THE FUTURIST "RAG"

London, not greatly moved, has heard the poet of Futurism de claiming one of his poems at the Cabaret Club. The poet also lectured recently at the club on "L'Art des Bruits." He spoke very rapidly, but with extraordinary distinctness in French. His reasoning is clear and logical, and as in the case of the Futurist painters the ideas were all sound and convincing. But when M. Marinetti gave examples of his poems one began to doubt the theories.

Violence, war, battles are the subjects of this school. This is the type of thing: "War . . Bulgars . . Turks . . blood, mud . . and then "Tsoom-sa, Tsoom-sa, Tsoom-sa . . Tatatat, tatatatatag

Ff-ff-ff-ff-ff boom boom," and so on.

There is no doubt that M. Marinetti possesses great powers of the object. declamation. He gave evidence of this when, in answer to the objection that his poems depended on the manner in which they were declaimed, he said "All verse depends on declamation," and gave examples of Verlaine rattled off in a deadly commonplace and ultraconversational manner, and the same verses recited in the half chant of the poet, "with the right accent and emphasis," By this means it is always possible to make poetry sound like nonsence and nonsense like

Czar Small-Minded And Czarina a Shrew

Harsh Criticism in New Book on the Russian Royal Family.

"Behind the Veil at the Russian "Thank God, we have no Constitu-Court," By Paul Vassili Cassell.

"The present volume," we are warnanecdotes are history." "Sometimes" is the word for it. And it would have this volume some anecdotes are hishave been the man he is represented to be in the preface. His nom de plume is a little suspicious, seeing that Vassili (Basil) is not a surname, and that Russians have only one name. But he certainly knew a good deal of the gozsip of St. Petersburg, either firsthand or through print, and, as a collection of it, the volume will, no doubt, "amuse its readers," as the publishers hope in the preface. It abounds in pretty tales such as

When Nicholas I. had decided to send his troops to Hungary, he anof Moccow, at the Kremlin Palace, much to instruct them. . His words were received with immense enthusiasm, and a loud "Hurrah!" was the reply to them. The Emperor looked round, and suddenly noticed that one of his personal friends . . alone kept silent and in the background. When all was over . . . the Sovereign asked him, "Why did you not shout the Sovereign 'Hurrah!' with the rest?" "Because expected reply. Nicholas sighed. 'You may be right," he said, "but I have not sent my troops to help

brother Sovereign." The freedom with which the author has put the famous words of Coun Buol about Austrian ingratitude spoken by him in 1853, into the mouth of a Russian courtier in 1848, is a little unhistorical, but the story itself ex presses admirably a characteristic of

Austria; I have sent them to help a

Nicholas I. The Present Tsar.

The author very minutely and, on the whole, quite correctly describes the Russian Court at the time of Alexanthough when dealing with historical events or with the characters of the men and women of the periods on his own account he is generally wrong.

however, when he enters upon a de no love for the Tsar. "His mind is as small as his person; he sees the biggest events go by without being touched, or being aware of their great or tragic side." "Small-minded," "selfish," "vacillatory," "capricious," "rancorous" no adjectives are too hard for the man who went on playing tennis after having heard of the disaster at Tsu-shima. gift to make herself lovable nor to inworthy of a spoilt child." On the other tion. known adventures of the present Tsar men in France in various fields while he was still heir to the throne. Instead he tells us that both the Tsar and his consort are in the morning in the grounds of the surprisingly ignorant of French. The editor of the "Rappel's" residence at an old dowager, and the latter,

"but l'automne dernier j'ai pu me promener tous les jours dans le weapon. Crime." The unfortunate creature translated her phrase from the Gerpeated all round with alacrity,

The story of the war with Japan and of the subsequent revolution is told which the Grand Dukes and the Tsar it was Breittmayer who took the ofhimself had in Korea. The general fensive. tone of this part of "Count Vassili's" narrative is shown by a report, which the author reproduces, that after the Bloody Sunday, when the troops had massacred a number of workmen before the Winter Palace, the Tsar's only question to the Grand Duke Vladimir was "Are you sure that you have killed enough?" The story is in

A Reactionary Premier. The volume will tell the reader all about the Tsarevitch and his illness, and also about the late M. Stolypin and his successor, the present Premier, M. Kokovtceff. In connection with the Tsarevitch the author makes a mistake in speaking of the Grand Duke Dimitri Pavlovitch as the next candidate to the throne. This young pereldest daughter have fallen through, crossed swords with you." The author's treatment of the two revolution is highly inadequate; and la France!" when he says that "no one knows The antagonists shook each other whether M. Kokovtseff's opinions are cordially by the hand, then Lieut. Tor-Liberal or Conservative" he is betray. kom's wound was dressed, and shortly ing his own lack of knowledge, since afterwards he drove to a neighboring an awful leak in our gas pipe."

