

LADY ERSKINE'S SAD FATE

Found Dead on the Mountain-side in Scotland—The Cause a Mystery—A Broken-Off Engagement.

The discovery on the mountainside at Aviemore, Inverness, of the body of Lady Marjorie Erskine, second daughter of the Earl of Buchan, under circumstances of a distressing nature, occurred on Sept. 3. A watchman employed in connection with the golf course at Aviemore was on that night engaged in searching for white heather, and was returning home at the back of the Craigmore Hotel, when he saw the partly decomposed body of a woman lying on the ground. On examination a large sum of money in Bank of England notes and gold was found on the body, in addition to some papers. Among the documents was a receipted bill bearing the name of a Kingussie hotel, and from this it was surmised that the unfortunate woman was Lady Marjorie Erskine, whose whereabouts had been unknown for some time to her friends.

Lady Marjorie and her maid, it was ascertained, arrived at Aviemore on July 26, and took the Craigmore Hotel for the night. On the following day she paid her bill, the receipt for which was found on the remains, and left for Aviemore. Before she departed she requested the hotel proprietor to keep any letters that might come addressed to her, as she intended to motor past Kingussie in a few days. Her maid remained at Kingussie a day longer than her mistress, and then proceeded to Perth.

A considerable amount of luggage, labelled "Lady M. Erskine," was left in the cloak room at Kingussie station and still remains there, and some luggage was also left at the Aviemore station. The circumstances connected with the discovery of the body are being investigated by the Inverness-shire police. There is no suspicion of foul play, and it is stated that the lady's death was caused by exposure. It is supposed that Lady Marjorie Erskine, who was 30 years of age, climbed the rugged mountain path at Aviemore for the purpose of admiring the scenery.

Lord Cardross arrived at Aviemore, and identified the remains as those of his sister, Lady Marjorie Gladys Stuart Erskine. The Inverness police, who have charge of the investigations, as there is only a village constable at Aviemore, hold the opinion that death was partly caused by an accident. They are under the impression that the lady's ankle is broken, and that she fell on a part of the mountain that is very little traversed, and lay unable to move until death ended her sufferings. The weather in early August was wild and stormy, and she could not have survived her desperate position. Her jewelry, some of which was of great value, was untouched. The body was lying dead and almost hidden in the heather.

A post-mortem examination of the remains was made by Dr. Miller on the

spot, and he pronounced death to be due to exposure and privation. The body was sent to Uphall Parish Church, Inverness, for interment. It is stated that there was a mark of an injury on one of the ankles. The body was found lying face downwards, and the heather near it had been pulled about, as though she had been trying to crawl or drag herself away. It is stated that Lady Marjorie was exceedingly fond of mountain climbing. As the heights around Aviemore command some of the wildest and most romantic scenery in the Grampians, she evidently left Aviemore on a short expedition, taking one of the lesser known paths. The anxiety of her family at her mysterious disappearance was only terminated by the lamentable news concerning the discovery.

Lady Marjorie left London with her maid as long ago as the end of July. No communication was received from her, and Lady Buchan became alarmed and proceeded north. The Earl of Buchan was travelling on the continent at the time of his daughter's disappearance for Scotland.

Lady Marjorie Erskine was a few years ago a probationer nurse at the Children's Hospital in Great Ormond street, and was attached to the Clarence ward in that institution. It is stated that at the hospital she took the greatest interest in her duties. In the autumn of 1908 her engagement was announced to the Hon. Arthur Brodrick, youngest brother of Lord Middleton, but it was afterwards broken off.

ORIGIN OF CHEWING GUM.

Cheewing gum has been called the mystery of confectionery, for, of all the millions of chewers, there are very few who have any idea of what it really is they are masticating. Cheewing gum is nothing but chicle,

mixed with sugar and flavoring; and chicle is the gum of a tree that grows plentifully in Mexico and Central America and that of recent years has been cultivated in Yucatan, where the American Chicle Company, commonly known as the chewing gum trust, owns several million acres of it.

