The British Naval Squadron the Greatest Ever Gathered Together.

Britannia Still in a Position to Rule the Waves.

Army and Navy Officers Must Wear Their Uniforms When Off Duty.

Symptoms of the Tremendous War Spirit Aroused in England.

Emperor William Gets Himself Cordially Disliked-Officers Tear Down Eis Por rait-Senational Theater Scene.

(Special Saturday Cable Letter to the countrymen are in danger."

"Adventiser." London, Jan. 11.-Great Britain is seriously and steadily preparing for war on a very large scale, at sea and on land, against Germany, or against Germany, France and Russia, should William threw down the gauntlet; it was promptly picked up, and energetic FEELING AGAINST EMPEROR WILsteps were immediately taken by the British Government to back up this action by a most imposing display of sea power. Under these circumstances it is almost unnecessary to add that the exciting political events of the past week eclipsed all other topics in the public mind and crowded Venezuelan question almost out of recollection. This fact, however, is merely due to the better feeling prevailing here in favor of gracefully submitting the whole matter to the arbitration of a permanent court of appeal, to be established between Great Britain and the United States for the settlement of all such questions; or, if there is no other way out of it, allowing the United States to settle the matter in her own way. When Great Britain is arming for a struggle, possibly, against Germany, France and Russia, the question of the addition or subtraction of a few miles more or less of South American soil to British Empire is a matter decidedly not worth haggling over.

BRITANNIA RULES THE WAVES. Office and other offices called upon to ises, which are situated on the corner take part in the war preparations is of Ontario and Duchess streets, and he run with officers on the retired list or more complete and up-to-date factory Birr, Jan. 10.—Now that the holiotherwise who are desirous of drawing sword in defense of the empire. Its general appearance and unique adthe excitement caused by the muni-The rapidity in which the various na- aptability to all the brances of their cipal elections, people are getting down val stations are commissioning war-ships, large and small, for active ser-vice is pointed to with great pride, but upon the manufacturing industry but upon the manufacturing industry but upon the manufacturing industry Jan. 1, 1896. ships, large and small, for active service is pointed to with great pride, but upon the manufacturing industry but upon the manufacturing industry but upon the manufacturing industry. The result at polling sub-livision No.

The result at polling sub-livision No.

The result at polling sub-livision No.

The pritish may have had regarding of the very best pressed brick, is four of the very best pressed brick, is four the state of efficiency of the navy in stories, being 100 feet front, by 220 feet the state of efficiency of the navy in stories, being 100 feet front, by 220 feet pressed brick, is four the state of efficiency of the navy in stories, being 100 feet front, by 220 feet pressed brick, is four the state of efficiency of the navy in stories, being 100 feet front, by 220 feet pressed brick, is four the state of efficiency of the navy in stories and the state of efficiency of the navy in stories and the state of efficiency of the navy in stories and the state of efficiency of the navy in stories and the state of efficiency of the navy in stories and the state of efficiency of the navy in stories and the navy in stories and the state of efficiency of the navy in stories and the navy the event of a sudden call being made deep, with plate glass front. The first upon it for aggressive action. the warships from that dockyard, ous, and beautifully furnished count-which are being promptly got ready ing-room, which is at once a key to to Join the flying squadron are but three out of a total of 3 in the fleet reserve which could be made ready for active service at short notice. The gravity of the situation may be estinated from the fact that never before in the history of nations has there been witnessed so powerful a naval armament as shortly will be assembled in these waters

