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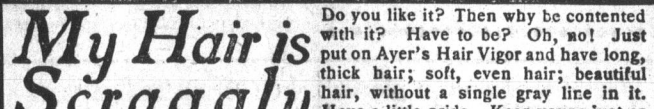
"Twas but a rusty little nail,
And on it hangs this tale,
For on it some one caught and tamed
The pretty new frock that she wore,
But some one only tossed her head
'Till mend it by and by," she said.
Another hour in play was spent,
And then the tear was quite a rent.
Alas, before the day had dawned,
The rent into a hole had grown,
So big that mother had to spend
Quite half a day that hole to mend.
And now that pretty frock she wore
Is not so pretty as before.
So recollect this rhyme of mine
And that a stitch in time saves nine.

"Up From Slavery."

Thomas Burt, who has been recently returned to the House of Commons, went to work as a trapper boy in a colliery in Hazewell, in Durham, at practically 20 cents a day. "My home was two or three miles from the pit," he said, "in a chapter of autobiography, some years ago. 'I had to get up at 4 in the morning to walk the distance, and the work was so hard during the day that I may really say that I spent my whole time absolutely between work and sleep.'"

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My Hair is Scraggly



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AN INDUSTRIAL GIANT

LATE LORD MASHAM GRAND OLD MAN OF BRITISH INDUSTRY.

Effected a Revolution in Weaving Silk and Wool, and To Him More Than Any Other Man Was Due England's Great Trade in These Staples—The Wool-Combing Machine—Inventor of Air Brakes.

If Gladstone deserved the title of "the Grand Old Man" of politics, Lord Masham, who died recently, had a right to be known as the grand old man of industry. To him, more than to any living man, was due England's tremendous trade in silk and wool. In the weaving of these staples he effected a revolution. Lord Masham was not merely a great business man with an instinct for surrounding himself with able assistants, another Carnegie, nor was he merely an inventor of ideas which he left to other men to put into practice. He was a great captain of industry, a great inventor, and a great man as well, with qualities of patience, courage, and determination that would have won fame and fortune, no matter in what occupation his destiny might have placed him.

Bred in the Woollen Trade.

Lord Masham was a Cunliffe-Lister, a description that will be complete to a Yorkshireman, as the Cunliffes and the Listers are two of the oldest families in the North Country. For two or three generations the Cunliffes and the Listers have been identified with the great woollen industries of Yorkshire, and it is on record that his grandfather, John Cunliffe, was the first man in the Bradford market to produce a bank of yarn spun by hand. Samuel Lister (Lord Masham) was born to the trade, his father being engaged in the manufacture of worsted. In 1831, when he was 16 years old, he was asked to choose between the factory and going on to Oxford with the view of entering the Church. He chose the factory, and before he came of age was a partner with his brother. It was about 1841 that young Lister began to study deeply the process of wool combing, and to make experiments with devices calculated to supersede the hand process. Many attempts have been made in this direction, but all had failed, and it appeared to be almost impossible to invent a machine to do the work. The hand-combing process was slow and costly, and unhealthy, but it was the only process. Dr. Cartwright, some years previously, had devised a machine for the purpose, but though it contained the triumphant idea, it was a practical failure until Lister took it up.

The Wool-Combing Machine.

For years he struggled with the problem, surmounting difficulty after difficulty, and risking nearly every pound he possessed in his experiments, but at last he was victorious. He was able to produce a machine that would comb wool. The wool-comber revolutionized the industry, and reduced the cost of preparing the wool from two shillings to six pence a pound. Moreover there was a vast improvement in the quality of the wool, for under the new process carding was done before combing, thus imparting a softness to the wool that was impossible under the hand process. No sooner had Lister demonstrated the practicability of his invention than a Frenchman, M. de la Roche, and rather than take risks in litigation, his patents were bought for £20,000. Twelve thousand pounds had been paid for the Cartwright patent, and probably the total cost of the invention was not less than £100,000. The rewards, however, were proportionate to the work. A couple of years Lister had the largest wool-combing concern in the world, and when his machines came into general use each one brought him a royalty of £1,000.

Inventor of the Air Brake.

On this one invention a great fame might have rested securely, but Lister was a born inventor, rather than a born manufacturer, and from 1846 until fifty years later his thoughts were always busy with schemes for lightening labor or increasing output. Not fewer than 100 inventions were patented by him in that period, some of them not less important than the wool-combing machine. The air-brake on trains, for example, was Lister's invention, and was patented the year that his wool-combing device was completed. But he could get no railway company to adopt the air-brake, and so it remained in abeyance for twenty years, when it was imported from the United States as a "clever American invention," and came into general use. But its real inventor got neither credit nor profit out of it. Soon after came the device for mechanical fringing alpaca shawls, another important invention. All the time he was extending his business, until he had nine establishments to look after besides occupying many hours every day and night with experimental work. He used to get up at 5 o'clock in the morning.

The Silk-Weaving Machine.

His greatest invention, if one considers what he risked, came after many years of toil. To the problem of utilizing waste silk he was led by accident. He knew nothing about silk, and was never in a silk factory in his life till he entered his own, but one day, in a London warehouse, his attention was directed to a heap of unwinning rubbish called waste silk. On learning that the waste was useless, and that thousands of tons of it were produced in a year, he became interested, bought the heap for a half-penny a pound, and had it sent down to Bradford. Then began the years of experiments that almost drove him into bankruptcy. He spent £250,000 in efforts to construct a machine that would clean the waste silk and comb it into fibres fit for textile processes. His partners quit him; his friends thought he would go insane. The monument to his ultimate triumph stands in the Manchester mills, which cost £1,000,000, employ 5,000 hands, and are a mile in circumference. Lord Masham himself has often told of his invention of the silk-combing machine and experts agree with him that a silk weaver would never have invented it. As he has said, "I

approached it as a wool-comber," and herein lies the secret of his success.