M. Kokeviseff openly proclaimed his station whence it is understood. M. Kokeviseff openly proclaimed his station, whence, it is understood, he political views in the Duma three took the first train back to Switzeryears ago by the solemn exclamation: land.

ed in the preface, "is not historical, the Berlin Congress, and in this con- him." "Here's a rude laborer disturbing but merely anecdotal; yet sometimes but merely anecdotal; yet sometimes the British dela him a lesson." own reminiscences of the British dele- him a lesson." gates. Among other things he gives us is the word for it. And it would have a couple of stories about Disraeli heard But we shall not get rid of that been still better to use the word from the latter's own lips. One is to strange figure on the platform by "some" for "sometimes," because in the effect that having once laid a wager heaving half a brick at him. Whether that he would bring sugar plums to we like it or not, James Larkin is a the school, and being unable to do co man with whom we have to reckon. tory as well as historical, while others are neither the one nor the other. Count Paul Vassili may or may not lic:

the school, and being unable to do so man with whom we have to reckon. If drops his "h's," he uses violent language, he talks in a strange dialect, half Lancashire, half Irish and all his own half Lancashire, half Irish and all

Altogether, those who like historical or quasi-historical anecdotes will find nounced his resolution in the town in the volume plenty to interest, if not

Real Encounter Of Duellists In Suburb of Paris

I was thinking of the day when Austria would astonish your Majesty with its ingratitude," was the un-Challenger Defeated in Duel With a Champion of France.

> With a disregard for sensationalism o take as an example, a Franco-Bulgarian meeting came off recently at low who heaves with such volcanic cluded Montmorency, about half an hour's train journey from Paris.

Lieut. Torkom, it may be at once tated, has not had his heart's desire ulfilled of crossing swords with Pierre Loti. The distinguished academician has not noticed the Bulgarian officer's challenge. The encounter was an outome of the original challenge, the "Red Knight" and M. Georges Breitt-He becomes decidedly interesting, mayer becoming involved in the conscription of the present reign. He has troversy, the former by a counterchallenge and the latter as a second to the "Red Knight," and also because he took part in the press articles against Lieut, Torkom.

Profound secrecy was observed by the few persons who were initiated into the affair. Lieut. Torkom arrived in Paris in strict incognito. The meeting was arranged. The "Red Knight" Nor does the Tsarina fare better at was to cross swords first with the Bulthe author's hands. "She has not the garian challenger. At the last moment, however, certain facts were spire sympathy. She has developed a brought to Lieut. Torkom's notice, and harsh, cruel temper, with fits of caprice his seconds decided to claim arbitra-

hand, it seems surprising that he has There remained M. Georges Breittnothing to narrate about the well- mayer, one of the most expert swords-

A Duel in Earnest. The meeting was fixed for 10 o'clock Tsarina once granted an audience to Montmorency. The very silence observed, apart from the severe conditions regulating the encounter, was proof seeing that all her efforts at small that it was to be a duel in earnest. talk met with no success, asked the Each combatant was allowed 15 yards Empress whether she did not find of ground. M. Breittmayer, with the climate of St. Petersburg very French grace, saluted his antagonist trying. "Yes," replied the Sovereign, with the point of his sword. The Bulgarian replied with a sweep of his

Torkom, as he stands there, is seen (adds our author) had literally to be somewhat above middle stature and thick-set. His black moustache man in which the Crimea is called has a fierce upward curl at the ends. Krim," but one can imagine and his beard is horseshoe-shaped. what laughter such an utterance, re- Everything in his attitude and expression marks a man of great energy and

stubborn resolve. From the moment the words, "Allez messieurs!" were uttered by the director of the duel, Torkom pressed forrather inadequately, the author being ward to attack. His adversary parried The employer has regarded himself as

pecuniary interests the blow with ease, and thenceforward In the first five rounds Torkom's

> the hand, but he insisted on continu-Breast Wound.

The fight grew hotter, and the spectators began to fear a fatal issue when in the sixth round, Breittmayer lunged and the point of his sword entered the

Bulgarian's breast. The fight was at once stopped, and, after a few minutes' observation, the doctors declared that Torkom's wound was such as to place him clearly at a disadvantage.

