British Gossip



Miss Nancy Lycett Green, the fiancee of Mr. Adrian Rose, of the Blues.

HE discussion of feminine beauty is a matter which extends beyond the silly season. The latest yond the silly season. The latest remark on the subject is to the effect that a handsome Englishwoman in a French gown is a delightful object for contemplation. The vote which resulted in a popular decision for Lady Beatrice Pole-Carew as the most beautiful woman in the kingdom, placed two members of the theatrical profession among the chosen few. The ladies of the lime-light are securing several of the matrimonial prizes of the aristocracy, the latest rumour being that Miss Billie Burke, who is now playing in New York with Mr. John Drew, is to become the bride of a peer. Mr. Beerbohm Tree's daughter is another theatrical star to win the attention of the son of an earl. But there are other weddings into which the dramatic elewed weddings into which the dramatic element does not actually enter. Miss Nancy Lycett Green, grand-daughter of Sir Edward Green, is one of the fair brides-elect in whom the London public is interested and in graceful charm she is said to be unsurpassed by any of the

more conspicuous "demoiselles" of the season. The coming-of-age of several young noblemen (among them, Lord Dundonald's heir) has rather obscured the importance of the autumn weddings.

THOSE who regarded the House of Bourbon as a departed glory must have THOSE who regarded the House of Bourbon as a departed glory must have been rather startled by the lavish display which attended the marriage of Princess Louise of Orleans to Prince Charles of Bourbon at Wood Norton, on the hillside sloping down to the Avon. If a prophet had whispered to Louis XIV, that descendants of his race would find their happiest home in rural England, the Great Monarch would doubtless have laughed. The lover of pageants, or the student of French history, might have felt a thrill of dramatic pleasure as the royal flag of France, not the new tricolour, gleamed above the copper beeches near an old English home. The Mayor and Corporation of Evesham presented to the bride a painting by Alfred Parsons, A.R.A., of her English residence in its autumn setting.

ONCE more has the voice of the suffragette been heard in the land. Now that the danger of a railway strike is over and Mr. Lloyd-George is the hero of the hour, the Government might take heart again, were it not for these fussy females who are a terror to the Cabinet Minister when he takes a drive abroad. The suffragettes have fallen out among themselves and pulled each other's hair with vicious intensity over the vexed question of who shall be leader while mocking man has stood afar and laughed loudly. But they have united once more to torment such politicians as Mr. McKenna and Hon. Augustine Birrell by interrupting meetings until the distinguished speakers retire from the fray. These noisy members of the gentle sex have so far relied on the unwillingness of the masculine hearers to eject them by main force.

MR. GEORGE BERNARD SHAW has perpetrated his annual "shocker" R. GEORGE BERNARD SHAW has perpetrated his annual "shocker" in the form of a laudation of polygamy which he has sent to the "Times." The British Public, however, has refused to be horrified and hold up scandalised hands in protest. It holds its sides instead and assures the rash dramatist that he is a great humourist. In fact, the public utterly declines to take Mr. Shaw seriously and regards with mild amusement even the indecencies of "A Doctor's Dilemma" and "Mrs. Warren's Profession." It would be a duller world without this socialistic vegetarian with his diatribes against monogamy. In the meantime, let us hope that Mrs. George Bernard Shaw is possessed of a sense of humour and is disposed to regard her wayward "pardner" as an exceedingly clever mountebank whose tricks are seldom less "pardner" as an exceedingly clever mountebank whose tricks are seldom less than diverting.

THE recent agitation against the dramatic Censor, Mr. Redford, has not been shared by the theatrical managers who have, indeed, favoured the much-discussed official whose hand must be weary of holding the blue pencil. It is said that the managers considered it would be infinitely better to have a man of some sensibility in such a position than to suffer from the forbidding decrees of the police or a County Councillor. Mr. Redford's chief offence, in the eyes of the literary coterie clamouring for his resignation in a charger, seems to be the refusal of "Ghosts" and "Monna Vanna," either of which is hardly necessary to the enjoyment of life.

ORD LYVEDEN, whose "personally conducted" tours were the fashion several years ago, and who was fond of having colonial acquaintances in his party, was recently decorated by the Kaiser with the second-class Royal Prussian Order of the Crown. Lord Lyveden was plain Mr. Courtney Percy Vernon, and, twenty years ago, his attaining a title seemed very uncertain. But his uncle, the second baron, died childless, and in 1900 Mr. Vernon suddenly found himself counted among the peerage. He had led a variegated and picturesque existence abroad, having been a soldier, an actor, a ship's steward, a waiter and a nurseryman. In the last named calling, he invented a new brand of tomato called the P. V. (Percy Vernon) which proved a success. He has been in a shipwreck, has had yellow fever, and experienced an earthquake excitement. Lord Lyveden has been in Canada more than once and is enthusiastic about the Western sport.

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