PEARY AND THE NORTH POLE; LAST STAGE OF JOURNEY monplace. As Bartlett said when turning back, when speaking of his

Discoverer Tells His Story to a Great Audience in London, Eng.-Thrilling Events of Final Five Days.

and, on May 4, Commander Peary appropriate, in view of the magnificent p.m., Columbia meridian time. After delivered his first lecture in Europe upon his discovery of the North Pole. He spoke at the invitation of the Royal Geographical Society, and the gathering was worthy of the occasion. Filling the huge auditorium in every corner was a brilliant assembly, who gave

action and science. One of those who applauded Commander Peary most heartily was Cap- myself as for a race. tain Scott, who is leading a British exlecturer's native land.

extended to Commander Peary by years."

Major Leonard Darwin, president of the Five marches of 25 miles each lay of the horizon in every direction with Royal Geographical Society, the lights ahead of him, and weather and open a telescope showed no indication were lowered, and the explorer, amid waters permitting, he believed he could land or land clouds. a tense hush, began his lecture, which accomplish them. At a little after was illustrated with lantern views of midnight of April 1, after a few hours extraordinary beauty.

The Lecture. Commander Peary traced the progress of the expedition from its detance, but it was only momentary. My in this march. cheerfully stood between me and many later:

At the Albert Hall, London, Eng. and second, because it seemed to me

nearest the pole."

He continued: "With the disappearance of Bartlett I turned to the probthe explorer an enthusiastic reception, lem before me. This was what I had while the platform was crowded by worked for during 23 years; for which many men famous in the realms of I had lived the simple life; for which I had conserved all my energy on the upward trip; for which I had trained

"Now, in spite of my years, I felt nedition next month towards the in trim, fit for the demands of the com-South Pole. Mr. Whitelaw Reid, the ing days, and eager to be on the trail.

American ambassador, represented the As for my party, my equipment, and my supplies, I was in shape beyond After a hearty welcome had been my most sanguine dreams of earliest ity of the camp where a sounding could be made. Careful examinations

of sound sleep, he hit the trail, leaving of the afternoon of the 7th, we started tracts from the general beauty of

parture from New York, on July 6, or more a day. On the following spare clothing to lighten the loads 1908, until it reached its winter quar- march the weather was thick, but it When we arrived at Bartlett's igloos, tints of the moors stand out in pleasters near the Sheridan River, and the gave him no serious uneasiness, as men and dogs were pretty nearly extack on the pole. The explorer de- cautionary observation which indi- ance of a northerly gale gave us good whose waves dash against their preparations made there for the at- before turning in he had taken a prescribed how the march was commenced, supporting parties turning back from time to time until Captain overhead. The horizon was black, and Bartlett was the only white man ac- the ice beneath was a ghastly, chalky more, but I found that in the forced companying him. Near the 88th par-allel Bartlett started on the back trail than previously, and there was scarcely had nearly strained both dogs and in command of the fourth supporting any snow. A rise in temperature to men to the elastic limit, and I dared islands have a singularly mild and party, with two Eskimos, one sledge, 15 degrees below zero reduced the fricand 18 dogs. "When he left," said tion of the sledges. In twelve hours' exceptions, we made two of our Peary, "I felt for a moment pangs of actual travelling time they made 30 regret as he disappeared in the dis- miles. There was no sign of a lead

work was still ahead, not in the rear. The explorer continued: "I had now Bartlett had done good work, and had made my five marches, and was in time been a great help to me. I had given for a hasty observation (at approxihim this position and post of honor mately local noon Columbia meridian) in command of my fourth, and last, through a temporary break in the supporting party for two reasons; first, clouds, which indicated our position because of his magnificent handling of as 89 degrees 57 seconds. I quote an the Roosevelt, and because he had entry from my journal some hours

trifling annoyances on the expedition; "The pole at last! The prize of

MR. ASQUITH IN THE HOUSE AN M. P.'S PEN PICTURE

The Premier's Strong Points and His Deficiencies-A Contrast to Mr. Balfour-Mr. Asquith's Directness and Force—Not Supple But Trenchant.

