

he was talkin' to 'em in what I take was the Gaelic. But I heard the word 'Serena.'

"I went softly forward. Serena had shrunk back at the sound o' her name and the sight o' the plight he was in, and stood with her face in her hands, shaking. I slipped my arm round Murray. 'You're safe, old boy,' ses I, which he wasn't, 'we've come to take you home.'

"'Home?' ses he, lookin' up at me. 'I've no home,' he ses, and his eyes was like an owl's, and he was that weak he could scarcely shape the words in his soft way of talkin'. 'I've no home,' he ses, 'tis over the sea and I'll know it no more all the days o' my life,' ses he, and his head fell back on my arm and I thought he was gone.

"Serena crept nearer among the rocks, and—'Hamish, O, Hamish!' ses she under her breath.

"'Buck up, old feller,' ses I, distracted and foolish like, 'I tell you we've come to take you home with us.'

"'Where's my home?' ses he, wild and faint as a ghost's voice. And with that Serena thrust me aside and held out her arms.

"'Here, Hamish,' she ses, 'where'd your home be but in my heart, Hamish,' she ses, 'forever and ever, amen?'

"Aye, we reached shore again, though how we fared through the rapids is past tellin'. And the life afterwards of Serena and Hamish you know as well as I, Jim. But whenever I think o' them that's gone I think of her voice that day,—'Where'd your home be but in my heart, Hamish, for ever and ever, amen?' And his home was there for nigh upon forty years."

Actresses in the Peerage

BY the death of the Countess of Clancarty, once Belle Bilton, the music-hall star, we are again reminded, says the London (England) "News," how often the ranks of our peeresses have been recruited from the stage.

Why so many peers should marry actresses is a question not easy to answer. Miss Camille Clifford, however, who only recently wedded a putative peer in the Hon. Henry Bruce, the heir of Lord Aberdare, essayed on one occasion a reply to it. The secret, she considered, was one of impression. Actresses, she told us, always convey the impression "that they are uncommonly charming. And it is the first impression that very often lasts." In any case, every match of the kind she could think of had turned out well.

That is eminently true as regards the marriage of the Countess of Clancarty. The dead lady was a pattern wife and mother. Her shrewd business capacity proved of the utmost help to her husband in the management of his estates. In society she moved with dignity and grace as became her high position, and gained friendships everywhere, amongst others that of her Majesty the Queen. She will be sadly missed, especially by her four children, the eldest of whom, Lord Kilconnel, the heir, is only fifteen.

Looking back, the number of actresses who have entered the very highest circles of the aristocracy is really astonishing. The third Earl of Peterborough, in 1724, wedded the beautiful Anastasia Robinson, and, what is more, challenged several persons to duels because they threw doubts upon the legality of the marriage, which took place secretly. The original Polly Peachum of Gay's Beggars' Opera, Lavinia Fenton, was espoused by the third Duke of Bolton in 1751; while the twelfth Earl of Derby, in 1797, took as his second wife the fascinating Eliza Farren. Miss Louisa Brunton, very popular in her day as a singer and dancer, wedded the first Earl of Craven in 1807. She comes well down to our time, for she did not die till 1860, having outlived her husband 35 years. In 1813 Mary Bolton, playing the part of a sprightly chambermaid, so captivated the second Baron Thurlow that he married her a fortnight after making her acquaintance. Then there is the noted instance of Harriett Mellon, so prominently recalled by the lamented death of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts. Miss Mellon's beauty and acting had made her the rage of the town when in 1815 she married Thomas Coutts, the banker. When he died in 1822 he left her all his wealth. She married the Duke of St. Albans five years later, but never forgot the Coutts' family, and when she died, as all the world knows, her wealth went to the then Miss Burdett, Thomas Coutts's granddaughter, whose noble use of it will be remembered for ever.

One actress had two titled husbands in her time. This was Miss Fanny Braham, who was four times wedded. In 1829 she married Mr. Waldegrave, and when he died a year later went to the altar with the seventh Earl Waldegrave. He died in 1846, and in 1847 she married the eldest son of the Archbishop of York, Mr. Granville Harcourt. Left a widow again in 1861 she two years later married Lord Carlingford, and became a noted personage in politics, her house at Strawberry-hill, until her death in 1870, being a rallying centre for the chiefs of the Liberal Party. Other noted unions of peers with players in the early days of the 19th century were those of Miss Maria Foote with the Earl of Harrington, in 1831; and Kitty Stevens, the original "Polly Perkins of Paddington-green," with the fifth Earl of Essex, in 1838.

Coming nearer to the present time, it may be remem-

bered that the Earl of Euston, in 1871, married the well-known actress, Miss Kate Walsh, who died in 1903. Another marriage which created some sensation was that of the fourth Marquis of Ailesbury, in 1884, to Miss Dolly Tester.

It was in 1889 that the late Countess of Clancarty was married to the then Lord Dunlo, and the next stage romance came in 1892. In that year the present Lord Orkney married Miss Constance Gilchrist, the charming Gaiety actress, whose dancing was one of the great attractions of the famous Strand house. They are a very happy couple, and the countess, who is a well-known figure in the hunting-field, is exceedingly popular. She has one child, Lady Mary Constance Fitzmaurice, who was born in 1903.

A marriage that has since been dissolved was that of Lord Francis Hope in 1804 to Miss May Yohe, the "coon" singer. Much better luck has attended the union in 1901 of Lord Clonmell to Miss Estelle Berridge. They are a devoted couple, and they have one charming child, born in 1902, Lady Moira Nora Scott. The year 1901 also saw the marriage of the Gaiety actress, Miss Rosie Boot, to the Marquis of Headfort. They were also very happy, and have a sturdy son and heir, Terence Geoffrey, Earl of Bective, who was born in 1902.

In March, 1905, the actor-peer Lord Rosslyn, married Miss Anna Robinson, the celebrated American actress, and a later year witnessed the entrance of two actresses into the peerage in one week. Miss Eva Carrington, who was taking the part of a Gibson Girl in "Bluebell in Fairyland," at Aldwych theatre, married the 25th Baron de Clifford, and Miss Frances Donnelly, one of the original "Floradora" beauties, wedded Lord Ashburton. Both peers are keen sportsmen, and both peeresses are fond of outdoor sports, so these husbands and wives get on capitally together.

An Unusual Tribute

POLITICAL meetings in Canada are not often characterised by personal violence, however fiercely the opposing candidates may differ on matters of tariff and remedial legislation. There was a time when missiles were thrown and free fights ensued, but those days of fistic argument have gone with the corduroy roads and home-made soft soap.

Mr. Keir Hardie, the English Labour Leader, has recently had an experience which shows that the path of the political agitator is not always strewn with roses. He was invited to speak at the Cambridge Guildhall by the local Labour committee, but the junior members of the university prepared for him an unflattering reception. A bottle, containing what was said to be sulphuretted hydrogen, was hurled into the hall and diffused an aroma which was not of Araby the Blest.

On the appearance of Mr. Hardie he was greeted with a playful fusilade of lump sugar and oranges. However, the Labour Leader spoke manfully on and secured twenty minutes' hearing. But on his first mention of "socialism" the uproar was renewed and he finally retired in a shower of lump sugar and a farewell salute of the raw material of marmalade. To be hissed or stoned or even spat upon has its dignifying compensations, for "so persecuted they the prophets." But to have disapproval expressed in saccharine and fruity form is to be made a little lower than the suffragettes.