The chicle tree is not unlike the India rubber tree, and the gum was first shipped to America by men who believed that in it they had a perfect substitute for rubber. In this, however, they were mistaken, as it was found that the chicle gum was insoluble. Not to this, however, may be due, but to the fact that it is a medium, acid or alkali, spirit of ether, been found that will dissolve it. It can be melted, yes, but dissolved, no. The consequence was that the first shipments of chicle gum lay unsold and unsalable on the pier of the docks in Brooklyn. It was a reddish, rubbery-looking substance, and at first roused no little curiosity, but nobody was able to use it for any practical purpose, so there it lay for months.

One day a New Yorker happened to notice it. He picked up a piece and put it into his mouth and began chewing it. Its peculiar consistency struck him, and it occurred to him that if the stuff were only flavored it would make a nice chewing gum. The idea being in his favor for this purpose, he experimented with some more of it, refined it and found that it would be easy to impregnate it with flavoring and sugar. He made some inquiries as to the source of the gum, and whether a regular supply could be had, and bought the lot. That was the beginning of modern chewing gum.

Practically all the crude chicle gum is shipped to Canada where it is refined in Toronto before being sent to the factories in the United States. The reason for this is that there is a high ad valorem duty on chicle, and as it is worth about 40 cents a pound, and loses 25 per cent of its weight in refining, the chicle companies save about \$250,000 a year by refining it before shipment.—Health Culture.

THE LARDER OF THE DEEP
A PLEA FOR FISH-EATING

Sir James Crichton Brown on Food and Fish Supply—Why More Fish Should Be Eaten—Marine Stock Farms.

The food value of fish was discussed recently by Sir James Crichton Brown in his presidential address before the Sanitary Inspectors' Association at Fishmongers' Hall, London, England. The 300 delegates present were welcomed by Mr. Bryan Durand, in the name of the Fishmongers' Company. Taking as his subject "Food and Fish Supply," Sir James Crichton Brown said that during last year at Billingsgate out of 248,000 tons of fish delivered, 946 tons were seized by the officials of the Fishmongers' Company as unsound and unfit for human consumption, and much illness, and, perhaps, mortality, was thereby prevented. The inspectors of the company stood behind the marketplace and a large incursion of sickness.

"Larder of the Deep." Away from our coastal towns, Sir James continued, fish had been hitherto regarded too much as an accessory, little as a staple article of diet. The races on the coasts of Northern Europe and Asia nourished themselves on fish almost exclusively, but the Latin and Saxon races consumed a relatively small amount of it, and the people of this fish-hungry island had not yet availed themselves as fully as they might of the contents of the larder of the deep.

At one time fish had an universal vogue in England, the great majority of the people being in the habit of using fish diet one or two days a week, and of confining themselves to it in Lent. In the reign of Henry III. the price of soles was limited to 3d a dozen, turbot to 6d, the best pickled herrings 2s a penny, and oysters 2d per gallon. Among the affluent classes of the country fish still held its own, and figured regularly as a breakfast and dinner dish, and indeed by all classes fish was still habitually or occasionally consumed; but in recent years, notwithstanding increased facilities of distribution, the consumption of fresh fish, although progressive, has not kept pace with the increase of population.

The reasons in the large towns recognized the merits of fish, but bought chiefly the dried and salted kinds. Whoever could bring within their reach an increased supply of cheap food of a nourishing kind was doing a great hygienic work, and that was what the Fishmongers' Company was attempting. Fish was from a physiological point of view the next best thing to meat.

Mr. John Burns said some time ago that some trifling reduction in rates would enable the workman to have a kipper to his tea. He (the speaker) sincerely wished that every workman could have that hors d'oeuvre with his evening meal.

Fashions in Fish. It was lamentable to reflect that with so many of our people short of food, enormous quantities of good, wholesome, nourishing fish had year by year been thrown back into the sea or converted into manure, because fish would not pay to bring them to market. Sanitary inspectors would be doing a public service if they could persuade some of the poorest, whose food was at present totally inadequate, occasionally to substitute a little fish for the monotonous round of bread, dripping and tea.

