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An Arab Welcome.

The walled City of Taif, one of the chief cities of the new kingdom of Hedjaz, in Arabia, with its fine barracks built by the Turks, is of considerable size, but dotted on the banks of the wadis are numerous villas and gardens of the great sherrif families. Running water from many springs irrigate these gardens, many fanning miles down the wadi, to lose themselves finally in the sandy valleys.

To meet the nobles of the Prophet's tribe, the Koreish, in their own homes, is an experience indeed; their world-famous hospitality and gracious courtesy conjure up visions of Harun el Raschid and the long lost glories of the Caliphate.

The stately dignity of their welcome, the salute on the cheek, the murmured prayer to Allah to guard and keep you, the graceful compliment that you are now in your own house charms the weary traveller as he is led to the guest chamber. This is usually a room extending the whole length of the house on the top floor, with windows on three sides, bare of furniture, but with richly covered divans along the wall and in each window embrasure; the ceiling is of rosewood brought from India, and the carpets on the floor are of surpassing richness, the work of the master hands of the Shiraz and Bukhara. One sits and drinks the coffee thrice offered, followed by green tea, in an environment truly Eastern.

Gardens of Remarkable Beauty.
Dazzling white, to the vision a few hundred yards from Taif is the palace of Shubra, built by the predecessor of King Hussein at vast expense, the material for its construction and furniture being brought by camel from the coast. While all around are rugged and volcanic hills, stony tracts sparsely covered with light shrub and bush, and sandy wadis, there rises in the midst of this desolation a palace with gardens of remarkable beauty, the latter surrounded by a mud wall of twelve feet to fifteen feet in height. It is hard to depict the contrast between the arid barrenness outside and the verdant loveliness within the garden walls. Here, under the shade of a tree, a riot of color tests the eye. The rich robes of the Ashraf—with their slaves, jet black in color, behind them—silent, inscrutable, the hint of their fanliyah just showing from the

circle, the marble fountain with gold fish idly swimming to and fro, the crimson glory of the bougainvillea, the perfume of the roses unite to form the setting of a picture as romantic and as beautiful as any painted by historians of those Eastern days of old.

Britain's Great Treasures of Art.

The story goes that a United States syndicate of art millionaires, anxious to secure some of the treasures of the National Gallery in London, once approached the authorities and asked how many millions they would take for the building and its contents. "How many millions will you take for your navy?" was the question asked in reply.

"Oh, our navy is not for sale. It belongs to the country and the American people."

"Exactly. And the National Gallery is the property of Britons. The wealth of the United States couldn't buy it."

This fact is not appreciated by the majority of people. The National Gallery, with its 3,424 priceless pictures, belongs to the people of Great Britain. It is as much their property as the public parks.

The collection cannot be valued in money, because it is unique. The Gallery is unequalled for its wide scope and wealth of pictures. It includes all schools, and is the finest representation of the world's art.

There you will find the costliest as well as the oldest pictures. In one room are some Graeco-Roman portraits, painted in wax 1,800 years ago. They were discovered in cases of mummies in Egypt, and are wonderful examples of the art of the ancients.

In the rooms devoted to the Italian school are pictures which were painted on the walls of the palaces of Italy. To secure some of these, the walls often a foot thick, had to be cut away with the picture, the stone and brick being afterwards carefully pared and ground from the back, thus enabling the picture to be remounted for the Gallery.

Treasures of Popes and Kings.

Pictures painted for popes and kings hang on the walls, and to almost every one is attached a romantic story, which is explained by the lecturer-guide who has been engaged to extol their beauties.

"Provincial visitors," he said to the writer, "have so little time when visiting the Gallery to appreciate its wonders that we are endeavouring to add to their enjoyment of the pictures by giving informal chats about their history. We want to tell the public how to look at their pictures."

The lecturer-guide will tell them, for instance, the romantic story of one of Jan Van Eyck's pictures of the early Flemish school. It dates back nearly five hundred years, and was at one time the property of Queens of Austria and Hungary and Kings of Spain. It was ultimately discovered in Brussels after the Battle of Waterloo by Major-General Hay, from whom it was subsequently bought.