READY FOR ATTACK OR DEagainst Germany or against the com-bined powers of Europe. The fleet being made ready for battle will be composed exclusively of the very affoat, and will be ready for sea on Tuesday next, and the entire Chan-nel Squadron, commanded by Rear Admiral the Right Hon. Lord Walter T. Kerr, with the flagship Majestic, a first-class battle-ship of 14,900 tons. carrying four 67-ton guns,ten six-inch quick-firing guns, and nineteen smaller quick-firing guns, reinforced by six torpedo boat destroyers, will assemble off Portland on Jan. 17. The flying equadron, which is to be ready for sea next Tuesday, also reinforced by six of the latest built torpedo boat destroyers, will assemble for final orders off Spithead on Jan. 16. The appointment of Rear Admiral Alfred T. Dale to command the flying squadron is generally approved. His flas captain, on the flasship Revenge, a first-class battle-ship of 14,150 tons, eighteen inches of armor, four 67-ton guns, ten quick-firing guns and 86 smeller guns, will be captain, with Hen. Assheton G. Curzon-Howe, C.B., who landed blue-jackets at Bluefields, Mosquito Territory, Nicaragua, in 1894, in order to assist maintaining

OFFICERS WIST WEAR UNI-FORMS. In connection with the prevailing war spirit here, it is stated that the Queen has expressed the desire that all British army and navy officers in future should wear their uniform only, putting away their civilian clothes for the present, like the officers of other Buropean powers, who are rarely seen more fully are the very extensive biin civilian dress, even when on leave cycle manufacturing rooms, one after they have almost invariably donned

scrofula

Any doctor will tell you that Professor Hare, of Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, is one of the highest authorities in the drugs. In his last work, Manufacturing Company's new home, speaking of the treatment of scrofula, he says:

"It is hardly necessary to state that cod-liver oil is the best remedy of all. The oil should be given in emulsion, so prepared as to be

He also says that the hypophosphites should be combined with the oil.

Scott's Emulsion of codliver oil, with hypophospreparation.

civilian attire, reserving their uniforms for duty, balls or state functions. Al it is said, will now be changed, and the clanking of spurs, clattering of sabres, and rattle of swords, will be heard throughout the land, and in the fashionable thoroughfares of the Metropolis there will be bright visions red. green, black, and blue, gold and silver, sparkling steel, and glis-tening accourrements, to the delight of the fair sex and the envy of t swells, who are not military or nav officers. All this, of course, will tend to fan the war flame in Britain and heighten the spirit of aggression throughout the Empire.

It is difficult to give a complete idea of how completely the generally un-emotional Britishers are IMBUED WITH THE WAR SPIRIT, but in every public assembly this week there has bene some little incident or allusion which has provoked a tumult of enthusiasm. For instance, at the Olympic Theater, recently, a scene depicts the last stand of Major Wilson and his little band of British troopers in Matabeleland in 1894, when, sur-rounded by about 3,000 natives, they fought for three hours. Wilson, in the midst of a circle of his dead, fired rifes handed to him by a wounded man, and, when the last cartridge was fired, taking off their hats, the few survivors sang, "God Save the Queen" on them and completed the massacre. In depicting this excluing event, actuoccur the lines: "Englishmen are not wont to wait when the lives of their Times.

there was a cry dreamatist, who was among the audience of "Thee cheers for Dr. Jim There was an instant pause, and then, with a roar, the packed audience rose in every part of the house and burst Mr. Thomas McCord read the address, out into a frenzied cheering which and Rev. J. Currie made the presentathey combine against her. Emperor lasted for several minutes, and then tion. all present sang, "God Save the Queen."

LIAM

personally is most bitter, and questions in regard to his name remaining of Mount Brydges. on the army and navy list are to be asked in Parliament.