The Frenchman thereupon advanced towards his antagonist and said: "We have exchanged letters on account of son has recently been dismissed from the Bulgarian campaign, and these lethis regiment for scandal, and his ters have brought us on the duelling matrimonial designs upon the Tsar's ground. I am very honored to have

"All the honor is mine," replied the Russian Premiers of the counter- Bulgarian with equal gallantry. "Vive

The Significance of Agitator James Larkin

Outside the pavements were crowded straint. How they conceive their duty with people, who unable to gain ad- we saw in the blind attacks they made mission, were waiting for something upon the unoffending crowds in Sackto turn up. Round the building police- ville street at the beginning of Sepnen, on horse and on foot, were ranked tember. in a defensive formation, and along the road, with arms linked and singing in than any on record. At the bottom they represented the vague fear of the secure and comfortable against any intrucion from below. "Here's a guite author has a chapter devoted to stranger: let us heave half a brick at the Berlin Congress and in this contile."

Thank God, we have no Constitutively represented the vague fear of the secure and comfortable against actual starvation but for the shiploads one might assume at a first view. "Leader or Lunatic" was the placard that had met his eye in coming to the why is the church silent? Why is the church silent? Why is

his own, he is rude, unlettered-a dock laborer in fact. But you cannot listen I was horribly ill afterwards, but to him without being conscious of an this little adventure was a lesson to unusual force. You forget the roughme for the rest of my life, and I nesses of speech in the fierce energy made up my mind always to appear that blazes through them. You seem to to succeed, even when such was not hear the murmers of the poor strugthe case. The world never asks you sling to utterance. And if the utter-whether you eat real or imitation ance is defiant and challenging, it is sugar plums; it only notices that you not that of the mere tub-thumper. It have got the plums, and admires you has sudden flashes of insight, swift for having had the pluck to take and unexpected transitions, a certain largeness of motive, at times a generosity of statement, that suggests something more than the fire-brand. He is not at the mercy of his audience, like the demagogue who follows the line of the readiest cheer. He is its master and snubs its shallower (homorc. When it shrieks at the mention of the Government that has imprisoned him, he does not throw idle fuel on the flames. "Ah, but let us be fair," he says. "It has been loyal to

home rule and I say, important as it is for us to win the Dublin strike, it s a thousand times more important that that measure should go through your Commons." And when the name of Mr. Masterman is received with howles and cries of hypocrite, he replies, "No, he is not a hyprocrite. believe he wished well to the poor. Who knows? Perhaps I should be a hypocrite in his circumstances." strange speech; a strange man. shall not dispose of him by the easy argument of the half brick or the jail.

New Issues for Old. And so while the young men are marching to and fro outside singing their songs, let us try to understand which duellists generally would do well the significance of this swaying figure on the platform, this intruder from befires. He has cut across our policies and parties with the indifference a lava stream; but we shall miss his meaning if we assume that we have to deal only with a personal force. It is true that if there had been no Larkin there would have been no Dublin strike; but the forces he has released and the ideas he represents are independent of him. He is only the match that has fired the train. By the light of his conflagration we may see many things. We may see, for example, the realities behind the falsities of home rule. The political platform echoes

the sectarian issue. Is Catholic Ireland to be for ever under the heel of the Protestant north? Is Ulster to be sacrificed to the Pope? Never, never. And so the Orange lodges are drilling here and the Ancient Order of Hibernians re organizing there, and all the old rusty weapons of the seventeenth cenury are being resurrected to keep alive hateful feud.

And then comes this uncouth figure rom the ranks with his "Plague ooth your houses," and reveals that behind these threadbare controversies ordism. We have bought out the landords and solved the agrarian problem.

Labor in Ireland. But the ery of Ireland has passed rom the country to the towns. The conditions of the poor in Dublin and Belfast touch a level below the worst we know here. The revelations of Sir ployers is an imposible attitude Ernest Hatch's committee as to sweating in Belfast can be paralleled only in Dublin, with its third of the population living in one-room tenements. The truth is that the industrial idea as not developed in Ireland as England. The trade union movements has made relatively little progress there, and the conception of the employer and the employed negotiating on equal terms is little understood. a benefactor, and the worker has regarded employment as a privilege granted to him. And so the labor market has drifted into a state of inconsleeve was pierced six times. In the ceivable wretchedness, the heritage of third the Bulgarian was wounded is our destruction of the Irish industries

SAVING THE WASTE.