Mail.1

the two Houses of Parliament was foreshadowed. Today the drama begins in earnest with the introduction lality is not apparent to the mass of got to the Roosevelt I was staggered their size, being able to carry a man by the Prime Minister of the resolu- the audience, and to this fact may tions dealing with the right of the be due the general impression that he Marvin, who had been drowned at the distances. House of Lords to vero legislation. Is is an austere man — a ludicinevitable struggle between the popular sense, and hereditary principles? Whatever absorbing in its importance-and if. -hardly less interesting is the char- The clear-cut phrases and incisive acter of the leader of the attack. Parin each arena. How does his personality strike the vounger men who see and hear him in the House?

As He Appears to Parliament. The first picture is that of Mr. Asquith as he stands by the box on the table opposite the treasury bench in medium height, upright, with feet planted apart, a broad back and shoulis the first impression to anyone who watches him from behind from in front, he is facing the Opposition squarely and ready to speak to matter and the style of the Prime Minister in speaking correspond close-by his own followers. ly with what might have been anticipated from his attitude. He may, on some later occasion, have to modify or withdraw a statement. but that statement when made is direct and unambiguous, just, indeed, as would be the withdrawal. His argument may or may not carry conviction, but it is thought, so with the speech. Seldom metaphorical, it is nearly always con-Not subtle, it is often trench-Above all, it is admirably expressed. The whole equipment is a fitting medium for expressing a personalty that has in it little of sentiment-not to mention passion - but much store of geniality.

Mr. Asquith's Directness.

The whole picture is the more striking because of the contrast with the the Prime Minister seems wanting, as nothing in the history of polar releader of the Opposition. The two are also in sympathy toward views which search could be more admirable than unlike. Superior in directness and matters when they are presented to which he had pursued his object. Of force. Mr. Asquith has not the quick- him by some of his own followers. It all polar explorers, he had most richly ness or the subtlety of his opponent. Is difficult also to resist the conclu-Less versatile, his intellect goes more sion that Mr. Asquith would not directly to the point; it does not his own choice have taken certain play round it and illuminate it on its lines of action suggested by his more sions give each his advantage. Many willing to acquiesce in their action members of the last Parliament will On the other hand, the strength of remember Mr. Balfour's speech in the Mr. Asquith's position is very great. will also remember the great effect "safe" man, and even to those who of the opening words of Mr. As- are in favor of an advanced policy it had been illuminating, he said, in party must be united in face of an nearly every respect but one-the way Opposition much stronger than it was in which he intended to vote. And it in the last Parliament. He will be remembered that Mr. Balfour, therefore, the strength that is posas a matter of fact, did not vote, but sessed by the "homme necessaire," walked out. Still more memorable is strength none the less great, because a debate when Mr. Balfour was prime history has often shown that the minister. The shilling corn duty had been taken off. Mr. Balfour had to ions of men than in fact. Moreover, face the malcontents on his own side he would not cling to office. a fac as well as a confident Opposition. On which serves as a useful warning not that occasion his amazing adroitness to go too far to those who might wish in debate enabled him not only to to take advantage or drive hard barsave the situation, but to do so—for gains. The position of a man. with the time being—triumphantly. It was its strength and weakness, can be of-

As a Platform Speaker. nmons. The qualities needed for each purpose are the very same, but roportions in which they are re-

(By a New M. P. in the London Daily cause is to be found partly in the nature of the occasion, partly in the Two years ago the struggle between character of the audience. Both these the issue artificial, or is it a real and rous travesty of the facts. In the abpersonal however, of any bond between a speaker and his hear- tunate than the rest of us, and his the true answer may be, the import- ers, a crowded audience is moved by death emphasized the risk to which ance of the event can hardly be passion and inspiration. There is little we had all been sbjected, for there over-estimated. But if the occasion is of either in Mr. Asquith. Hence, was not one of us but had been in the

> logic are always good to hear, always a public meeting. In the House of Commons it is difbut, whichever may be committee,

comed more than declamation. audience, listless in hearing loose tions existing in the central polar the House of Commons. A figure of generalities, is always ready to appre- basin had been for the first time seciate concise, cogent, and virile arguders, and a large head with whitishgrey hair set firm upon them. Such
the absence of any passion diminishes the fortunate factor of not unusual the effect, but the diminution is not depth of snow on the icefield, and the Viewed so great. Moreover the absence of non-occurrence of strong easterly or such an appeal is almost made good westerly winds while the expedition by the support which is evoked by them with force and directness. The the personal feelings of affection and