The Velvet-Weaving Machine.

Only one more of his great inventions need be mentioned here—the weaving of velvet by a power loom. Some years before he built this wonderful machine Lord Masham, speaking before a learned audience, told his hearers that £50,000 a year was the prize awaiting anyone who could invent such a machine. He had then been 15 years working toward the prize, and he must have been almost hopeless of success, but again he triumphed. A peerage came to him by right, for he was a great philanthropist as well as an industrial benefactor. At the age of 82 he passed away, his mind keen and vigorous to the last, a veritable giant among the world's inventors and manufacturers.

SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST.

How Dr. Wallace Came to Formulate His Theory.

Dr. Alfred Russel Wallace in his autobiography tells how during his long sojourn in Borneo and the Malay peninsula he formulated independently of Darwin his theory of evolution: "I was suffering from a sharp attack of intermittent fever and every day during the cold and hot fits had to lie down for several hours, during which time I had nothing to do but to think over any subjects then particularly interesting to me. One day something brought to my recollection Malthus' 'Principles of Population,' which I had read about twelve years before. I thought of his clear exposition of the positive checks to increase—disease, accidents, war and famine—which keep down the population of savage races to so much lower an average than that of more civilized peoples.

"It then occurred to me that these causes or their equivalents are continually acting in the case of animals also, and as animals usually breed much more rapidly than does mankind, the destruction every year from these causes must be enormous, as otherwise the world would long ago have been densely crowded with those that breed most quickly. Vaguely thinking over the enormous and constant destruction which this implied, it occurred to me to ask the question, Why do some die and some live?

"And the answer was clearly that on the whole the best fitted live. Then it suddenly flashed upon me that the self-acting process would necessarily improve the race, because in every generation the inferior would inevitably be killed off and the superior would remain—that is, the fittest would survive."

Ages of British Ministers.

Sir H. Balfour's Cabinet: Premier, Sir H. Balfour, 69; lord chancellor, Sir R. B. 59; lord president, Earl Crewe, 48; lord privy seal, Marquis of Ripon, 78; home secretary, H. Gladstone, 51; foreign secretary, Sir E. Grey, 43; colonial secretary, Earl of Elgin, 66; war secretary, R. B. 46; India secretary, John Morley, 67; chancellor exchequer, H. A. 43; quith, 53; admiralty, Lord Tweedmouth, 55; secretary Scotland, John Sinclair, 45; board of trade, Lloyd George, 42; local government board, John Burns, 47; board of agriculture, Earl Carrington, 62; board of education, A. B. 56; postmaster-general, S. Buxton, 52; chancellor duchy, Sir W. Fowler, 75; secretary for Ireland, James Bryce, 67; average, 56 1-2.

Mr. Balfour's Cabinet: Premier, A. J. Balfour, 57; lord chancellor, Earl of Halsbury, 60; lord president, Marquis of Londonderry, 53; lord privy seal, Marquis of Salisbury, 45; chancellor of exchequer, A. Chamberlain, 42; foreign secretary, Marquis of Lansdowne, 60; colonial secretary, A. Lyttelton, 48; secretary for India, Sir John Brodrik, 49; secretary for war, Arnold Forster, 50; home secretary, A. A. Douglas, 54; admiralty, Earl Caydon, 58; lord chancellor for Ireland, Lord Ashburne, 68; secretary Scotland, Lord Linlithgow, 45; board of agriculture, Alwyn Pellos, 56; first commissioner works, Lord Plymouth, 43; chief secretary Ireland, W. Long, 51; postmaster-general, Lord Stanley, 40; average, 53.

Sleepy Legislators.

The Parliament of Australia had an all night session recently. It must have been a picturesque proceeding. The ringing of bells, which occurred at frequent intervals when a vigilant member drew attention to the absence of a quorum, "supplied a kind of triangle accompaniment to the trombone-like notes of the sleepers." Under these circumstances the remark of Joseph Cook, who complained loudly of the "dead silence" of the sleeping members, must have been ironical. The sleepers were unmoved, however. The postmaster-general was in charge of the bill, but we are told, his "head began to fall gracefully forward upon his breast, and he pulled up by his collar, as if seeking more warmth. Mr. Cook was naturally indignant. 'Here is the Minister in charge of these proposals sleeping like a bird with his head upon his shoulder!' he exclaimed vividly. A little later another member rose to a point of order. 'Is an honorable member in order in snoring so loudly that I cannot hear?'

Australia's Problem.

Richard Arthur, M. P., president of the Immigration League of Australia, has been pointing out some startling facts in reference to the lack of population in the Commonwealth. In the vast northern territory there are only 820 whites, or one inhabitant to every 700 square miles. The immense empty spaces, he says, cry out for population. The world has grown so small that the only solid title to any part of its surface is effective occupation. Modern methods of transit have brought the vast, unoccupied northern territory of Australia within easy reach of the teeming Asiatic peoples.

A Queer Will.

John Stewart McCaig, a Scotch banker, left practically all his estate, consisting of property producing nearly \$15,000 a year and movables worth \$50,000, for the erection of statues of himself and his relatives and the building of artistic towers on prominent parts of his land. His sister contested his will, but the Edinburgh court of sessions has upheld it.



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"Oh, Charles, this is so unexpected! You must give me a little time."

"How long, darling?"

"Oh, I will just call mamma. She is waiting in the next room."

Willing.

"Now," began the philosopher, "take the life of your neighbor, for instance. He—"

"I do it in a minute," interrupted the practical man, "if the law would not interfere. He's learning to play the cornet."

Settlers' Low Rates West.

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