"Did you do anything to it before

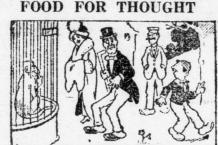
"Yes: I put a bucket under it."

e [By A. G. Garden in London Daily News.] As I left the Albert Hall the great and of a century of alien rule based audience that filled the building was on sectarian predominance. The situlistening in deep silence to the strange, atton has been aggravated by a police uncouth accents of a speaker who was system as grotesque as that of Russia telling how two girls in Dublin had —a semi-military force appointed not worked for twelve days and at the end so much to preserve the civic peace as had received in payment-tenpence, to hold a subject population in re

And the religious controversy has been an accessory to this depreciation chorus, there marched to and fro a host of labor. It has diverted the mind of of young medical students. They had the people from the true ills of their raided the building and been beaten condition to false fears. It has enabled back, and now they were taking their the employers to adopt a maxim revenge in defiant songs. If they had "divide and rule" which Fox called been asked to explain their animus "the doctrine of the devil." The Orangeagainst James Larkin they would have men in Ulster, instead of aiming at found it difficut to do so. It could not be because he is fighting for the recognition of his trade union; for these the Catholic workmen. And in Dublin young men are going to be members we see the Ancient Order of Hiberof a trade union—the British Medical mians hand-in-glove with the em-Association—which has just won a ployers, and the priests silent in the more complete and profitable victory midst of a struggle which has reduced

ers and starving them into surrender. industrial development in Ireland. inspire it. What should be thought of such a shire or the coal trade of South Wales or indeed in any organized industry shown a true instinct for a real foe. n this country? It is true that there are extrava-

gances about Larkin's mehods. I shall come to those later. But the point is that he is cut off, not because he is extravagant, but because he is an anticlerical, and because he is turning the



The Swank (at Zoo)-Aw what time they—aw, feed the animal

here ! Youth-Why? Getting hungry?

issues of the Irish politics into new and more vital channels. The old sectarian issues were pleasing alike to the employers and the church and the ation of independence against the au party machine on both sides. They do not want them to give place to a fierce revolt against social conditions. That is not the sort of ominous introduction they desire to the coming Irish Parliament. But it is such a re-volt with which it will be faced. To some extent the Ancient Order Hibernians expresses that revolt; but it is Catholic, it has the spirit of the caucus and it embodies and stereotypes the old antagonisms from which labor has got to shake itself free if it is to win its victories. Labor muct be free from clericalism and it is because the Larkin movement cuts across all the clerical divisions that it is so significant.

To Stampede the Unions.

And if James Larkin finds him elf policy, nor ignore its consequences. of that new and irresponsible school of ladies." But, then, Tennyson once said of the past there is a latent force in thought which lives upon the dream of Meredith that reading him was like Ireland that will dominate the politics of a general strike. If only they can wading through glue. And if Meredith of the home rule Parliament and sub-merge the sectarian issue. That force have a general strike they are sure that something splendid will happen. will be the revolt of the poor against For one thing, the bottom will fall out their conditions. The measure of our of society and there will be a glorious failure to govern Ireland used to be the flight of the people from the soil Now people who think in this way in before the crushing burden of land- this country are not numerous; they are certainly not numerous among the labor party, who happen to be on the whole rather cane men. Attempts have been made to stampede them in the past without any sort of success. On this occasion the attack is more serious. The attitude of the Dublin emtrade unionists to submit to, and the consequences of the lock-out are too terrible to be ignored. The English

for trade unions have generously come to the relief of the Dublin victims. They have sent them many thousands of pounds in money and many shiploads of food. But Larkin aims at a more Napo-

eonic blow. He calls on the Parlianentary Committee of the Trade Inion Congress to sanction a sympathetic strike to force the Dublin employers to surrender. England is to be starved in order that Mr. Murphy may learn an elementary lesson in inlustrial negotiation. And wherever there is a Mr. Murphy the same Nasess greater power they evince greater smyth hammer is to be brought to interest in the life of the church, but crack the nut. And so the way will, in that even in a disestablished or nonthe mind of the syndicalists, be paved established church their participation to the general strike as an ordinary in ecclesiastical affairs is less "igorous weapon of warfare. Any dispute in a and regular than it might be expected Lancashire mill or a Midland forge to be," says Dean Welldon in the Manmay leave us without so much as a chester Guardian, complaining that the bus to the city in the morning and Church Congress does not discover with the whole of the British Islands new talent and introduce new speakparalyzed. The parliamentary committee have deferred this proposal to a conference three weeks hence. James Larkin thinks it a long time; but he undertakes that the strike shall hold out till the leaders have made up their

Leader or Agitator?

It is a bold attempt to stampede English trade unionism into an heroic wrecking policy. It will not succeed; but it is significant of much that is happening in the labor world that so extreme a proposal should have been discussed for two days and then committed to a special conference for a "Say, plumber, come at once! There's strange, loose-limbed figure on the platform, with the wild light in eyes and his tales of the Dublin slums. And yet I doubt whether he is a complete convert to his own policy, Church in the present day.