It is a difficult task that is now set eral motion. before Mr. Asquith, the more so because it is novel. How he will peraccurately foreshadow. The onlooker can only conjecture the elements clear and it is logical. As with the of strength and weakness. Of weakness first. The Liberal and Labor parties are distinct. The difference between them may, in theory, be one of kind, but so far as immediate politics are concerned it is a difference of degree only. But the possible points of conflict between the Liberals and the Nationalist members are important. The need, therefore, for suppleness (using the word in its best sense) and for sympathetic relations with them is urgent. In this respect for the length of his polar service; and opposites—but they are very he does not himself hold on certain

various sides. Thus different occa- adventurous colleagues, but has been debate upon old-age pensions. They By many Liberals he is regarded as a quith's reply. Mr. Balfour's speech is manifest that the action of the whole

necessity has existed more in the opinan achievement which Mr. Asquith ten analyzed in view of his character

might not have been able to perform. and history. It is no such analysis of 34,000,000 men at the beginning of the remain. the Prime Minister that has been at As a platform speaker Mr. Asquith tempted, but only a sketch of the is less effective than in the House of traits of which such an analysis might reveal the causes. It is no Cromwell who is here: no Gladstone: but vet man of eminent narts and qualities. quired are different. It is not a dif- what varifies will the historian pass terence of kind, but of emphasis. The on the occasion and on the man? on the occasion and on the man?

three centuries, my dream and goal for twenty years; mine at last! I can- Home of the not bring myself to realize it. "It all seems so simple and com-monplace. As Bartlett said when being in these exclusive regions, which

no mortal had ever penetrated before:

It is just like every day!'

'When our igloos were completed we had our dinner, the dogs were doublerationed, and I wrote up my notes and went to sleep. I turned out to be in readiness for an observation at 6 observations at Columbian meridian midnight, which observations indicated our position as being beyond the pole. "I then returned to camp in time for another set of observations at 6 a.m. of the 7th, Columbia time. which were later followed by a final satisfactory series of observations at Columbia noon of the 7th. As the result of these observations my flag was disobserved in these trips, or in the vicin-

Eventful Return. "Leaving the camp about 4 o'clock the others to break camp and follow. on our return, having again double-fed the dogs, repaired the sledges for For four days they made 25 miles the last time, and discarded all our marches in one return. We pictured the old trail again north of the sevigloos, followed it beyond fifth, and at the big lead lost it finally. From here we followed Bartlett's trail, and on April 23 our sledges passed up

the vertical edge of the glacier fringe, a little west of Cape Columbia. "When the last sledge came up thought my Eskimos had gone crazy. They yelled and sang and danced themselves exhausted. As Otah sat down on his sledge, he remarked in Eskimo, 'The devil is asleep or having trouble with his wife, or we never

should have come back so easily." "A few hours later we arrived at Crane City under the bluffs of Cape Columbia, and after putting four faithful dogs to keep them quiet, we had at last a chance to sleep. Two days we spent here in sleeping and drying our clothes. Then for the ship. simply lifeless with futigue. They were different animals now, and the better ones among them stepped out with tightly curled tails and uplifted heads, and their iron legs treading the snow with piston-like regularity.

in another of equal length. When we possess extraordinary strength head of his supporting party. He had been either less cautious or less forthough place and occasion may com- leads at some time during the jourindeed, it is a revolution that is im- bine to rouse and enthusiasm, it is ney. The big lead, cheated of its prey pending and not a natural evolution never spontaneous and overmastering. three years before, had at last gained its human victim'

What, said the lecturer, pre-eminnearly 20 years a thorough knowledge of all the details of Arctic work, ferent. A second-reading debate may equipment, methods, clothing, rations, differ largely from a discussion in capabilities of Eskimos and dogs, and the contingencies of ice travel had the order of the day, argument is wel- been gained. In the previous expedi-The tion a true knowledge of actual condicured, and with this combination it was on the ice. Such wind as they did have was from the north, and had the respect with which he is regarded effect of keeping the ice crowded

"On Aug. 26," he added, "I landed the last of my faithful Eskimos at form it only the event can prove and Cape York. On Sept. 5 the expedition only his more intimate colleagues can arrived at the wireless station at Indian Harbor, on the Labrador coast, whence, on the 6th, the message, 'Stars and Stripes nailed to the North Pole' was sent vibrating southward through the crisp Labrador air."

against the land and preventing lat-

Three Explorers' Tribute. A vote of thanks to the explorer was moved by Admiral Sir George Nares and seconded by Admiral Sir Lewis Beaumont-both famous Arctic explorers.

