



AT THE SIGN OF THE MAPLE

Feminine Affairs at 'Varsity.

NOT long ago Dr. Falconer, President of the University of Toronto, made a suggestion to the Board of Governors that a woman dean be appointed to the staff of the University, in view of the fact that the number of women students is constantly increasing. The matter is being given serious consideration, and already names have been suggested for the position. Miss Knox, principal of Havergal College, Toronto, is spoken of, as is the name of Miss Keys, sister of Professor Keys, who, at the present time, is on the staff of Vassar College, teaching literature. Miss Keys is an authority on the dramas of Shakespeare. After leaving Toronto University, from which she graduated, she went to Germany and studied for five or six years, returning to take up her appointment on the staff of which she is now a member.

The idea will probably find great favour with the feminine faction of 'Varsity, who must feel the want of such a person who will look directly to their interests. The suggestion, it is understood, will be acted upon in a short time.

* * *

A Canadian Romance.

THE remarkable and romantic experiences of a Canadian woman whose story is closely connected with the history of the ex-Empress Charlotte, were recently described by the *London Standard* in the following little sketch:

"She was a native of the village of Philipsburg in Missisquoi County, at the Canadian end of Lake Champlain. Her father, named Joy, was a retired sea-faring man of small means and a large family, whose principal if not only inheritance was intellectual brightness, physical charm and stout heart. The daughter in question received practically all her education at the village school, ere she left home to make her way in the world. She began what may be termed her public career as a rider in a western circus; the early days of the American Civil War found her in Washington, where she met an Austrian Prince with the peculiar name of Slam-Slam. He was an honorary colonel of a Federal regiment of volunteers and saw some service. Acquaintance with the Austrian party led her to Mexico a few years later, and there she became the companion of Empress Charlotte, accompanying her to Europe when the poor woman went in search of succor

for her husband's waning cause. Of course, there is a love affair in the story, and, as might have been guessed from the first, she married Prince Slam-Slam and lived for a time in his Austrian castle.

"During those days of magnificence she did not forget her old mother in the simple Canadian home, and at the Philipsburg post office was regularly received a package bearing the crest of the house of Slam-Slam and containing a substantial remittance for the mother of the Princess. But the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71 brought to a close that splendid period of the Canadian girl's life. Prince Slam-Slam joined the German Army as a colonel of cavalry, and in that whirlwind of death by which the German mounted force decided the battle of Gravelotte, he lost his life. Then followed years of widowhood, but this Canadian woman seems to have been born into fortune, for she made a second marriage with a wealthy English gentleman, and the former Austrian Princess returned to her British allegiance.

"About ten years ago she visited the United States for the express purpose of presenting colours to regiments that her first husband had commanded. The newspapers devoted pages to accounts of her career, and they claimed her as an United Stateser, according to their little way. At Washington she was the guest of the President, and the ceremony



Miss Dorothy Levitt,

Who has already won fame as a racing motorist and has ordered a Farman Biplane. She has learned to fly in France under the tutorship of Farman himself. She proposes to fly at the Aviation Meeting in England during the coming year. Photo by Halftones, Limited.

of presenting the colours was attended by many prominent public men.

"Nor were the careers of other members of her family obscure. One sister married a Chicago millionaire, and a second took for her husband a gentleman high in the consular service of the United States. One brother was a Chicago physician and the eldest, inheriting his father's sea-faring instincts, became a pilot on Lake Champlain, living at Rouse's Point."

* * *

Women of the World.

A STUDENT of sociology has recently compiled a statement showing the relative positions of women in the various countries of Europe. In this respect Italy seems to be the most backward, seeing that a married woman can not sign a check even for her own money, nor can she give evidence in a court of law. In France married women may give evidence, but not without the consent of their husbands. Nor may they seek employment without a similar sanction. Women may practice as attorneys, but they may not be judges. In Germany one-fourth of the female population is self-supporting, and wives and husbands have a joint control over the children. In Norway the work of enfranchisement is nearly complete, and it is probably the only country in which women are regularly drawn for jury service. Turkey stands at the head of the list, in spite of the harem system. A married woman is financially independent of her husband. He must endow her with a separate estate, and over this he has no control. Probably more



Miss Irene Desmond,

The Bride of Sir Richard W. H. Levigne, Bart. Miss Desmond played in "The Merry Widow" and "Les Merveilleuses," both at Daly's Theatre, London, England. Her husband is the tenth holder of an Irish baronetcy.—*The Bystander*.

laws for the protection of women exist in Turkey than in any other country in the world.

* * *

Democratic Ideals Discussed.

TO find oneself at the mercy of the inquiring mind of the American newspaper reporter is altogether quite a hopeless position, and possibly the most graceful and expedient way out of the situation is to answer the questions asked and have done with the matter. No doubt so thought Lady Laurier, the wife of our Premier, who, on her way to the Hot Springs, Ark., was approached by one of these individuals and requested to discuss her view of democratic ideals in social life of America.

During the interview which took place Lady Laurier is reported to have said: "I haven't observed anything democratic in the social ideas of America. Americans display a far greater eagerness and awe for social prerogatives than do Europeans. Titles are of far greater value on this side than in Europe. Americans pay unqualified homage to royalty, while in Europe their value is disproportionate to their station. Americans seem to need the title and Euro-

peans the money. I do not believe in such marriages. Americans should marry at home and Europeans likewise. A title cannot mean anything in America, because it was bought."

When questioned as to her sympathies with regard to the suffragette movement Lady Laurier replied:—"It is indecent, unheard of, and altogether unwomanlike for a woman to compete with masculine superiority."

* * *

Mrs. Asquith.

ENGLAND'S Prime Minister himself would be the first to admit how very much he has been helped in his public career by his brilliant and accomplished wife, who, as Miss Margot Tennant, occupied a unique position in political society. Her wit, originality, and charm are still the delight of an increasing circle. For instance, a story is told in *M. A. P.* that she had once the bright idea of varying the too formal luncheon party by inviting some husbands without their wives, and some wives without their husbands; the theory being that the presence of one's legitimate partner is apt to check one's conversational brilliance. The party was a tremendous success, and one who we believe was present wrote the following epigram:

Husbands and wives,
The plague of our lives
The problem I have a big task with;
For laughs should be hearty
At my luncheon party,
Men and woman—now whom should I Asquith?



Miss Rica Garda,

Of Berlin, who has come into £80,000, bequeathed by a distant kinsman who made a large fortune in the Argentine, and of whose existence Miss Garda was hardly even aware until early last year, when she met him during a brief visit which he paid to the German capital. Dying childless at Buenos Ayres, her kinsman left a will bequeathing £80,000 of his fortune to Miss Garda, whom he described as "a relative I am indeed proud of, for she is the most beautiful woman in the world."—*The Bystander*.