Some enormous prices have been paid by the Gallery for pictures. The Duke of Marlborough, in 1885, received \$350,000 for Raphael's "Ansidei Madonna." \$360,000 was paid to the late Duke of Norfolk for Holbein's "Duchess of Milan"—the largest sum ever paid by a public gallery for a picture. Three other Holbein pictures cost \$270,000, while \$150,000 was paid for the "Portrait of Ariosto," to be seen in the Venetian rooms. Among the Dutch and Flemish pictures are two for which \$57,500 and \$125,000 respectively were paid.

These purchases were only made possible by the generosity of private donors, and collectors; for the buying of masters is a matter for millions. Many a masterpiece has been kept in Great Britain by people who have subscribed their thousands to the National Arts Collection Fund, which helps to raise the money for a purchase when the State cannot afford the outlay.

The nucleus of the Gallery, however, was provided by the State.

First Woman

Interviewer.

The first prominent "Interviewer" was a woman journalist who sprang into the public gaze in 1824, when she appeared at Washington to demand a pension. Failing in this, she became bitter, and, securing a hand press and a font of battered type, she began the publication of what she called "The Washington Paul Pry" and later "The Huntress." She made it a practice to "interview" every politician that came to Washington. If he subscribed to her paper the "interview" was a thing of puff and flattery, but if he refused he was given a column of outrageous abuse. She soon became the terror of the politicians, for her blackguarding was done with a mastery and caustic touch. So unendurable did she become that a grand jury indicted her as a common scold, and she was sentenced to be ducked in a public pond. The sentence was not carried out, it having been commuted to fine and imprisonment. She died in 1854. In her Washington life she knew and talked with every President from Washington to Lincoln, interviewing the latter several years before he entered the White House.

Slang Phrases

and Sayings.

Four Kings is a useful hand to hold in poker or most card games. Originally the four kings, David, Alexander and Caesar, that is to say, the Franco-German, Jewish or Christian, Macedonian and Roman monarchies.

The holder will naturally be all agog, like a horse in clover. The French expression from which this is derived is "a gogo" or "vivre a gogo" to live in clover; while the Italians say "agogare" to desire eagerly.

If he plays properly he may lead his opponent a pretty dance, bothering him and putting him to much trouble. The reference is to the complicated dances of former times when everyone followed the leader.

The opponent may get his dander up, or, as our forefathers would have put it, be filled with "D-anger," of which term the present expression is a corruption. This is usually considered an Americanism, but Halliwell, in his Archaic Dictionary, gives it as common to several English counties.

To get off scot free is to escape without payment of tax. Scot was a tribute or tax levied upon all subjects according to their ability to pay; let means the allotment or portion allotted to you, so that to pay scot and lot is to pay the ordinary taxes and also the personal tax allotted to you. If you succeeded in evading the tax you got off scot free.

Tobacco for Every Taste

London's latest expert is a telephone tobacco blender.

He is a good-looking young man in a long white coat with a telephone in a West End tobacconist's shop and talks to his unseen customers in far parts of England, "disgusting" their tobacco taste.

A call from Torquay, saying, "I want some tobacco. I have been smoking so-and-so, but it turns my tongue. I want something milder and with a little more flavor."

The Smoke Specialist asks the

voice if he goes yachting, if he wants tobacco that will keep alight on horseback, if his nerves are upset, and a few more such questions. Then the white-robed dispenser goes to the blender-chemist with his prescription, and they decide what tobacco to send to the customer. Eventually they send three variations.

"I diagnose about ten new cases a day," said the tobacco expert, who was a naval officer during the war, to a Daily Mail reporter.

"Sometimes a man telephones to say his wife cannot stand the tobacco he uses and wants me to send him something which will suit his taste and his wife's."

"Women telephone, too, to discuss a blend of tobacco for their pipes."

A MEATLESS HOT PIE

Another Use Discovered For Those Oxo Cubes.

Here is a recipe calling for no meat other than the concentrated beef goodness to be found in the familiar Oxo cube.

Peel and slice sufficient potatoes to half fill a large pie dish, add few small onions, also sliced. Put into cold water, bring quickly to a boil, boil one minute, then drain.