Captain Scott, in supporting, said Commander Peary stood pre-eminent among the polar explorers of all times the unconquerable persistence with deserved the fulfillment of that great enterprise which had been the main object of his life.

Subsequently the president presented a special gold medal to Commander Peary and a silver replica to Captain Bartlett, saying that this country could take a national pride in the expedi-

THE GROWTH OF LANGUAGES.

There is an interesting and from the national point of view a satisfactory statement in the statistics lately pubthe growth of modern languages. According to the figures given the English language, which a century ago was spoken by 20,000,000 individuals, is now the means by which no less than a hundred millions give expressions to their views of things. French, on the other hand, has spread less than any of the chief European languages, for whereas it was used nineteenth century, it is now spoken by 46,000,000. Seventy million individuals speak German today, against 36.000.000 a hundred years ago; 69,-000,000 Russian, against 30,000,000; 32,-44,000,000 Spanish against 30,000,000.-Westminster Gazette.

Shetland Ponies

Barren Islands in Which Herds and said, "Well, in did this happen?" of Them Run Wild.

They Have a Special Fondness for Children and Thrive Under Unfavorable Conditions-An Old Fishing Boat Used as a Barn-The Sheltie's Popularity.

Away to the north of Scotland lies the group of islands in which the diminutive horses commonly called Shelties have their home. The Shetlands are not all inhabitated, some of the smaller islands being used merely as pasturage for a few sheep. There is little to attract either the agriculturist or the merchant, so progress is slow; the islanders till their land by old-fashioned methods. played, and photographs taken of it and many of them still have recourse to barter as a means of obtaining cessaries.

To the lover of the beautiful and to the artist, there is much to charm. Some, perhaps, would describe the islands as barren-but what barrenness! The country, though destitute of trees, is so varied in the nature of its scenery that their absence in no way dethe landscape.

Countless tarns, streams and lochs all serve to make the coloring of the heather-covered hills and the gloomy ing contrasts, while near the sea bold hausted. At this camp the continu- cliffs tower over the blue waters,

mainland, with a length of fifty-four miles and a width of twenty-one. The exceptions, we made two of our posed situation, and compose one of marches in one return. We picked up land; but even the most adventurous tourists seldom visit them, because a doubtful sea trip in a small steamer necesary before they can be reach-

> Of the entire area of 551 quare miles scarcely one-sixth is under cultivation, yet the Shetlanders manage to de-ay!" maintain something like 100,000 sheep. 20,000 cattle and 5,000 of the famous ponies. The inhabitants are of Norse origin, and in their speech and customs retain many of the characteristics of their forefathers. They support themselves chiefly by the herring

and other fishing industries. They cannot afford to give much feeding to their ponies, so these hardy little animals run wild in herds on the bounds of pemmican into each of the hills or scatholds, picking up what When the bleak food they can find. wintry weather comes on they find their way down to the seashore, where they derive a scanty living from the Our dogs, like ourselves, had not been seaweed which grows upon the rocks hungry when we arrived, but were or has been left by the high autumn tides and freshened by melted snow or rain. At this time of year, too, they will gather in groups near the homesteads and are rewarded with an occasional truss of hay. In spite of this precarious existence

"We reached Cape Hecla in one the Shelties seem happy enough and march of 45 miles, and the Roosevelt they are extremely hardy. They by the news of the fatal mishap of or woman with apparent ease for long

shaggy coats and flowing manes and tails, seem somehow to suit their wild, rugged surroundings, and the groups of them that are scattered about add the needed life to the landscape. Perhaps it is a question of a survival of the fittest that makes these

little creatures so very small, as horses of a larger type would be useless on the boggy moors or on the stony hillsides. They have been stony hillsides. liament, platform, the council cham- good to read when reported. But they ently enabled him to carry out his task known to attain the age of thirty ber—he has his part to play as leader have not their most suitable form in was experience. Through a period of years and more, due probably to the healthful mode of life which they were forced to adopt, for they were born in the fields and lived and died

