Wives of Noted Novelists §

London Adbertiser.

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LONDON, THURSDAY, MARCH 15.

The City's Growth. The assertion of a real estate dealer, marked increase in the rate of taxthat a thousand families in this district are contemplating moving into ernment has grown much faster than ler's desk for his bill, and was aston-London, and are making inquiries as the increase of population, and considished to find it so large. He felt that to property here, may be an exaggeramarkable activity in building during and other public services, but there him, exclaiming: the past few years have not been are evidences of a tendency to municicaused entirely by the natural increase pal extravagance, which must be careof population, or by the demand for fully watched. The Ontario Governlabor, caused by the expansion of local ment's proposal to enlarge the county industries, although the latter developcouncils is not a step in the direction ment has been very satisfactory. There of economy. is a constant movement to London from all parts of this western peninsula of people who are attracted by the city's advantages as a place of residence. Many of these are farmers and businessmen who have acquired a competence. They hope to find more indisposition to accept the ballot as a 50 cents on the dollar. comfort and enjoyment in a larger community, where their children also will have better educational facilities, and wider opportunities in a commercial and business way. Young men and women from the surrounding jority of 1,000. It it weren't for Totowns and townships likewise stream to this city for employment, and mem-

pleasure, and grow accustomed to it. These are some reasons for London's growth and prosperity. The city is planted in the very garden of Ontario, trade of Canada has been \$358,277,966. of it." and has a foundation which insures At this rate it will climb over the half-

bers of their families follow them

soonor or later. As the largest city in

the western counties, and the distrib-

Deadlock in the Coal Fields.

The anthracite coal situation is again assuming an ominous look. The operators, in their reply, uncompromisingly reject the union's demands The miners asked for recognition of the union, the collection of union dues by the operators, an eight-hour day, a 10 per cent advance in wages for contract miners, a readjustment of the board of conciliation and payment by weight wherever practicable.

The operators make the counter proposition that the award of the arbitration commission of 1903 be continued for three years. The operators make the claim that the miners' de- indemnity of \$1,500. They sit much mands, if granted, would make it necessary to advance the price of coal in domestic sizes \$1 20 a ton, because no increase could be made on steam shoulders. Yet they are satisfied with be sold in competition with soft coal. This would mean that the whole burden of the increase would fall upon still they do not ask for more than the householders of the country. The the amount of our old indemnity beoperators warn the miners that the retail price of hard coal is already as high as the public will tolerate.

The officials of the miners' union dispute the figures of the operators, claiming that the advance in wages would have an almost imperceptible bearing upon the wage cost of a ton of coal. The wage cost at present is estimated at \$1 55 per ton, and an increase of 10 per cent would be 15 This may start another deputation cents. The miners also point out that the increase in the retail price of coal following the strike of three years the wage cost of mining it.

The positions taken by the two parties are very far apart, and there 18,000 skins were sold at a total of 1s less than three weeks in which to \$2,000,000. The average price was somebring them together. The three years' thing over \$100 a skin, Behring bringanthracite miners will stop work on in the meantime. There is some expectation that the President will intervene as he did before. It would appear to be a case for arbitration. The public is anxiously waiting for As it takes four skins to make the the breaking of the present deadlock. medium-length sacque, only 12,000 wo-It will be the sufferer if the parties go to war, and a helpless sufferer, as there is no law to compel capital and labor to settle their differences.

TheCost of Municipal Government

The last volume of municipal statistics issued by the Ontario Bureau of which is up to the theoretical standard Statistics brings the figures down to borough to Wellington the British the years 1904, and contains valuable tables of comparison, which illustrate yet the "thin red line" has always the growth of municipal expenditures. This table includes 520 townships, 114 cause Providence helped it along. In and 38 countries:

1886. 1904. Assessment\$694,880,659 \$906,105,659 fairs. Total taxes tm-

posed \$9,009,385 \$15,553,950 Rates per head .. \$4 93 Mills on the dollar 12.97 Debenture debt. \$29,924,863 \$63,927,539 Rate per head. \$16 37

Floating debt .. \$4,841,717 While the population increased 8 per cent, the assessed value increased over 30 per cent, the taxation over 67 de Gisors, to his lady, Alice de Lisie.