Regarding the statement, subsequently denied by the colonel of the which corps Emperor William is honorary colonel, had burned his Majesty our newly elected room hung a big photograph of the Em-Dragoons. This photograph, after din- Toronto. ner, was torn down by a number of the bassador has taken the matter up.

pany, of Torento. Having learned of the completion of company, a representative of the "Advertiser" called upon them to look by the Monroe doctrine, The activity of the Admiralty, War through their magnificent new premremarkable, and London is over- was amply repaid for the visit. A The thing which strikes a visitor on enter-Portsmouth authorities explain that ing the building is the large, commodiing-room, which is at once a key to whole establishment, showing that The general appearance and hugely. artistic finish of this part of the estab-The size of the general offices is 35x45 feet, with two private offices, 17x15. The ceilings of these rooms are ter-cut oak, all the furniture in main office being solid oak, while the private offices are beautifully fitted up in solid black walnut, everything per-taining to these offices being arranged dispatch of business. Directly opposite the counting-rooms, the visitor enters their spacious show-rooms; in this splendidly arranged and well lighted room the company displays their varied manufactures—bicycles of every description and size, wickerwork of every description, chairs and cradies of he most artistic design and finish, ta oles of the same material in every new lesign imaginable; while in this room the visitor is struck with the splendid inish and superior workmanship of the goods made by this company, which a very short time ago could only be ob ained in the United States. Now owever, the wares of the Gendron Company are equal to any made on his continent. To notice all the de partments of this hive of industry would take up more space than the writer could put in a notice, but some of these especial things noticed wil e of interest to the reader. Next to the office, the company have fixed up a large, well lighted and comfortably furnished room for the use of their employes as a smoking and reading room. This is certainly a new departure in connection with factory life oining this room is also a room for the storage of bicycles used by employes, so that the men can ride down to their work and have a special place for their The different departments which we would like to have noticed the

the other, where the wheel is seen, been different, when officers have been first in the rough, until finally one nooff duty, out of quarters, or on leave. room. The tin room is also an interesting place to the uninitiated. Here one sees the small wheel used in the baby carriages in the rough metal given a bath, and coming out smooth and brilliant. The reed department is also

niture ware in all their varied designs 0,000 to 150,000 feet. We would world on the action of vise any of our readers visiting To-

> NOTHING IN IT. you for being good today?"

am just good for nothing."

Stoves! stoves! Baseburners, cook stoves and parlor stoves at the Bed and Hair Mattress Cleaning Factory. Dealer in general house furnishings. Live goose feather pillows and hair mattresses phites, is precisely such a made to order at JAMES F. HUNT'S, 593 Richmond street north. Telephone 997.

District Doings.

in a Straw-Cutter.

Budget of Items From Birr, Belmont and Other Places in Middlesex.

Several of the cheese factories in this neighborhood have their October and November cheese on hand yet .-Belmont Times.

Mr. Wm. Cheyne, of Belmont, has received word that his mother is not expected to live, and wished him to go to Scotland to see her at once. He expects to return about March 1.

Among those engaged for the con-George Almonte, comedian; Miss Gilmour, of London, Scotch vocalist; the Shand Sisters, of London, Scotch dancers; Mr. Duncan McMillan, of Dutton, piper.

A wedding took place at J. Charles' survivors sang, "God Save the Queen" hotel on Monday evening, the con-just as the enemy made the last rush tracting parties being from London; a few days with Miss Shirley Grist, of this but Rev. G. W. Racey, the clergyman ally part of the restory of the Mata-bele war, engineered by Dr. Jameson, been informed that the gentleman's Hadren Bidbard of Lonname is George L. Brownlee. - Belmont

Hardly was this phrase uttered when here was a cry from Henry Pettit, ent of a valuable was made the recipient of a valuable gold watch chain as a mark of esteem and as a recognition his services in the Christian Endeavor and the Young People's Home

KOMOKA.