The Shelties cannot be worked until they are three or four years old, and do not reach maturity until they are eight or nine. Though occasionally employed in the Shetlands to draw carts, it is as a saddle animal ment, and in such qualities the Prime was possible to provide for practically that the pony is most used. The natural pace is soft, the foothold is sure, the intelligence is great, and altogether the Sheltie is thoroughly well equipped for getting over moorland in which larger horses would founder. Autumn is the pony's happiest time in the islands, for then it is turned loose to enjoy itself in the fields after the harvest; but that happy period is of brief duration, and after this gleaning the Sheltie returns to its hills and This little creature has an abiding

fondness for children, and it is a curious fact that boys and girls are better able to control him than their elders. His popularity is universal, rising from the depths of the pit to the heights of the throne, for the late Queen Victoria, who spent much of her time in the north of Scotland. showed a marked fancy for the Shetland pony.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND A DESERTER

Softness of Heart.

Many years ago, on an Atlantic steamer I made the acquaintance of an old lady by the name of French, the widow of one of the sanitary commissioners (if I remember rightly) under President Lincoln during the civil war. In those dark days of the republic, Mrs. French enjoyed a close personal friendship with Mr. Lincoln, meeting him often at the White House in intimate companionship. The reminiscences of the great man, saddened by the terrible events of those years, who would yet lighten up the gloom with a humorous story, were most inlished in an Italian paper concerning teresting. One pathetic incident she told me still stands out clearly, in

my memory. While she was sitting one day talking with Mr. Lincoln, a messenger entered, who, after a brief word with the President, ushered into the room a military officer who was closely followed by a sad looking, drooping young man of about 20 years of age. Mrs. French rose to leave the room. but Mr. Lincoln beckoned to her to

The story was plain: Here was a deserter seeking for mercy. The officer stated the case clearly and categorically. There was no question of the correctness of the charge 000,000 Italian, against 18,000,000, and or of the procedure and finding of the court-martial. The young man standing aside with

commander-in-chief of the army—the President.

Mr. Lincoln, turning sideways in his

chair, took a full view of the prisoner and said, "Well, my young man, how

The prisoner quietly answered "It happened thus, Mr. President. I received a letter from home telling me my mother was very ill and dearly de-sired to see me. I asked permission of my company officer to go home but I was refused. Two days later I received another letter informing me that my poor mother was worse, and most anxious to see me, and then I asked leave of the colonel to go, and he also declined. The following day a telegram told me that my mother was sinking, and that if I was to see her alive I had to come at once, and I deserted, Mr. President."

"And did you see your mother alive?" asked the President. "Yes," replied the young prisoner, ' arrived a few hours before she passed

away. Mr. Lincoln turning again towards his desk, reached for a sheet of paper, and without a word began to write. He dried the ink on the pad, folded the paper leisurely, and handed it to the

youth. At the same time, shaking hands with him, he said, "Go back to. your regiment, my young man, and be good. He had been pardoned! The officer was indignant. That was evident from his looks, and he even ventured to remark, in a tone of voice

"No," was Abraham Lincoln's quiet reply, "the young man who will forfeit his life in order to see his dying mother will not shirk his duties." A FAMOUS SONG TA-RA-RA-BOOM

Mr. President, he will desert again."

Recalled by the Death of Lottie Collins, Who First Sang It.

The London, England, correspondent of the Manchester Guardian, says: The death of Miss Lottie Collins reminds one how long ago already was the horrid fever of "Ta?ra?ra?boom-A new generation of men never heard that startling thump on the drum at the "boom" which seemed ! to explode the singer into a convulsive high kick. Investigators tell us It certainly seemed like a negro thing, for the first three notes came slowly ment. Has any song since had quite such a vogue? I suppose we all have first time he heard it the singer was Sir R. S. S. Baden-Powell, who was then either a major or a captain. "R-P." started Saturday night "singsongs." each regiment giving a per-

formance in its turn. Another memory of the song reaches heard and saw Lottie Collins giving the song, which already was an established affair. What he remembered in a way that he will never forget was that in her last verse she sang, "Tera-rah-hool-e-ay!" instead of the usual refrain, and the wild roar of delight that rose from stalls to gallery. It was the night after the famous Ernest Terah Hooley case, and the man who had been the idol of the music-hall for of London was revealed to him in that

SPARE MOMENTS ONES THAT COUNT

What You Make of Them Is What You Make of Life.