33 per cent. The figures for the de- the world to know that he has worbenture debt given above are for the shiped the fair lady, Alice, from afar, year 1903, but they show an increase

It cannot be said that any large pro-

portion of the increase in the debenture debt has been due to the purchase of public utilities by municipal not yet acquired great headway in bilitles were due to the extension of of a modern antiquary. the sphere of municipal ownership, the ation would be a condemnation of the policy. The burden of municipal goverably faster than the increase of as- he had been plundered, but he paid novelist of Canada, went to the States sessment. No doubt the people have the bill and asked to see the probetter schools, better roads, better fire prietor. The landlord coming down in protection, and better water, lighting, smiles, the Frenchman rushed up to

Ten years ago the annual cost of the city hospital to the taxpayers was \$7,000. For the current year \$24,000 is

The Russian revolutionaries show an Bocker-No, they think he substitute for the bomb. They are playing into the hands of despotism.

Nova Scotian Legislature by a mahave a leg to stand on.

ing from his serious illness. The coming summer will probably see him, at uting center as well, the people of the 85, skipping blithely to and fro on the district frequent it on business and Atlantic, like that other octogenarian

> billion mark before the end of the fiscal year, June 30. No other country in the world can show the same ratio

Two Hands.

[New York Sun.] To me a fairer sight.

This other hand is knotted y toil of patient years; heart it oft has gladdened And smoothed away my fears,

It did not rock my cradle, Ah, no, it isn't that: It is the hand belonging To Casey at the bat.

The British Sessional Indomnity.

[Montreal Star.] It will be noted that the British members are to be content with an longer than does our parliament, and hey have the affairs of an empire and many of the municipal burdens of forty millions of people on their \$1,500. Men of quite as much wealth and of as important business interests as our members at Ottawa belong to the British parliament, and fore this last "grab." The reason is that the British member regards it as an "indemnity," and not as a bonanza. They reason-and reason rightly -that \$1 500 will indemnify the averthe sessions of parliament.

More Deputations. [Kingston Whig.]

It is given out that the Government may establish three technical schools. movement of great advantage to the railways and hotels of Toronto.

Sealskins Becoming Scarce. [Leslie's Weekly.]

At the annual sale of sealskins in London in December it is said that ing a little less and British Columbia about \$125 each. The prices show the high water mark, and none but a millionaire can afford to buy these garments in the future. The supply of skins has reached the lowest level, there being only 50,000 pelts from sealeries throughout the world, against about 250,000 pelts brought \$40 aplece. men can be supplied from this year's crop. But next season's catch may be

much larger than this. They "Muddle Through" Somehow

[New York Press.] England never produced, and probably never will produce, an army set by continental powers, From Marlarmy has been one open to criticism-"made good;" generally, it is true, betowns, 133 organized villages, 15 cities fact, that beneficent power which is said to look after children, drunkards and fools has always been most attentive to England and the United Population ... 1,828,495 2,076,970 States when it came to military af-

Love Letter 700 Years Old.

[Pall Mall Gazette.] While carrying on some excavations near the foundations of the old Church \$31 09 of St. Peter, on top of Montmartre, M. \$8,526,493 Sauvageot, a well-known French antiquary, has discovered a love letter which is 700 years old. It was written by the knight, Jean

per cent, and the rate on the dollar In his letter the knight declares for all that never had she given him any right to declare his love but that her image has been his guiding star for years, and that now, on the eve of battle, he wishes to send her a chaste

farewell. Apparently the damsel never got the

His Last Adiew.

[Answers.] A Frenchman who was staying at a response to the call, beaming with "Ah, let me embrace you, let me

"But why do you want to embrace me, sir? I don't understand." "Ah, saire, but look at this bill." "Your bill? Yes, but what of it?" "Vot of it? Why it means zat I

kees you!"

Hope Still Lives. [New York Tribune.]

Knicker-Have the doctors given up

A Sure Winner.

[Puck.] Si Haymow-Bill Cummings and Seth Parlow are both runnin' after Sarah-Jane Cornhill, ain't they?

chewin' gum like it wasn't nuthin' at

What Money Does.

(Washington Star.1

Liked It.

[Milwaukee Sentinel.] "Did old Hamfat, the tragedian, get mad the other night when the audience threw eggs at him "Not in the least. He thanked them and said he always enjoyed eggs with

Synchronization. [Albany Journal.]

Mrs. Murphy-That's a foine boy wou have there, Mrs. Maginnis; how build is he?