One encouraging fact in connection with the fish food question was the growth of the fried fish shops in our midst. The resort to these shops in our midst, however, was in part, an indication of the lower standard of household comfort which the disinclination of girls for domestic service involved, and they might be overdone; but still they did supply great numbers of our poorer people with wholesome and acceptable meals. Fried fish was, from the nutritive point of view, one of the best forms in which fish could be presented.

Crusade Against Consumption. He would like particularly to suggest that the raising of the plane of living of our poorer classes, by an abundant supply of cheap fish, might prove a successful auxiliary in the crusade against tuberculosis which was now being actively renewed.

Of resistance to the disease was an important factor in its prevention, and that power of resistance was lowered by poverty in its many phases, con-

spicuously by poverty in food, and especially by nitrogen starvation, as it is called, or an insufficiency of protein in the nutriment supplied.

The comparative immunity of the Jews from tuberculosis must be attributed, perhaps, to the fact that their ethnic qualities, and to several special features in their habits of life; but the large extent to which fish entered into their dietary, and especially into that of the children, must be noted in this connection.

In conclusion, Sir James said that the assistance of science must be invoked in the fishing industry. We had hitherto, as it were, lived on the wild life of the forest, and its rich and varied natural products, and had yielded to abundant supplies, but the time would surely come when on sea, as we had done on land long ago, we should exchange the chase in large game for the hunt in small game, when we should have stock farms bordering all our coasts, and should pride ourselves on our prize turbot and pedigree cod. (Laughter.)

MARK TWAIN AND GEN. GRANT.

One of the highest satisfactions of Clemens' often supremely satisfactory life was his relation to Grant. It was his proud joy to tell how he found Grant about to sign a contract for his book on certain very good terms, and he said to him that he could himself publish the book and give him a percentage three times as large. He said Grant seemed to doubt whether he could honorably withdraw from the negotiation at that point, but Clemens overbore such scruples, and it was his unparalleled privilege, a princely pleasure, to pay the author a far larger check for his work than had ever been paid to an author before. He valued even more than this splendid opportunity the sacred moments in which their business brought him into the presence of the slowly dying, heroically living man whom he was so befriending; and he told me in words which surely lost none of their simple pathos through his report how Grant described his suffering.

ST. VITUS DANCE

A STRIKING EXAMPLE OF ITS CURE BY THE TONIC TREATMENT.

St. Vitus dance is the commonest form of nervous trouble which afflicts children, because of the great demands made on the body by growth and development. The disease is added strain caused by study. It is when these demands become so great that they impoverish the blood, and the nerves fail to receive their full supply of nourishment, that the nervous debility which leads to St. Vitus dance.

The remarkable success of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills in curing St. Vitus dance should lead parents to give their children this great bloodbuilding medicine the first signs of the approach of the disease. Palfrey, listlessness, inattention, restlessness, and irritability are all symptoms which early show that the blood and nerves are failing to meet the demands made upon them. Max A. Winters, Virden, Man., says: "When my little girl was six years old she was attacked with scarlatina, which was followed by St. Vitus dance. Her limbs would jerk and twitch. Her speech became affected, and she could scarcely walk, and we hardly dared trust her alone. She was under the care of a doctor, but in spite of this was steadily growing worse, and we feared that she would lose her."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills had cured her older sister of anaemia I decided to try them again. After the use of a few boxes, to our great joy, we found they were helping her, and in the course of a few weeks more her power of walking was returned, and she could walk and go about as well as any child, and she has been well and healthy since. When illness comes to any one of our family now, we never call in a doctor, but simply use Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and they never disappoint us."

Sold by all medicine dealers or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50, from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Brockville, Ont.

the beginning of Clemens' adversity, for it led to excesses of enterprise which were forms of dissipation. The young sculptor who had come back to him from Paris modelled a small bust of Grant, which Clemens multiplied in great numbers to his great loss, and the success of Grant's book tempted him to launch on publishing seas where his bark presently foundered.—W. D. Howells, in Harper's Magazine.

FORBES-ROBERTSON
ON THE DRAMA

Returning to America to Resume Success of Last Season—English and American Contrasts.