There is a man in town who styles himself "the man with the hoe," says His knowledge of books would make moors and makes the best of things he works at times with the hoe, he through the hard months of the year. hoes out other things besides "wise "dandelion." "wild carrot," etc. He is familiar with the best poetry and can quote freely from the best. Said he, as he sat in his little workshop, "I live after hours. During my working hours I work to exist, but after hours I am a man and do all that becomes a man.

This man lives honestly with the world. He is honest, not as the world goes, but honest to the true ideals of onesty. Do you know what this man does after hours? He may call to see sick friend. He may write a beauiful letter of comfort to a friend in rouble. He may sit up into the late hours of the night communing with the best authors. He may be taking A Story Showing the President's part in some entertainment, giving his services by way of public readings from things he has read. Yet he makes no pretences to learning and prefers to be called "the man with the hoe." And had Edward Markham known this man he would have given a different picture of the hoe man. There is no dearth of manhood in this man: labor has no tyranny for him, and he does the crushed spirit of not exemplify the slave. It is his "after hours" that make the man. In after hours man-

hood has a chance to grow and develop into a goodly plant. After hours are the spare hours of life. What you make of spare moments you make your life. Wonders have been performed by men in after hours. One hour a day would enable a man to master a language. One hour a day, and that an after hour, would make an ignorant man a wellinformed man in 10 years. Every man should have a hobby to occupy his after hours. Some men are making a fortune out of the odds and ends of time that other men throw away. of which we weave the pattern of life. I have no questions to ask about you you spend the noon hour? Where do you pass your evenings? What do you do with your "after hours?"

remote district of Cassiar. in British Columbia, in ten years, 1873-82, produced \$4,500,000 worth of gold

lowered brow was silent, waiting with a fluttering heart for the fateful words that would issue from the lips of the NECESSITY FOR LORDS' REFORM

Why the Government Must Take Up the Question-The Power of Creating New Peers a Constitutional Weapon, To Be Used in Certain Circumstances-The Meaning of the Present Situation.

in fact only one subject of real current House of Commons. interest—the constitutional crisis—and upon that it was not easy to say anything new, and if he were in a position convincing argument why it is not safe to say anything new he did not think

may be permitted to speak of another stated that if we can succeed in passthat was almost querulous, "And now, financial training. Perhaps in some re-

The Meaning of the Crisis. the constitutional crisis, the Earl of play to both sides. (Cheers). second chamber, that not merely harm-stitutional power in the last resort of less but valuable body in the state, creating peers. (Cheers).
Well, I read the history of the last The Weapon of the Royal Prerogative.

with, I believe, the unanimous approval chamber in the world. That is an thing to do-indicating the

Reform Cannot Be Set Aside.

Those are the resolutions. Many royal prerogative, the use of which no liberals say, "Why do you not stop one desires to see, does yet exist and there? more than one thing at a time, and upon. (Cheers). do you proceed, having produced these resolutions, to talk about the re-stitutional question. We have to face form of the House of Lords?" That is this business inspired by the spirit of question which I think is worth a the great Whigs and Liberals before few moment's discussion, because it us—men like Grey, Macaulay, Gladis one which I think has given occasion stone and Bright. (Cheers). I menfor some searchings of heart in the Liberal party. It is quite true that it cause all those who have spoken or is wise only to do one thing at a time. written, or both, upon this question But it is very seldom in politics advis- of the powers of the House of Lords. able only to think of the one thing at In conclusion, I will give you as a text a time, or you may find yourselves a quotation from another Liberal not doing little more than crying out, less virile than they — I mean Lord "Great is Diana of the Ephesians," John Russell. Lord John Russell in for the rest of your days. I should be rectained to the rest of your days. for the rest of your days. I should these words gave a caution which I like to explain why in my view this think is not altogether unneeded question of the reform of the House these polite days. He said: of Lords cannot possibly be set aside. philosophers, sentimental women, and There are to my mind several convinc- effeminate men are always making ing reasons why it would be exceed- lementation over political ingly dangerous, assuming that we Men of noble minds know that they have it in our power to pass the veto are the workshop of national liberty resolutions into law, to leave the mat-ter standing there. In the first place, I the heat and hammering of the smithy. do not think it is quite consonant with that freedom receives its form, its the dignity of the Liberal party to adtemper, and its strength." (Cheers). mit that it is not its business to say what is the best second chamber that this country ought to have, and that it is more proper for the Conservative