Mrs. Maginnis (with motherly pride)

—He'll be two years ould tomorrow an'

Like Dead Sea fruits, that tempt the eye, he wore born on the same day as his father.

Ottawa's Opposition.

[Brantford Expositor.] The present standing of parties the Nova Scotla Assembly is: Reformers, 13; Conservatives, 2. Compared Full with such a showing, parties in the Toronto Legislature are pretty evenly

Flight. [New York World.]

'Mother may I go out to fly?" "Yes, my darling fair; But be sure and stay upon the ground And don't go near the air."

Whitney Very Courteous.

Premier Whitney declares he is too busy to accept an invitation to a This isn't fair to the poor man." age member for his loss in attending Conservative luncheon. The Pramier is not going to take any chances of having some disappointed office-seeker put arsente in his soup if he can help to reduce rates than to raise them."

The Weakness of Temperance. [Puck.]

The great weakness of temperance is the deadly duliness of it. As soon raise of a mill or even half a mill as we shall have discovered how to on the tax rate is a very serious matmake the water wagon seem to be ter. Nothing can hurt the city worse going some, the problem will be pret- than a high tax rate." ty much solved.

The Lure of the Bargain.

[Woodstock Sentinel-Review.] Walkerville woman who was tall and thin and stately when she got on the ferry to cross over to Detroit. was noticed to have grown tremendously in her dimensions when she returned a few hours later. An investigation in the private room of the customs office at Walkerville revealed the twice that number a year ago. In 1890 following explanations of the remarkable transfermation:

Five night robes. Two children's dresses. Four suits of underwear Two cotton dresses, Three kimonas,

Six pairs of hose. The lady, we are told, was a prominent Walkerville society woman, and she threatened to make out a large list of other Walkerville ladies, all at the head of Walkerville society, who were accustomed to adopt similar methods of improving their figures. Protection makes it a crime to go out of the country in search of bargains, but it of people consider that the only crime consists in being caught.

So We've Heard.

[Toronto Star.] To prove that he was not dying, Mr. Schwab started to run a hundred yards, but fell down at the tenth yard, However, some very smart sprinters have done that, and made money

out of it.

The Royal Road. [New York Sun.]

Knicker-There is no royal road te learning. Bocker-Ever bet four kings against

[Kansas City Star.] Our novelists are exceptionally fortunate in their wives, and it is quite letter, for the knight was slain the world hears of dissensions between next day upon the battlements, and those married couples who are con buried in the trench, whence his bones nected with imaginative literature. this Province. If the growth of lia- have been exhumed by the casual pick Poets have been proverbially unlucky -not so novelists. At the present time the great masters of the novel are, with perhaps one or two exceptions, all benedicts, and what is more hotel in Edinburgh, asked at the cash- gratifying, happy benedicts. Perhaps it were well to take them seriatim Sir Gilbert Parker, though the chosen was a Mrs. Vantine, of New York, has conquered a considerable place among the political hostesses. She entertains the statesmen of the day in one of the most magnificent mansions in Carlton House Terrace, while at the present moment her husband and herself are at one of the prettiest places near Dorking, where the novelist is hard at work on an important new story. Yet another Canadian writer, who has made his home in this country, Robert s'all nevaire, nevaire see you again, Barr, also chose his wife in the United States. Mrs. Robert Barr, who is as breezy and cheerful as are so many of her husband's books, was Miss Eva Bennett, and next year she and the author of "The Countess Tekla" will have been married thirty years. The love romance seems to lead men afield when courting. Mrs. Jerome K. Jerome, the popular "better half" of the writer who is one of our comparatively few humorists, was the daughter of a Spanish officer. She is immensely proud of her husband's popularity and shares in his many outdoor recreations. Rider Haggard, himself Rube Hardacres-Yep; but Seth a Norfolk man, married a Norfolk ain't got no chance with a feller like lady, and the mistress of Ditchingham, Bill. Why Bill seen her in town one where her husband's many interest day, an' took her into the drug store ing agricultural experiments have Sir Charles Tupper is fast recover- an' planked down fifteen cents fer been tried, was the only child of well known Norfolk magnate, the late Major Margitson. This year the popu-

lar couple celebrate their silver wedding, and it is significant that not till he married and settled down to home life did Rider Haggard begin his "Money," said Uncle Eben, "ain' like career as an author, while "King It used to be. It's gettin' folks into Solomon's Mines," was published six In the last eight months the foreign trouble instead o' keepin' 'em out years after he became a benedict. Mrs Coulson Kernahan is quite as prolific a writer as her husband; they have both paid a pretty compliment to a fellow novelist by naming their sea-

POEMS THAT LIVE

The Traitor.

