

## This and That

### THE LIFE OF AN ANT QUEEN.

How long may an ant queen live? In their natural habitat some queens doubtless have short lives, but by reason of the protection afforded them and the seclusion enforced by the workers they probably live much longer than other members of the community. Within artificial surroundings they attain a comparatively long life. The oldest emmet queen known to science was one preserved under the care of Sir John Lubbock, later Lord Avebury. A number of years ago, during a visit to this distinguished naturalist to his country seat, High Elms, Kent, the writer for the first time saw this venerable sovereign, living in the ingenious artificial formicary which had been prepared for her. She was then in the prime of life, as it afterward appeared, being seven years old.

In the summer of 1887 Sir John was again visited, this time at his town house in London. After greetings, he was asked about his royal pet.

"I have had news to tell you," he answered.

"What? Is the queen dead?"

"She died only yesterday. I have not had the heart to tell the news as yet even to my wife."

Having offered my hearty condolence, I asked to see the dead queen. Sir John led the way to the room where his artificial nests were kept. The glass case which contained the special formicary in which the old ant had lived was opened up. Lying in one of the larger open places or rooms was the dead queen. She was surrounded by a crowd of workers, who were tenderly licking her with their antennae, and making other demonstrations, as if soliciting her attention or desiring to wake her out of her sleep. Poor, dumb, loving, faithful creature! There was no response. Their queen mother lay motionless beneath their demonstrations.

"They do not appear to have discovered that she is really dead," remarked Sir John. Afterward he wrote me of another queen which died at the age of fourteen. The ants dragged her body about with them when moved until it fell to pieces.—Harper's Magazine.

### QUEEN ALEXANDRA AND THE DOG.

Queen Alexandra who has just commenced her yearly visit to the land of her girlhood, is devotedly fond of dogs, and has had all sorts, sizes and breeds. She possesses great skill in training them and the pets which she has about her are all capable of wonderful tricks. But there was one dog upon which Her Majesty confesses that in vain she used to cast longing eyes. It is a famous performing dog named "Minos," and it was a rage of a society entertainer. Invitation

### A FOOD RESCUE.

#### What a Physician's Wife Found Out.

The wife of a well known physician of Oakland, Cal., was brought back to health and strength by food alone at a time when she had prepared to die.

She says of her experience: "I am the wife of a physician and have suffered from catarrh of the stomach more than ten years during which time I suffered untold agonies of mind and body for I could not eat solid food and even liquid foods gave me great distress.

"I was brought at last to confront the crisis of my life. I actually made ready for my departure from friends and husband for I expected to die. When in that state I was induced to try Grape-Nuts and the wonderful effects of this food prove completely that all my trouble was due to improper feeding.

"I began to improve immediately and my weight increased until I gained 20 pounds since I began the use of Grape-Nuts while my stomach is as sound and well as ever it was and my husband gives all the credit for my wonderful recovery to Grape-Nuts. I have no set time for eating Grape-Nuts but just feast on it whenever I please. I wish I might tell my sisters everywhere of the marvellous health and strength giving, flesh building elements of Grape-Nuts." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

Look in each package for a copy of the amusing little book, "The Road to Wellville."

cards at great London houses used to bear the strange announcement, "To meet the dog 'Minos'." The following story of this remarkable creature is often told by Her Majesty: Upon one occasion, when bidden to carry a handkerchief to the most beautiful lady in the room, the rascally courtier sprang up to Queen Victoria, and laid it at her feet. Her Majesty laughed merrily, flicked the dog in the face with her own handkerchief, and bade him to do his duty honestly. Thereupon the dog picked up the handkerchief, and, in great humility approached our present Queen, lay down, and placed the handkerchief, before her.—St. James's Gazette.

### FRANCIS JOSEPH.

The Austrian Emperor's private life is characterized by soldier-like simplicity," says a writer in the Westminster Gazette. "He is an early riser, a hard worker, and seldom attends theatres or other places of amusement. Shooting and hunting are still his principal recreations, and this doubtless accounts for the excellent health which he continues to enjoy. All who approach him on matters of business admire his inexhaustible patience and perfect good humor, his frankness and strict regard for truth together with his marvellous memory and facility in grasping details. In money matters the Emperor's liberality is princely, and his munificence, especially where the poor are concerned, is proverbial. It may not be so well known that he is an excellent draughtsman and in his younger days was a prolific caricaturist. The Emperor is also fond of building. He has created and supported a whole school of architects, and such things as the magnificent boulevard of the Austrian capital and some of the additions to the palaces in Vienna and Budapest will worthily preserve his fame in this regard."

### LEGAL WIT.

Apropos of Lord Halsbury's 78th birthday, a contemporary has recalled one of the best stories of his forensic days, and omitted its finishing touch. While leader of the South Wales Circuit, the future Lord Chancellor fought strenuously a case on behalf of a Welsh public authority, and created some amusement by the ardent manner in which he identified himself with the interests of the locality. "Come, come," interrupted the judge, good-naturedly, "you must not argue too much in that strain. You cannot make yourself out to be a Welshman, you know." "Perhaps not," returned Mr. Giffard, "but I have made a good deal out of Welshmen in my time." The finishing touch of the anecdote is the judge's retort, "You claim, then, to be a Welshman by extraction?"

"Any mail for me?" asked the young woman in the tailor-made gown and broad trimmed straw hat. "No, ma'am," said the mistress of the little post-office a quarter of a mile from the summer hotel. "It's all for the other boarders to day. Don't you remember that the postal card you got yesterday said there wasn't anything doing at home and they wouldn't write you again till tomorrow?"

"Noomi," he said softly, as he gazed at the moon above them, isn't the evening beautiful? Do you know, strange fancies throng my mind a night like this. Every zephyr seems to bear voices, perhaps from the spirit world. Do you hear such voices?"

Silence for a moment. "I think I do, George."

"What do they sound like to you?"

"They are very indistinct, but they make me think that papa and brother Henry are calling the dog."

Nurse—"Johnny, stop asking your father so many questions. Don't you see it annoys him."

Johnny—"Why, nurse, it's not the questions that makes him angry; it's because he can't answer them."

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## INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

On and after SUNDAY, Oct. 11, 1903, trains will run daily (Sunday excepted) as follows:

TRAINS LEAVE ST. JOHN.	
6—Mixed for Moncton	6.30
2—Exp. for Halifax, the Sydneys and Campbellton	7.00
4—Express for Point du Chene,	13.15
26—Express for Point du Chene, Halifax and Pictou.	12.15
8—Express for Sussex	17.10
134—Express for Quebec and Montreal	18.00
10—Express for Halifax and Sydney.	23.25

TRAINS ARRIVE AT ST. JOHN.	
9—Express from Halifax and Sydney	6.20
7—Express from Sussex	9.00
133—Express from Montreal and Quebec	13.50
5—Mixed from Moncton	15.20
3—Express from Point du Chene,	16.50
25—Express from Halifax Pictou and Campbellton	17.40
1—Express from Halifax	18.40
81—Express from Moncton (Sunday only)	24.35

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D. POTTINGER,

General Manager.

Moncton, N. B., Oct. 9, 1903.

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