The Earl of Crewe, secretary of House of Lords you are without any state for the colonies, speaking at the remedy or redress against the unre-joint annual dinner of the Eighty Club stricted power of the House of Comand the Cambridge University Liberal mons under a Unionist Government. Club on May 3, said that in one sense this was an easy enough moment to make a political speech. Nobody could to the end of 1905, when the House of say that politics were dull at present- Lords took no part whatever beyond (laughter). But in another sense it that of registering what the Conserva-was not so easy a moment. There was The Creation of Peers.

But to my mind the last and most to delay in the reform of the Upper House is that if you do not do it you he would say it. (Laughter).

Before I say a word on that subject at all, Lord Crewe proceeded, perhaps I will. (Hear, hear). I have seen it will. subject no longer of current interest ing our veto resolutions into law it because it is an accomplished fact. I would then be impossible for a Conmean, of course, the great finance bill, servative Government on coming into to which the royal assent was yester- power to alter their effect. I think day given. (Cheers). I think our first duty in speaking of that great measure is to bear testimony to the work plete wisdom—(laughter)—because by of the chancellor of the exchequer. a very slight change in appearance—(Cheers). My friend, Mr. Lloyd George that is to say, by making the meashad not had the advantage of some of the first two years, say, subhis predecessors of having enjoyed a ject to a referendum or possibly by shortening the term of Parliament and spects that may not have been a dis- carrying over all measures to a second advantage. (Laughter). It enabled him Parliament, either of which things it to approach the great problems which would not be difficult for a Conserva-he had to face with an entirely fresh tive Government to do—the operative mind. But whatever disabilities he effect of our resolutions would be altomay have suffered under in that re- gether destroyed. Believe me, the Libspect, they were more than compen- eral party will make a mistake, and in sated for by the tireless industry, the my opinion an irreparable mistake, if willingness to listen to everybody, and it throws away the opportunity which the desire to be fair to every interest in all probability will be its only opwhich might be affected by the finance bill, which distinguished him throughthe House of Lords into more suitable to the needs of the coun-Turning to what was spoken of as try and something which gives fair Crewe said: We are told by the Opposition that there is no such thing as a I say so for this reason—and here I am political crisis. They say, "After all, getting on to ground on which I desire what happened? There was a finance to walk with great caution. This will bill. We referred it to the country, be the last opportunity because every The country gave what, we admit, was kind of reform of the House of Lords an assent to it. Now we have passed which has been proposed by any of about town has grown up, men who it. See what singularly moderate and those who have brought forward reasonable persons we are." (Laugh- schemes for reform, whether it be Lord ter). That is the present attitude of Rosebery's scheme or whatever may be the Conservative party. We are supposed to be stirring up strife. Mr. Bal-Lansdowne and his friends, or any today that the whole thing was of four told us in the speech at the Albert other scheme, they all limit the num-negro origin, and was picked up by Hall the other day that we had been ber of the House however composed, someone who saw its crazy fascination. making a dead set at the House of whether partly hereditary or partly it certainly seemed like a negro thing, Lords from the first—that from the nominated, and if ever they are brought moment we came into power in Janu- into effect they will have finally dewhile the singer moved in the curious ary, 1906, we had been engaged in a stroyed the one constitutional safe-deliberate prance of a cakewalk move-malevolent conspiracy to destroy the guard which exists, namely, that con-

