the Marianne Cross, which is one of the oldest religious orders.

One very interesting order is that of the Chrysaethium, of Japan. The badge of this is executed in enamel, and represents one large yellow flower, set among green leaves, and surrounded by four smaller blooms.

MASS OF DIAMONDS. Other British orders are those of the Bath, the Star of India, St. Michael and St. George, and the Indian Empire. The badge of the second of these is an onyx cameo of Queen Victoria, set in an ornamental oval, containing the motto of the order—"Heaven's Light our Guide"—surmounted by a star composed of diamonds.

A PARADOX OF POETS. "Poets have always had scanty encouragement." "Yes," answered the sad eyed youth with inky fingers, "The idea seems to be that poetry is something everybody ought to read and nobody ought to write."

Alcohol. A Strong Tonic - Without Alcohol. A Body Builder - Without Alcohol. A Blood Purifier - Without Alcohol. A Great Alternative - Without Alcohol. A Doctor's Medicine - Without Alcohol. Ayer's Sarsaparilla - Without Alcohol. We have no secret. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. This formula is of our own making. It is better without alcohol than with it.