Put back in pie dish with few slices of tomato, season with pepper and salt and flavour with herbs. Dissolve one Oxo cube in a pint of hot milk and pour over mixture. Put few bits of butter on top and bake for two hours in moderate oven. It's delicious.

All dealers sell Oxo in tins of 4 and 10 cubes.

The Apes of Gibraltar.

Major-General E. R. Kenyon writes to the London Spectator: Will you intercede for the apes of Gibraltar? It is stated in the Press that an order has been issued for their destruction or deportation. They are the sole representatives in Europe of the Barbary ape, and have been in Gibraltar for centuries, probably ever since the occupation by the Moors. Hitherto they have received the protection of the Government, and when, in 1905, they had dwindled to five females the Governor, Sir Frederick Forster-Walker, caused another pair to be imported in order to save this most interesting tribe from extinction. My own garden and others sometimes suffered from their depredations, and an artillery officer at one time complained that the apes interfered with the drill of his infantry.

The Telegram from New York that Sent the Price Hatchet Swirling Through Our Store:

ANGLO-AMERICAN TELEGRAPH CO., LIMITED.

NEW YORK, Oct. 29, 13PPD.

KEARNEY'S, St. John's.

American Goods Dropping. Advertise. Cut all prices Twenty Per Cent. Hold nothing back.

G. F. KEARNEY.

20%

First ten per cent.—then twenty per cent. It is incredible! We thought when we staged our famous "Back to '14 Campaign" that ten per cent. was a generous reduction, though the effect it produced was well worth it. It showed to other stores the necessity for protecting the customer, and they followed our lead. Now—twenty per cent. But there it is in black and white—"orders from headquarters," sent from New York, the buying centre of America. Kearney is there—and Kearney knows!

20%

Everything goes into this Sale—lock, stock and barrel—giving you the benefit of next year's prices now, and selling you Quality Goods no matter how sheer the reduction.

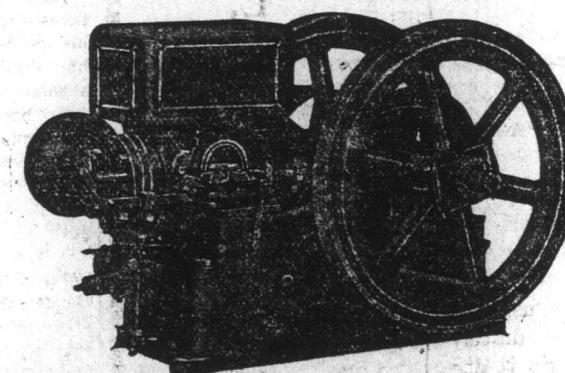
Cash Purchases
Only. No
Charge.

Kearney's

"MARCHING BACK TO '14."

MANUFACTURERS!

You can keep the wheels of industry turning at full speed by using



The "Jumbo" Stationary Engine,
1 1/2 to 15 Horsepower.

Heavily constructed, absolutely reliable and adaptable for any purpose of driving machinery. Can be installed in a few hours by our own mechanics. Phone for prices, etc.

JOB'S STORES, Limited

Tomatoes, Sugar Corn, etc.

New Stock. Lowest Prices.

BOYER'S TOMATOES—1½'s and 3's.

BOYER'S SUGAR CORN—2's.

BOYER'S EARLY JUNE PEAS—2's.

TINNED PEACHES—2½'s.

TINNED PEARS—2's and 2½'s.

TINNED APRICOTS—2½'s.

DRIED APPLES—40 and 50 lb. boxes.

PRUNES—60 to 70's, 70 to 80's.

DRIED APRICOTS—25 lb. boxes.

CALIFORNIA ORANGES—176's.

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PERCIE JOHNSON,
Insurance Agent.

RED CROSS LINE!

The S. S. ROSALIND will sail from New York on November 3rd, and from St. John's on November 12th.

Owing to the strict observance of the American Immigration Laws no person who cannot read and write will be issued a ticket for New York.

All passengers for New York MUST see the Doctor in person in the ship's saloon one hour before sailing.

Passports are not necessary for British subjects or United States citizens for either Halifax or New York.

For passage fares, freight rates, etc., apply to

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