London Daily News: As long as America confined its raids upon the art of Europe to old masters and German and Italian opera singers, England was more or less indifferent, but since she has begun to annex our best actors a growing feeling of dissatisfaction has taken possession of us. A loan we did not mind, but to have to cede the frehold in our stars was vexing. And it was with the wild idea of disputing the proprietary right the States seem to be establishing over Mr. Forbes Robertson, that a member of the Daily News staff recently went down to Rushley House. He found the great actor in the dainty white Manor House of his sister-in-law, Mrs. Maxine Elliott, very eager and chafing at the lash after his long holiday, the fine ascetic face a little whiter than when London knew it, but the gesture just as youthful and full of life, the tender vibrant voice unbroken.

"When are you coming back to us?" asked our representative, opening with a broadside.

Mr. Robertson smiled and declined to commit himself. He was booked in America up to May with "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," and to start in London with a new drama was out of the question. Besides, he would have a little rest at home. Perhaps some future time, when his American repertoire was fresh food for Londoners, perhaps then he would have a season here.

"That is a very desperate promise, Mr. Robertson. What would you? America asks for me with a much louder voice. Everyone I went on my last tour I had to stop longer than I intended, and in New York, where I was down for one month, I stayed seven. And I have not nearly covered the States. This time my brother Ian is taking out a duplicate company to cover the smaller towns and the one-night territory, while I run from Toronto to New York and Brooklyn, and thence to Philadelphia, Washington and Baltimore. There will be sufficient of America untouched to last the term of my natural life. And then you ask me to come back to England!"

Americans, he added, went much more to the theatre than we do here. With them it is a habit, and theatres are larger. When Mr. Robertson closed the Alexandra Theatre for two days at the time of King Edward's death (the Alexandra, by the way, was the only theatre closed in America), he returned \$5,000 of ticket money.

"Do you find it easy to play in such vast halls?"

"Well," answered Mr. Robertson, "the acoustics of American theatres are admirable. Mine Elliott's theatre in New York is on a smaller scale—about as large as the St. James', and excellently appointed."

"What do you think of the state of drama in America?"

THE ROYAL TRAIN

Twelve Cars Needed to Take King George and His Family to Scotland.

The special train in which King George, Queen Mary and their children journeyed from London to Balmoral Castle, Queen Victoria's favorite country place, is reported to have been the heaviest and longest that ever has left London. It contained twelve cars, weighed 375 tons and was 692 feet long.

The train was made up of two baggage cars, the King's private car, originally built for King Edward; a new private boudoir car for the Queen, Queen Alexandra's boudoir car, two private cars for Princess Mary, and her attendants, and the royal equestrian, a private car for the other royal children, their tutors and servants, and four cars for the other servants and the railroad officials. The train was pulled by two locomotives.

The Queen's new boudoir car is the very latest thing in luxurious English railroad construction. All the rooms are in white enamel, blue being the predominating color, but the effect is lightened with brocades and a soft shade of pink to tone the electric lights. The bedroom is draped with soft pink, while the dressing room is decorated in similar style and contains inlaid satinwood furniture. At the end of the car is an observation platform. The attendants' quarters are fitted with electric plugs for connecting to heaters for providing tea and coffee. The Queen's car and that of the King are coupled together, enabling anyone to pass from one end of the train to the other.

All the cars of the royal train are of the same dimensions. Each car is 61 feet long and 9 feet wide. When the royal family travels the railroad officials are busy for weeks in advance arranging for the safety of the travellers. Despite the length of the journey from London to Balmoral, 583 miles, the royal train was poised on the rails, with signals from the signal towers, but by hand signals, an army of section-hands being stationed along the road so that throughout the journey the train passed through a lane of green lamps held by railroad officials.

The Dublin mail train was used as a pilot train for the royal special and no other trains were allowed to enter the line between the Irish mail and the royal train. At Crewe and Carlisle, where the royal train stopped for inspection, etc., all traffic was stopped so that the royal sleepers should not be disturbed.

WHAT THE EYE TELLS
AN OPTICIAN

Diseases That Can Be Detected by the Ophthalmoscope.