Komoka, Jan. 9.-John McMurphy is buying up live hogs for Sinclair Bros., Miss Maggie McMurphy, of Hyde

Park, is visiting her friends in the vil-The house of Mrs. Hunter was regiment, that the officers of the Royal stormed last night by a large bus Dragoons, in garrison at Dublin, of load of citizens from London. Mr. C. Paul, of Poplar Hill, one of

in effigy, it appears that what really occurred was as follows: In the mess room hung a big photograph of the Emroom hung a big photograph peror in the uniform of the Royal home from a visit to his friends in ner, was torn down by a number of the young officers and thrown into the enterprising men, who is at present

It is said that the German am- down in Galt attending his brother's wedding, is doing a rushing business in the grain trade. In connection with his store he has put in a telephone for The Gendron Manufacturing Com- his own convenience and that of the public generally. Mr. C. Tilden, has returned home

Having learned of the completion of from Michigan, where he has been the new home of the above enterprising spending his holidays, considerably Yankified, but not affected in the least

John R. Hodgins, 106; Bart Robson, 22; Edward Dann, 55; Mr. Powers, 68; Joseph McLeod, 95; R. A. Powell, 25. Jame Hodgins, our new reeve, gave the boys a monster night's fun over this wideawake company understands the very first essentials of a successful all accounts enjoyed themselves

Mr. Wm. Burr was highly delighted lishment would do credit to any of our with the party at Mr. Jas. Hodgins' on Monday night. Master Miller and Edward Goulding kindly hitched up a team of flyers and took a lead of our inished with beautifully stamped sheet youth and beauty to the dance. The steel, the walls being finished in quar- storm and bad condition of the roads rendered the trip difficult, but they

went through. Mr. Andrew Fenwick intends disposing of his flyer, Phoebe. As he intends visiting several eastern dities. and laid out for utility, and the quick and will not return for several months. he does not care to leave his valuable animal behind

> The Enworth League concert was a gramd success. The visiting leagues from Wesley and Ilderton were royally entertained Richard Burr, our young huntsman.

> has just added to his already large pack of fox hounds a pure-bred beagle hound. Richard has proven that hunting in this vicinity is not only amusing, but a profitable business. Nate and complate is the new stormdoor in the postoffice.

Mr. Leonard Lambourn is again able to be around and to attend to business. His voungest son Tra. is also recovering from a severe attack of inflammation of the lungs. ing that Mrs. E. K. Sale, formerly of

Birr, now of St. Marys, was in a very pritical condition and that her life was despaired of. The Wheel Inn is doing good business. Travelers who visited this place during the last few days speak in

glowing terms of the treatment received. Mr. Gilbert took charge of Birr school on Monday morning. The attendance was fair. Miss Ida Collins, of Birr, left the other day for London. She intends taking a course in the Forest City

Mr. Maggie Brown has returned to Forest City after spending the holidays very pleasantly with her mother and friends. Skating is very dull owing to the

Business College.

heavy fall of snow and stormy weather. Mr. Wm. Dann, youngest son of Mr. George Dann, Birr, has rented the Birr cheese factory, and will, with a ompetent assistant, manage the affairs pertaining thereto during the coming year. As Mr. Dann is a very popular young man, we feel confident in the business.

Mr. Edward Goulding's single driver never looked better, and Ed. makes the boys get up and dust if they want to keep him company in his numerous

EXETER.

Exeter, Jan. 10 -The firemen held their "Well, my little boy," said the ur- A large and fashionble audience greeted "what does mamma give their enterprise. Of the local talent Miss vidson and Mrs. Billings were very good. "She doesn't give me anything," said the youngster, in an injured tone. "I for the Mr. M. Donald comic singer, and club Mr. M. Donald, comic singer, and club s noing by W. Lyne, both of London, of course, were the features of the evening.

> ILDERTON. Ilderton, Jan. 11.-Evangelists Jackson and Hill, who have been conducting special services during this week

Sabbath at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Dr. McAndless has been called away to his son in Capac, who is dangerously

STRATHROY.

("Advertiser" Agent, J. D. Meekison.) Strathroy, Jan. 11. The young ladies of Strathroy will give leap year ball in the Lyceum, on Tuesday evening Jan. 21. The harpers have been engaged for the occasion.

On Wednesday, Jan. 8, Mr. Thos. Milton and Miss Abbie McPherson, both of Caradoc, were married at the residence of Mr. Winter by the Rev. Mr. Anderson, of St. Marys.