[From "Lalla Rookh," Thomas Moore.] Oh, for a tongue to curse the slave,
Whose treason, like a deadly blight,
Comes o'er the councils of the brave,
And blasts them in their hour of might! But turn to ashes on the lips;
His country's curse, his children's shame;
Outcast of virtue, peace and fame;
May he at last, with lips of flame,
On the parched desert thirsting die,
While lakes, that shine in mockery nigh, But turn to ashes on the lips; Are fading off, untouched, untasted Like the once glorious hopes he blasted!
And, when from earth his spirit flies,
Just Prophet, let the damned one dwell Full in the sight of Paradise, Beholding heaven, and feeling hell!

WATER RATES

[Continued from Page One.]

duce the taxation, and of course the big taxpayer is the man who reaps the benefit. The small taxpayers and the water consumers pay high tax rates. "Well, we have some reciprocity in the city's affairs," said the mayor, "we

should go slowly. It is an easier thing "We are both elected on the platform of rate reduction," Mr. Saunders replied, "and I for one intend to hold to that platform."

"I am here as a representative of the city," Mayor Judd interrupted. "A

"But the water commissioners intend to present a fully-paid waterworks sytem to the people in a few years." Chairman Darch told his worship. "If we give the city a surplus we might be able to compel the city to pay the \$42,500 of debt charges on the waterworks debentures which the commission now pays," Mr. Saunders remarked.

"You can't do that." the mayor exclaimed. "The law has got you there." "We might charge the city - a year for water to make up for it," Mr. Saunders again suggested.

"There will have to be two parties to that agreement," his worship retorted. Will Move \$10,000 Reduction.

"I will state my position right here, Mr. Saunders told the meeting. "I will move to reduce the estimated revenue what amount the commission handby \$10,000, and give the people benefit of the reduction."

"What will that mean to the peo-

"It will mean that we are honest

with the people," Mr. Saunrers replied. allowed to stand over until Friday at "I am opposed to a reduction at the ncon. present time," his worship stated. "I At that time Vice-President Smalfis safe to say that the great majority don't believe the surplus is large man and Manager King of the London enough to afford the people any ap- Street Railway, will be asked to be preciable benefit if the reduction is present so that matters in connection made. On the other hand, I believe the with the Springbank fares and the direct way. Then whytry to city will profit by a low tax rate, leasing of the theater may be conwhich the handling over of the surplus will mean. If you cut off \$10,000 of revenue, it will mean about \$1 a year quarter, or 8 cents a month. Do you think any consumer will appreciate such a paltry reduction?"

"Would you think it wrong to take so a year extra out of the pockets of the water consumers?" asked Chair-

"Yes, I would," his worship replied. "But you don't think it is wrong to with cow catchers and the suggestion take 25 cents a quarter out of the is favorably received outside of autopockets of the water consumers? If a mobile circles.

get one. This season's flannelette wrappers, regular \$1.25 and \$1.50; sizes 32 to

Wrapper Sale, \$1.25 to \$1.50 Values, 75c

Just five dozen-not enough to go around, but those who come early will

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Popular Gray Suiting

Popularly Priced.

new grays include, homespun worsted, tweed and crash, with every variety of every

plaid, stripe or herringbone that can be imagined. Gray is one of the most beau-

tiful colors to illuminate with threads of green, red or blue and the opportunities

50c, 65c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.25 yard.

for spring suits made from these new fabrics are very alluring.

75c Blue Serge, 50c.

say this is the best value they've seen for

vears. Pure Wool Blue Serge for Sailor

Suits, Peter Thompson and Buster Brown

Suits for girls and boys. Value 75c yard,

now, yard**500**

Mothers who have an eye to economy

Still they come-more and different kinds every day. The weaves in the

Golf Capes. For evening wear, light and For girls-fawn, gray and navy, full length, sizes 6 to dark gray and blue, plaid 14 years. Still a complete linings, collarless and with range of sizes, at the small collars. Regular price \$10.00,

Black Petticoats.