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ployers? Why are the Nationalist mem- showed that he knows how to fence bers overwhelmingly on the same side? "I am not a leader. I have been flung It is not that the misery is not there, up by this movement, and would rather It is open and palpable. Nor it is that be back at my own job with a shovel the men have no justice on their side. in my hands. I may be a lunatic. But Sir George Asquith's commission has I'll tell you one thing I'm not. I'm not declared that they have. It has de- a knave." It was a shrewd thrust. He clared that the employers' attempt to is a fanatic. The most notable thing destroy the Transport Workers' Union in his speech was not his wild words is indefensible. The peace committee about the trade union, but his soft has taken the same view. The employers have disregarded every criti- His audience howled at the congres cism and every appeal, and have de- for their delay. He did not play up to liberately pursued their policy of kill- this mood. On the contrary, he checkng the union by locking out its mem- ed it by referring to the vast respon sibility which rected on the congress That such a policy should be adopted at this time of day is alone sufficient he may be more than an agitator—that to show the rudimentary condition of he can direct a movement as well as

If he is not he will soon disappear policy in the cotton trade of Lanca- If he is, these young men who are marching and singing outside have

The Littleness of Greatness

What Great Men Have Said of Other Great Men.

For the benefit of the humble reader tho has his doubts about this or that particular giant of literature, but lares not say what he thinks, an ingenious citizen of Australia has compiled a little manual of heterodoxy. Inder the title "The Littleness of Greatness," Mr. Sydney J. Endacott, of Melbourne, has brought together he disparaging things that have said of great men by other great men. "This book," says the author, "is a piece of pure devilment," thereby im lying that his sole purpose is to mak trouble. But as we have intimated the little book might well encourage the average reader to issue a declar thority of the princes of letters. It is not always the "great" who act as critics in this anthology of dispraise, out well_known men they always are eginning with Horace Walpole, who called Dante a "Methodist parson in Bedlam," and therefore earned the gratitude of those stirred to resentment by the excesses of the Dante worshippers.

Tennyson has been severely handled y his fellow-writers. Bulwer-Lytton killed three birds with a stone when he spoke of Tennyson's

Jingling medley of purloined conceits, Out-babying Wordsworth and outglittering Keats.

George Meredith said of the "Holy outlawed by all the traditional parties Grail" that "the lines are satin lengths, in Ireland he is no less a problem for the figures Sevres china. Why, this the English trade unionist. He has forced him on the horns of a curious man has got hold of the muse's clothes dilemma. He can neither indorse his line and hung it with jewelry.' The policy, nor ignore its consequences. "Idylls of the King" are "yards of Larkin is the hope of the newest phase linen_drapery for the delight of called Matthew Arneld "a dandy Isaiah," Mr. George Moore has set down that "in George Meredith there is nothing but crackjaw sentences, empty and unpleasant in the mouth as terile nuts," not a particularly happy bit of style in itself. Of Carlyle's "French Revolution," Hallam said, The style is so abominable I could not get on with it," and of Hallam's "European History," Carlyle remarked: "Eh! The poor miserable skeleton of

It is only because we are accustomed to have Tolstoy make a clean sweep of most of the works of man that we find it not unnatural for the great Russian to describe "The Cymbeline,' and "Twelfth Night" 'senseless dramatized tales," whole as having nothing whatever in common with art and poetry, "borrowed as they are, and externally like mosaics fitted together piecemeal from bits invented for the occasion."

DEAN WELLDON ON THE NEED FOR NEW TALENT.

"It has seemed to me, when I have been travelling in different parts of the Empire, that where the laity pos-

"The unwillingness of prominent churchmen to occupy themselves with the official business of the church is a phenomenon which it is impossible to observe without regret. It is seen and felt on all hands. It mars the effect of resolutions passed by the ecclesiastical assemblies which are supposed or intended to formulate the mind of the There is at times a disapchurch. pointment, if not a hewildering, discrepancy between the majority of Churchmen and the representative as-

asemblies of the Church. "But whether in the Church gress or elsewhere the need of quickening the great silent mass of Church people into visible and audible reality is, I think, a primary need of the



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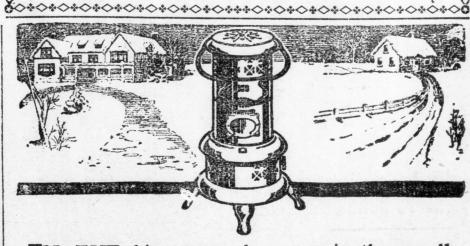
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