Miss Macdonald, of Beechwood, is visiting Miss Jennie Sickles, of this town. Last evening the ladies of the Mission Circle (Baptist Church) held a very successful social at the residence of Deacon Chute, con. 10, Caradoc. Sleighs were ready at 10 cert at Belmont on Jan. 13, under the o'clock to carry out all who wished to join auspices of the Sons of Scotland, are in the social. A good programme was rendered and a silver collection taken up at the

end of the evening.

The Epworth Leaguers will hold a convention in the Frank Street Methodist Church on Feb. 11. Miss Edith Scatcherd, of London, and

The annual meeting of the West Middlesex Union, Lobo and Adelaide Agricultural and Strathroy Horticultural Societies will be held in the Fireman's Hall, Strathroy, on Wednesday, Jan. 15, at 1 o'clock, when the officers for the ensuing year will be elected and the annual report submitted, The directors meet in the same place on the same date at 10 o'clock a.m.

IN SPORTING CIRCLES.

CURLING.

FINAL IN THE PRIMARIES. The final match of the primaries for club medals of Forest City Club was played last evening. The following is Henwool, F. Beattie, C. S. Hyman, A.

Talbot, skip-12. Col. Macbeth, W. Bartlett, C. W. Davis, G. Gillespie, skip-9. THE TURF

THE CANADIAN JOCKEY CLUB. The promoters of the Canadian Jockey Club met the other day, for the rpose of organization. The following officers were elected: President, Mr. W Hendrie; vice-president, Mr. Robt. Dasecretary-treasurer, Mr. Lyndhurst Ogden. The representation so far of the different clubs on the board to be as fallows: Ontario Jockey Club. 3 members; Bel Air Jockey Club, Hamilton, and Windsor Jockey Clubs, 2 each; Montreal Hunt, Lendon Hunt, Toronto Hunt, Quebec Turf and Maritime Jockey Club, N. S., 1 each. directons will shortly meet to pass by-laws, fix dates of meetings, and perfect other arrangements, etc., such only having regard to flat races and steeplechases.

BURNED TO DEATH. Quebec, Que., Jan. 11.—The house of a resident of St. Pierre, River Du Sud, named Pierre Letourneau, caught

ire Friday night during his absence n the woods and was entirely consumed. Mde. Letoruneau, aged 50, was unable to make her escape in time, and perished to the firmes. SUICIDE SUSPECTED.

ard, about six mies from this village, died at her residence yesterday under suspicious circumstances. suspected of having taken poison. Dr. R. N. Fraser, the coroner of this vil-RESCUED.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 11.-The party of five, consisting of Purser Macdonald, Third Officer Rain and three Jap-anese, who left the disabled steamer Strathnevis on the morning of Dec. 24 in a small boot for Destruction Island. and were given up for lost, were reseued from the island on Thursday and brought here this afternon, all well. DEADLY COAL GAS.

Standish, Mich., Jan. 11.-Frank Larue, jun., and family, consisting of and three children, narrowly eswife caped suffocation by gas escaping from their coal stove. When discovered Mr. Larue was the only one who could make a noise. The rest of the family were fast becoming unconscious. and in a few minutes more they would

THE MIOWERA SAFE. Seattle, Wash., Jan. 11.-A special lispatch received from Vancouver states that the Warrimoo, from Hawaii, which arrived at 4 a.m., reports as safe the Miowera, the steamer supposed to have been swamped while endeavoring to save the Strathnevis. The Warrimoo spoke the Miowera on Jan. 2 about 200 miles south of Honolulu, bound for Australia, and all was

A telegram arrived this morning stat- THE DEEP WATERWAYS COM-MISSION. Detroit, Mich., Jan. 11.-The American members of the International Deep Waterways Commission will meet here arrangements. The official documents notifying the American members of the appointment of their Canadian colleagues have not yet been received, but the idea of Commissioners Angel, Russell and Cooley is that formalities should be waived and the work begun. A second meeting will undoubtedly be arranged for shortly after the arrival of the Canadian commissioners, Messrs.

