

PICKED UP AT RANDQM.

I HAVE frequently noticed the prominence given to American flags on Canadian soil on gala occasions, and the good nature with which Canadians regard this is remarkable when contrasted with the churlish antipathy of Americans to anything Canadian.

It is surprising the amount of rancour Americans display when the Union Jack is unfurled on holidays. It must be admitted that the loyalty of Canadians to Canada does not suffer in the least from their good-natured treatment of the stars and stripes, while the conduct of the Americans towards our flag is not only insulting but utterly ridiculous.

It seems curious, too, that this same good nature of Canadians is carried into other matters of more importance than bunting. Canada uses American money at the small discount of 5 per cent., while across the line 20 per cent. is demanded off Canadian currency. While I like to see harmonious relations, I would also like to see Canadians give the Americans a little of their own medicine. There is a danger of being too good-natured, and I am sure Canadians would gain more respect from Cousin Jonathan if they would dispense with stars and stripes altogether and accord the flag precisely the same treatment received by the Union Jack.

The Egyptian Government is now surveying a route for the extension of its railroad along the Nile as far south as Wady Halfa. It is estimated that it will cost £800,000 to build a narrow gauge road from Girgeh to Wady Halfa, which forms the present southern frontier of Egypt. When the railroad reaches Wady Halfa it will not be difficult to extend it further south to Dongola. The establishment of rapid communication between Cairo and upper Nubia would enable the Khedive rapidly to transport an Egyptian army to the frontier of the Soudan, and all the British officers now in Egypt believe that as soon as such an improvement is carried out the Soudan will fall again into the hands of Egypt and without a blow.

An English gentleman now in

Victoria informs me that several prominent leaders of society in London have inaugurated a rather startling custom, which is being widely discussed in Mayfair and Belgravia. They have decided never to invite husband and wife to the same dinner party, rightly concluding that a married couple see quite enough of each other in their own home without wanting to be chained together in public. The woman is undoubtedly more attractive to the male guests, displays more clan and verve when free from the restraining presence of her lord, and is, consequently, a more useful guest as far as the success of the function in question is concerned. The man, on the other hand, never talks better, is never more original or more entertaining than when his better half is absent, and, consequently, unable to take mental notes of his remarks, on which to base an omnious cross-examination later on.

PHILIP.

THE TWENTY-FOURTH.

The celebration of Her Majesty's birthday was creditable to all concerned. Perhaps the most interesting event was the lacrosse match between the clubs of Victoria and New Westminster. This was the finest exhibition of the Canadian national game that has ever been seen in this province. The play of the Cullin brothers and Doherty was simply marvellous. The regatta and park illumination were also worthy of remark. Altogether, the celebration was one that will long be remembered in the city of Victoria.

LACROSSE.

This day week will witness the second lacrosse match in Victoria this season, when Vancouver and Victoria will cross sticks for the championship. The home club, it is expected, will place a good team in the field to retain the honors won last Monday afternoon in their match with Westminster. Vancouver has a strong team and will appear on the field determined to win. The boys in blue and white should take good care of themselves in the interval and be in as good shape as possible.

THE HOME JOURNAL, \$1 per year.

JUSTICE PREVAILED.

There was once a robber in Cairo who fell from the second story of a house he was trying to enter and broke his leg, says Harper's Young People. Thereupon, he went to the cadi and complained. The man's window was badly made, and he wanted justice. The cadi said that was reasonable, and he summoned the owner of the house. The owner confessed that the house was poorly built, but claimed that the carpenter was to blame and not he.

This struck the cadi as sound logic, and he sent for the carpenter. "The charge is, alas! too true," said the carpenter; "but the masonry was at fault, and I could not fit a good window." So the cadi, impressed with the reasonableness of the argument, sent for the mason.

The mason pleaded guilty, but explained that a pretty girl in a blue gown had passed the building while he was at work, and that his attention had been diverted from his work. The cadi thereupon demanded that the girl be brought before him.

"It is true," she said, "that I am pretty, but it's no fault of mine. If my gown attracted the mason, the dyer should be punished and not I." "Quite true," said the cadi; "send for the dyer."

The dyer was brought to the bar, and, hoping to help his business, he pleaded guilty. That settled it. The cadi told his robber to take the guilty wretch to his house and hang him from the doorsill, and the populace rejoiced that justice had been done. But pretty soon the crowd returned to the cadi's house complaining that the dyer was too long to be hanged from his doorsill. "Oh, well," said the cadi, who by that time was suffering with ennui, "go find a short dyer and hang him. Justice shall prevail!"

NO FOREIGN COIN RECEIVED

"Give me a few cents, sir, to"—

"Here. Here's a nickel for you, poor fellow."

"Thank you, sir; but—er—this is American money, sir, and there is a discount on American coin."

First Reporter—Have you made any "scoops" lately?

Second reporter—Cert'. I have announced that a man committed suicide on Rock Bay Bridge before he knows it himself.

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