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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. E. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1911



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# THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE

w King George IV Came to Endow

Hardships of a Welsh Man of Letters-Nine Novels But no Royalty Coming in and he Gets Into the Bankruptcy Court

(Times' Special Correspondence) London, Dec. 20—Princess de Polignac's \$500 prize which has just been awarded to Walter de la Mare for his novel, "The Return," has served to bring into view the Royal Society of Literature, through which the princess made the award. Though founded by King George IV., the society has pursued its way in such a quiet manner that until now, no one knew very much about it except those immediates.

ately interested.

King George IV., founded the society on the suggestion of the Bishop of St. David's, became its patron and assigned it an annual sum of \$5,775 from his privy purse. This large sum, His Majesty explained later, arise from a mistake, which he generously allowed to hold good, however. He had intended to give \$5,000 down and an annual subscription of \$500 afterwards, but the enthusiastic bishop talked so much about the king's munificent gift of \$1,100 guineas a year," and the papers

so much about the king's munificent gift of \$1,100 guineas a year," and the papers praised him so much for it that he felt obliged to acquesce.

The duty of the committee is to take all possible measures to maintain the purity of the English language and to uphold a standard of good taste in style; to encourage co-operation among those who are striving disinterestedly for the perfection of English literature, to mark the current events of literary history in England, to recommend the names of persons fitted to

recommend the names of persons fitted to receive the medals of the Royal Society of Literature, and to make awards to particular literary works.

One most useful enterprise which the society takes upon itself is the publication of works of literary value, but such as it publisher would undertake for commercial reasons. Lectures are also given by eminent men of letters. The committee upon which rests the responsibility of making awards contains the names of such men as Viscount Morley, Andrew Lang, Bernard Shaw, Sir A. W. Pinero, Thomas Hardy, Maurice Hawlett and Lady Ritchie (daughter of Thackeray).

John H. Sheeran of Adelaide street, broke his right arm while working in Stetson & Cutler's Indiantown mill yesterday morning.

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Mrs. Noble Tubman, Dodson, Mont., Jan 28, 1911.

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