RIGHT IN OUR MIDST.

Mr. Shipman, of Owen Sound-Seven Years of Acute Sufferi g-Diabetes Cured by Dodd's Kidney Pills.

all will be in attendance.

Owen Sound, Jan. 6. - Mr. Shipman tells his story in the hope that he may benefit others. and says: As the result of a tumble when a boy which injured my back, I have been troubled with weak kidneys all my life. For that he will make a success of it. He the past year I have been a great sufferer, is himself an A1 cheesemaker, and has growing worse until a friendly druggist adserved under some of the best men vised me to us. Dodd's Kidney Pills, Tests vised me to us Dodd's Kidney Pills. Tests themselves full length upon a mat of reeds of the urine showed Diabetes and I realized my danger. I had found it impossible when head of the subject, combs with a long pin tired to stand upright and at such times | the matted locks that have not been under was drawn down sideways. In all I have used about one dozen boxes and am now hearty and healthy as ever in my life.

> If you are bald, or find that your hair is breaking or falling out, it will pay you to call at Madam Ireland's parlors 211 1-2 Dundas street, who can positive ly restore hair and prevent falling out. Her celebrated toilet and shaving soap cannot be excelled, and her fine medicinal face powder is of the finest. These can be procured from Cairneross finest & Lawrence.

Business chances, articles for sale, houses to let, boarders wanted, male help wanted, etc., are all charged the same rate in the "Advertiser," namely. 1 cent per word for first insertion and 1-2 cent per word for each subsequent in the Ilderton Methodist Church, will | insertion.

AGED 13 AND A PREACHER.

Wonderful Boy-Evangelist Who Makes Many Converts. During a remarkable series of revival neetings held at Pertle Springs, near Warrensburg, Mo., this summer, a lad of

thirteen years was the central figure. He was Master Ray York, the boy reivalist, who has been regularly licensed to preach by the First Baptist Church of Warrensburg and is one of the most successful Christian workers in the state. He was converted at the age of six in the Baptist Sunday-school, and since that time has evinced deep and earnest interest in religion, coupled with an astonishing maturity of thought and command of language. On Nov. 27, 1893, Ray formally united with the Church, and since that time has been active in evangelistic work. On Feb. 9, 1894, when not quite twelve years of age, he preached his first sermon, which electrified his audience, and which

was, Ray says, as much a surprise to him as to his friends. During last summer's school vacation he did a good deal of gospel work under the direction of his pastor, and in the fall assisted the Rev. R. L. Kirkland in a series of revival meetings at St. Joseph, Mo. Mr. Kirkland pronounced the boy the best helper he ever had. The lad is a hard student and as soon as he finishes his high school course he will attend a theological seminary. He is slightly built and weighs only about seventy-five pounds. He still wears kneebreeches and a broad boy's collar. He has brown hair and eyes. His voice retains its childish treble, but is clear and strong. His manner is simple, earnest and impressive. In his work at Pertle Springs this gifted youth will be assisted by another distinguished boy preacher, the Rev. Ervin F. Leake, aged seventeen years, paster of the First Baptist Church of Mount Carmel, Ill., the youngest regularly ordained pastor in the United States.

Little Breeches and the Telephone.