particular memories of it, and one correspondent tells me tonight that the first time he heard it the singer was who lead the Unionist party and who which we ought to speak with the uteave determined to make the House of most care and thought. The idea of in Lords a part of the Unionist party any way introducing the person or machine. (Cheers). It became neces- the views of the sovereign into our sary to clear up the constitutional posi-party politics is odious to us all. Mr. Balfour, in the speech to which I have respecting men can go on as Liberal already referred, accused us, I think, me from a man who was then young and paying his first visit to London. It was—or at any rate it seemed to him —a particularly feverish London night. Something exciting had happened, and the streets teemed with excited young men, and some rode on the tops of hansoms. He went to the Empire and heard and saw Lettle Collins giving inevitable in any case to the very fore- it now at all? For two reasons. The front of political questions. (Cheers). first is that so far as I can understand Therefore, we have found it necessary, the Conservative party as represented by their leaders decry its existence alof our party, to bring forward the re-solutions with which you are familiar, of it as so ancient and rusty a weapon and which have passed the House of that it neither ought to be nor could Commons. (Cheers). In the first place be in any circumstances used. In the we desire to establish the sole author- second place, as I have told you ality of the House of Commons over ready, they propose to abolish it by finance pure and simple. (Cheers). I the manner in which they desire to know it is said that in doing that we reform the House of Lords. In those years was down and his turn had come for execration. The tiger side power which belongs to no other first because it would be a most improper argument which does not greatly affect advice on the subject which it might me, because there is no other first conceivably be necessary for ministers chamber in the world in the position to give to the crown, we are obliged to of the House of Commons. I will go remind the country of the existence of so far as to say this—that bearing in that power, because it cannot be denied mind the unique history of the House that without its conceivable exercise of Commons in this matter, whatever we are absolutely helpless, supposing second chamber the future produces in our opponents choose to be obstinate. this country, however different it may (Cheers). The stock theory at this be from the House of Lords, and how- moment of the Opposition is that they ever popular in its composition, yet I are quite willing to bow to the exthink it will be found necessary in this pressed wishes of the country, but that country to do what it is quite true we they must be permitted to interpret have not done in the self-governing what the wishes of the country really colonies and in other countries—to leave the financial power exclusively in tation involves the possible denial that the New York Observer. He works the hands of the House of Commons. hard and is not afraid of hard work. (Cheers). That is necessary if only for was really before the country at all, the reason that in this country the and the possible assertion that the fate of ministries must and can only composition of the majority is such many a literary man jealous. While depend upon a vote in the House of that no particular attention ought to Commons, and it is evident that if you be paid to it, you will see that one divide the financial control you also result or even two or three, may undivide the power of determining the der that happy theory be regarded as fate of a particular administration, entirely inconclusive. In those cir Then, as regards general legislation, cumstances we have no guarantee that you are familiar with the proposal to one, two, three or more general elecsecure the final sanction for ordinary tions will induce the House of Lords measures after full discussion and after and the Conservative leaders who rule a period of delay. You are also familiar the House of Lords-(cheers)-to give with the very important point that it way to the expressed opinion of the proposed to shorten the life of country, and we are therefore obliged to remind them and remind the country that this particular weapon of the

> Why do you attempt to do if needs be, might have to be called That is all I have to say on the conparticular, beconditions.

WHERE BACON LIVED.

Fulwood's Rents, the little Holborn party to undertake that task. Nor do court leading into Gray's Inn Gardens, I think that when you are proposing a which will be largely rebuilt, former-scheme for giving the second chamber ly possessed the privilege of "sanctu-After hours are the raw material out limited powers, that is to say, powers ary," and hence became a notorious which are to gain their sanction not resort of fraudulent debtors and still from voting so much as from argument more unpleasant characters. Yet this while you are busy at work. But and persuasion, it is exactly reason-dingy "dive" can boast of many glori-where do you eat lunch? Where do able to leave the second chamber in a ous memories. Francis Bacon lives condition which you-perhaps it is here in Fulwood's House and valued hardly too much to say—deride on his furniture at £60, a huge price for every platform all over the country, that period. Here the Whig Club and and which you say in the common Melbourne and Oates' Club met in the parlance of Liberals is not fit to exer- reign of Charles II., and here stood cise the functions of a second chamber Squire's Coffee House, from which at all. Those are two reasons. A several numbers of the Spectator third is that unless you reform the were lated .- Westminster Gazette.