George Elliot wrote "a suppressed disease may betray itself in the eyes," and Mr. G. E. Ellis, "father of the ophthalmoscope," informed a representative of the Morning Leader, that suppressed disease is also visible in the eyes to those who know how to look. The brain is poisoned by tobacco. There is a mark in the eye that he can distinguish at once, and the effect of alcohol is visible at a glance.

"Tobacco has a bad effect on the eyes if used too freely," said Mr. Ellis. "After a life's experience I should say that no man should smoke more than two ounces of tobacco a week if he wishes to avoid its dangers. Two ounces should do no harm, and some people could stand more and remain immune from its effects, but for the man who wishes to play for safety with his eyes that is the reasonable limit."

"People who fear they may have smoked too much," continues the Morning Leader, "may be interested to hear that the effect of nicotine is a subtle change in the color of the eye, but it is of no use looking for the change. It needs the eye of the expert to detect it."

Mr. Ellis has surprised medical men at times by his capacity for detecting disease while using an ophthalmoscope. After looking at half a million eyes one learns to notice infinitesimal peculiarities, and he has found "marks" which indicate all manner of diseases. A blow on the head, for instance, leaves a permanent indication at the back of the eye, and Mr. Ellis claims that he can nearly always tell when a child's parents have been careless in the child's care, actually become a prey to the disease. "Another remarkable discovery of his enables him to tell with remark-



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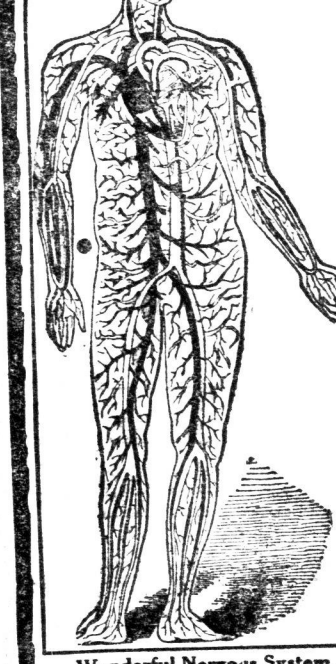
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able accuracy whether there has ever been rheumatic fever in his patient's family. A white ring round the outer margin of the iris is an infallible sign of heart disease."

BIG BEN'S ACCURACY.

The Big Ben clock is, perhaps, the most perfect timekeeper in the world. When it was under construction, rather more than half a century ago, then the astronomer royal (Sir George Airy), who was consulted regarding its mechanism, declared that it was impossible to design a clock subject to big ranges of temperature and other external causes of error that would keep time within four or five seconds. The late Lord Grimthorpe (then E. Beckett-Denison), however, who was a famous horologist, thought otherwise, and he designed specially for the Westminster clock his gravity escapement, to which it owes its marvellous good going.

An electric signal is automatically sent by Big Ben once a day to Greenwich, and with monotonous sameness, in their annual reports, have placed on record the irreproachable behavior of the great clock.

On most days it is almost dead true, and on barely half a dozen days in any year does it vary as much as three seconds from accurate Greenwich mean time. Strictly speaking, Big Ben is the name not of the clock but of the fourteenth hour bell, the designing and casting of which were also superintended by Lord Grimthorpe.—From the London Daily News.

THE OLD MEN'S COMPLAINT.

There was no prodigal among the four Miller sons, now four rich old men who have met in reunion at Bridgeport, Conn. All of them prospered. And they are convinced that they should prosper even more if they were to begin their climb all over again in this present day and generation. "If," says one of them, "we were to start out today as we did, the four brothers of us with \$700 apiece, the chances are that we would be worth in the same time considerably more than we are today."

Familiar saying! Sentences well worn! For who has not noted how in the last few years the complaints of the younger men have been drowned out by those of the older ones. The young man complains because the new times were not like the old, not so easy to get rich in. The old men complain because the old times were not so good as the new. They wish that they might begin at this point where they were compelled to leave off. And they have repeated their convictions so often and so earnestly that the young man is almost afraid to dwell upon his own sad prospect, if indeed he has not begun to doubt whether it is so sad after all.—New York Globe.

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