Little Breeches was five years old last week. His five years of mortal experience have included a daily acquaintance with the telephone and, from what happened a day or two after his completing his fifth year, he must be a close observer. Little Breeches has very recently joined a kindergarten. His mother generally calls to take him home at dinner hour, but on this particular day she sent word that he would have to make the home ward journey of one square and a half by himself, as she was obliged to go somewhere else. He formed his own conclusion on general grounds as to where "somewhere else" was, so as soon as he found

When Exchange heard the call she asked, as usual, "Number?" But little Breeches wanted no number in particular, so the answer Exchange got was, "Please tell my mamma to come home. She's at Fourth avenue, two doors

himself at home and a little lonesome, he

got a chair and put it in front of the tele-

from the corner.". Exchange at once perceived that it was a five-year-old voice, and her general information helped her to help Little Breeches. She knew the number of the telephone from which the little voice came, and she also knew of a big house on Fourth avenue, "two doors from the corner," where the mistress of the telephone often visited. The natural conclusion was that 'my mamma' was at that very house, and that house is also furnished with

telephone. So Exchange rang up that house and gave the message. done enough to establish communications with his absent mamma, quietly hung up the receiver and climbed down off his chair. Just then the front door opened and "my mamma" walked in. Her son thought she must be a very obedient mamma to come so quickly but as she entered the room the telephone bell rang again, and, answering the ring, she got from Exchange the message, "Your mam-

ma has gone home already, Mr. Little Breeches. Of course, this rather puzzled mamma but explanations followed from Exchange, supplemented by her son's own statement

of the case. "Didn't you get any message, mam-ma?" he asked in a disappointed tone.

A Talk-Meter Wanted.

The man who wishes to take a short cut to fame and fortune has now the chance of his life before him. The crying need in the telephone business is a talk-meter, an automatic arrangement by which language can be measured off and recorded in specific lengths. The telephone exchange people say that the garrulity of some of their subscribers is appalling, and that the trouble is not confined to one sex. The sound of their voices in the telephone transmitter has for some people a great fascination, and they will be ringing up 'central" all day if they find the most trivial pretext. The telephone companies say that in this way a large amount of work is unduly thrown on the exchange employes. They hold that the fault is with the system, and that if the people could be made to pay according to the number and lengths of their calls, they would make more temperate and legitimate use of the on Monday to make some preliminary instrument. Philadelphia is approaching the idea. The Bell Telpehone Company there gives what is called a measured service, the "measurement" being determined by the number of calls or connections, each five minutes' conversation or fraction thereof being counted as a call. This gives subscribers rates in proportion to the use of their instruments. Some such method as this will have to come into general use if the abuse of the telephone is to be arrest-Howland, Kelfer and Monroe, at which Seven hundred and fifty million telephone messages were sent over the wires last year, averaging about ten messages to every man, woman and child in the United States. Telegrams never exceeded one per head per year.

Hair Dressing in Africa. In some sections of the Dark Continent great stress is laid upon the proper style months, no wonder that careful attention should be given to the process. Women demanding such service must compose or rushes; the attendant, sitting at the treatment for months, now and then snipping off an offending lock, to be a little later used in some form of original ornamentation quite unknown in nature's comely modelling.

To give full scope to her genius, this female barber so arranges the numerous plaits that the full sweep of native artistic talent may be amply shown. The long braids, dripping with oil of questionable fragrance, are made to form grotesque figures and shapes; and the recumbent lady must for hours be patiently obedient, no matter how lofty her social position, for a long period must intervene before she again submits herself to the severe and wearisome operation.

Minard's Liniment cures Dardruff,

ALFRED AUSTIN.

Successor to Tennyson. The cable brought us a New Years' surprise in the announced appointment of a new Poet Laureate. It was a surprise, because the literary world had pretty well settled down to the conviction that Gladstone's policy would be continued by his is found to be good it will last as the successor, and that the laureateship would be allowed to lapse, not only because it is an anachronism in itself, but because the choice of a worthy successor to Alfred Tennyson is made impossible by circum-

He is described in current books of reference as a journalist, a novelist, a poet and a critic. To the term "journalist" he is honorably entitied, for he has done acceptable work as special correspondent reliable remedy for every derangeand editorial writer. The word "novelist" also calls for no protest, because that word is applied indifferently to writers of good fiction as well as bad. But the words "poet" and "critic" are, in Mr. Austin's from year to year attest this great case, merely words of differentiation and fact. not of description.