Wash Silk Waists.

prettily made with stitched pleats, full

sleeves and deep cuffs. We have a limited

quantity of these waists, probably not more

than enough to last the week. Regular

Ivory Habutai Wash Silk Waists,

Sateen petticoats with three and four frills on fluted flounce. Nicely made. Spe-

Remnants of Carpet.

Still a few desirable lengths of Tapestry Carpet for tomorrow's and Saturday's selling. This season we have an unusual number of remnants owing to the culling down in the February sale. Last week a great many went out, and the finish of them is now in sight. Lengths from 16 to 48 yards. Exceptionally

HALF - BLEACHED TAB-LING, 60-inches wide, 32c value. Tomorrow, yd...250 HALF-BLEACHHED TAB-LING, 72-inches wide, 35c value for vard.....

Waterproofs.

SINGLE-BED SPREADS, size 66x72. Regular 65c and 75c yard. Tomorrow choice

GOLF COATS for early spring wear, hip length, al colors, at......**\$2.69** PINK NIGHTGOWNS, embroidery trimmed, \$1.00 value for.....

J. H. Chapman & Co., 126, 128, 128, Dundas St.

The New

Corset

The New D & A

Corset

man steals 5 cents isn't he as much a

The whole matter was financially

The estimates will also be finished at

The contract for suppying coal for

It has been suggested in England

that motor cars should be provided

the pumping station was again se-

cured by Wm. Buchanan.

thief as though he stole \$5?"

May or Says Gallery Talk.

good-natured sarcasm.

sidered.

until next year.

The New D & A Corset

is made in every style! High or Low Bust. Long or Short Waist. There is a model for every figure. Get yourself fitted and note the number inside the corset

SOAP used by particular people both young and old. Keeps the skin soft, clear and white. No other Soap is just as Good. 034 ALBERT TOILET SUAP CO., Mfrs. MONTREAL. and you can secure the

USE

BABY'S OWN

Better than all-Manitoba for general household use, being a blend of Manitoba and Ontario

HUNT BROS.



SOLD AND USED TORONTO, ONT.

spent nearly \$700,000 this year in entertaining royal guests and paying for

John Hay As a Letter Writer There have been few better letter writ-

same shape at any time.

"That's the kind of talk you hear in council when there's a crowd outside a dull or uninteresting way, so he could not talk in a dull or uninteresting way, so he could not write a dull or uninteresting way, so he could not write a dull letter. Some day, when time shall have made it not indiscreet to the rail," his worship replied with publish a compilation of his letters, they should be given to the world. They will prove to be not only an intellectual delight, but an inestimable contribution to "Well, your arguments look funny to me," Mr. Darch declared. the history of the time in which he lived and in which he bore so honorable and useful a part. It would be quite out of the question to publish them now, for they relate intimately to men now living, "When the rates have been readjusted all around, it will be time enough to talk of a reduction," his worship continued. "For my part. I haven't and to public affairs that are still in pro-cess of evolution. Unlike many brilliant letter writers, he did not write with the heard any great outcry for a reducobvious expectation that his letters wor Continuing, his worship said any debe published. He let himself go freely as was his wont in familiar conversation mand that had been made for the reduction was created by a misapprehenduction was created by a misapprehen-sion on the part of the people as to just wrote without saying something that the

ingly let die.-Century Magazine. the ed over to the city each year. The people read in the papers of a surplus France exports about \$5,000,000 worth annually ranging from \$60,000 to \$80,000 of eggs a year; half of them go to but they did not understand that much of such surpluses was mere paper.

To the Lungs.

to reach Victoria? No. There's a better and more reach your lungs by way of vour stomach? Don't. Better go straight to the the same time. It is understood that lungs at once. Just light this year only \$3,000 is being put aside to each consumer. This is 25 cents a for the Saunby suit, as it is thought the vaporizer and breathe-in the the litigation will not be concluded healing, soothing vapors of Cresolene. The medicine goes exactly to the right place. Your lungs quickly heal and your cough disappears. For whooping-cough it's simply perfect. 50 Vapo-Cresolene is sold by druggists, or sent express prepaid on receipt of price. A Vapo-Cresolene outfit including a bottle of Cresolene, complete \$1.50. Send for free illustrated booklet. LERMING, MILES Co. Ltd., Agents, 288 St. James Street, Montreal, Can.