Mr. Austin was born at Headingley, near Leeds, on May 80, 1835. His father was a merchant and magistrate of the borough of Leeds, and his mother was the you can reap the benefit of this sister of John Locke, a civil engineer of some prominence and member of parliament for the borough of Honiton. Father and mother were both Catholics. Though it is understood that Austin has forsaken his ancestral faith, this came from no lack of a firm grounding in its doctrines. His early education was gained at Stonyhurst and at St. Mary's College, Oscott, both Roman Catholic institutions.

From Oscott he took his degree at the University of London in 1853. In 1857 he appetite, dyspepsia, tired feelings and was called to the bar of the Inner Temple. But his heart was never in the law. He had adopted the profession only to please his parents. From his eighteenth year, when he had published anonymously a poem entitled "Randolph," he had ded der troubles, female complaints, and termined to consecrate his life to literature. That determination was openly voiced in a novel, "Five Years of It," also published anonymously while still a minor, of which he made himself the hero. Not till the death of his father, however,

Eas a tone full, rich, mellow, peculiar to itself, unapproached by any other.

in 1861, did he formally abandon his profession. Then he went to Italy, and in the same year published his first acknowledged volume of verse, "The Season: a Satire." It was a mild fling at the follies of fashionable life, and had a mild sort of success. But the young author had now tasted the full delight of printer's ink. Henceforth the cacoethes scribendi could not be curbed. The list of his published works is an appalling one.

"The Human Tragedy" is his most ambitious effort. It is a deliberate attempt to combine the features of the ancient epic and the modern novel. In a preface he explains that the present age is pre-eminently the age of fiction as Shakes peare's was pre-eminently the age of the drama. Hence, the form in which contemporary poetry should seek to express itself is the narrative. The poet must so far imitate the novelist as to make his story "interesting, and interesting to readers who are alive at this moment ' but he must tell it like a poet and not like a novelist. Acting on this theory, Austin has aimed at a glorifled novel in verse, with all the plot interest and the character interest that a novel can possess, plus all that higher and wider interest in the drama of human action and the problems of human destiny which the novelist, or, at any rate, the contemporary novelist, deliberately refrains from at-

tempting to infuse into his work. All this is nobly planned, but, like the rest of his verse, it is insufficiently carried out. Alfred Austin's is the sort of poetry that disarm's criticism. It is profoundly innocuous. It shows a wholesome ambition and an urbane temperament. In England nearly everybody praises it-even the critical Spectator. even the acidulous Saturday Review. They seem to feel that the author has made a praiseworthy effort to do his very best, and that it is ungenerous to mingle praise for the effort with any blame for the performance. But, alas! amid all this chorus of praise, few people ever read these poems, and fewer, having read, remember them.

Among his critical works, "The Poetry of the Period" may be singled out as especially remarkable. It is not remarkable, however, for either insight or acumen, but for a certain terrier like audac ity. He snaps at Tennyson and Browning and Morris and Swinburne, and, indeed, all his great contemporaries, and finds no great poet among all of them. Obviously there was room for Alfred Austin in Alfred Austin's opinion.

He loves rural England, and is never happier or more successful than when he makes it his theme. Two of the daintiest books he has ever written-books which though cast in the form of prose, have really more of the poetic quality than all his iambies and pentameters—are "The Garden That I Love," and its sequel, "In Veronica's Garden." These books describe the author's own estate and his own manner of living. The nameless of hair-dressing. As it must answer for gardener and philosopher, who "potters" among his borders and beds with contagious enjoyment, musing at all intervals on all sorts of subjects, literary. scientific and political, is Alfred Austin himself. The musings are not very deep or startlingly original, but they are amiable and usually sensible, and they are imbued throughout with the perfume of a high bred and kindly conservatism.

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