

LATEST NEWS FROM OLD LONDON

Canadian Singer Bids Farewell to Concert Stage.

MOTOR BUSINESS IN BIG CITY

Their Majesties Visit Artist Cope—Dramatic and Musical Successes of the Season.

London, Dec. 5.—Their majesties paid a visit to the studio of Mr. Cope, R.A., who is engaged in painting an "open air" portrait of the King. Apropos of this visit, the writer had an amusing experience with a lodging-house landlady, of the "Dickens" type. Early in the summer the King gave Mr. Cope one or two sittings in the garden adjoining the studio on Campden Hill, and many were the people who crowded the vicinity to catch a glimpse of King Edward. The landlady, in question, who was much excited over the King's advent to that part of London, told the writer that "Mr. Cope was a lucky man. He would be an aristocrat and able to have the royal arms over the gate of his studio!" "Special purveyor to His Majesty King Edward" was evidently in her mind, and the vision of Mr. Cope, R.A., with a huge gilt sign over his artistic studio was irresistibly diverting to those who heard the remark. One longed to pass on the joke to Buckingham Palace, for this particular R.A. is one of the most autocratic of artists, and absolutely refused to paint the King unless he gave the number of sittings asked for!

Education at Trafalgar Square.
Trafalgar Square is no longer monopolized by the Labor and Socialist element. Last Saturday five thousand persons gathered to hear Lord Shaftesbury and Lord Halifax and Lord Hugh Cecil inveigh against the education bill, now undergoing radical changes in the House of Lords. If the speakers were more restrained in the language than the usual "Trafalgar Square" orators they were nevertheless just as much in earnest, and the banners which were floated on the breeze, bore many legends which savored of a strong fighting spirit. "Thou shalt not steal" was one of the most significant, evidently bearing upon the probable consecration of schools built and supported by private subscription. "We want religion, not irreligion" was another sentence inscribed in huge letters. As far as Lord Halifax's utterances went it was a cry for "Equal Rights." Lord Lansdowne is well to the fore in the "scrimmage" going on in the House of Lords, and the writer is trying to ascertain the various forms of religion represented in the House of Lords. One informant told her that Presbyterians were particularly strong, and that among the recent additions to the peerage there were at least nine or ten Nonconformists.

One hesitates to frequent the lobbies of either the House of Commons or the House of Lords, for every woman is an object of suspicion within the precincts of Westminster Palace in these stormy days, and one may be subjected to a sort of "test clause" business before one is admitted within speaking range of a member of Parliament! Speaking of the House of Lords some opponent of the present Government said the other day that Mr. Lloyd George would not destroy the House of Lords just yet, as he looked forward to removing Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman to the Upper House before he assumed the position of premier.

Motor "Bus" Traveling.
I have long ago conquered my dislike for a motor "bus" as a means of transit, for the saving of time is immense, and only yesterday was struck with an incident which happened when compelled to use one of the "buses" drawn by horses. My destination was in a locality with which I was unfamiliar. A lady asked the conductor to stop at a certain street, while I was bound for "Gardens" of the same name. She, however, got out before her destination was reached, murmuring something which I did not catch. In another two minutes my street came in view, and the conductor said angrily, "Why didn't you get out when that lady did? She did not want to stop the horses a second time." Meekly I informed him of my ignorance of what she had said, and the situation of the street, but added, "I would have taken a motor 'bus' if I had been lucky enough to find one," and with that parting thrust, left the irate man, for they hate the motor "buses" which pass them in speed and accommodation.

Canadian Singer's Farewell
The farewell appearance of Miss Muriel Foster, the well-known concert singer so popular with Toronto audiences, took place at the Bechstein Hall last week, Miss Foster is retiring from public life on her marriage with Mr. Goetz, which takes place about the middle of the month. Her loss to the concert stage will be keenly felt, for there is no one at present who promises to fill her place.

Three important productions have taken place in the theatrical world lately: "The Virgin Goddess" at the Adelphi, a tragedy of the deepest dye, and in blank verse, has been put on the boards by an absolutely unknown playwright, Mr. Beiler, and has caught the public fancy at the outset. The plot of "The Virgin Goddess" is much on the lines of Greek tragedy. Miss Genevieve Ward, as the queen, was simply astounding. She is really an old lady. I saw her last at a concert, wearing a real old lady's bonnet tied under her chin, with not the slightest attempt to remain youthful, and in the exultation of the art she became young again, and fairly electrified the audience by the stupendous power of her art. Unhappily so superb was the acting of this veteran of the stage, that one learned how weak is the conception of tragedy by the modern actress. One could imagine Mrs. Patrick Campbell playing the part of the queen with success, but no other actress of the English stage could have

touched that part, in comparison to Miss Ward.

The "Merveilleuse" at Daly's is drawing enormous audiences. Dr. Felix has produced a light opera which is artistic and musical in the extreme; the flood of melody is exquisite, and the plot by Sardou is worthy of the musical score. The quaint and fantastic costumes of the Directoire period, lend themselves admirably to the bright scene, and everyone is charmed with this latest venture of Mr. Edwards, to whom the London public owe already so great a debt for brightening the gloom of London winters, by his enterprise in the realm of musical comedies.

Troubles of Titled Ones
There are unhappy rumors being circulated concerning the Marlborough menage, and both Blenheim and Sunderland House are to be let, it is said the latter house, which is yet unfinished, is for sale. The Grand Duke Michael of Russia, who is a resident of England, must thank the fate which made him an exile from his native country. His morganatic marriage with the Countess Torby was the cause, and they are tremendous favorites in English society, where the charms of both husband and wife are cordially acknowledged. York House, Twickenham, in which the Duke d'Orleans lived while in England, has been sold to an Indian merchant from Bombay. The Duke d'Orleans was said to have been pardoned by King Edward for his indiscreet encouragement to Parisian caricaturists who published offensive cartoons of Queen Victoria. For a time, it was impossible for the duke to return to his English home, and it is said that while the permission was given to him by the King to return to this country, that the attitude of the mass of people who had formerly admitted him to their society was such that he found it necessary to seek some other place of abode. The mansion at Twickenham was formerly the home of James II. when Duke of York, and was originally purchased by the Comte de Paris.

There are an unfortunate number of scandals rife in London society just at present, probably most of them are grossly exaggerated, but not less than six decrees, also were rescinded this week in the divorce court by Sir Gorell Barnes, on evidence furnished by the King's Proctor, and the remarks made by the presiding judge upon the absolute untruth of much of the evidence presented, was a severe blow, as much aimed at the negligence of counsel as at the utter want of honesty on the petitioners' part.

BRYAN ON THE MESSAGE

Democrat Leader Denounces Warlike Tone Assumed by Roosevelt.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 6.—Commenting on President Roosevelt's message, W. J. Bryan today said: "The message contains much that is democratic and for which the general public may well thank him. It contains some things that ought to arouse severe criticism. The President boldly appropriates some of the doctrines which the Democrats have been advocating, and, on the other hand, he announces some doctrines which are so absurd as to excite amusement if the suggestions came from a less prominent source. In some cases, he takes advanced grounds; in some cases he retracts from grounds already taken."

Mr. Bryan deplores what he calls the President's warlike attitude. He says there will be general disappointment at the warlike tone of his message where he discusses the army and the navy. He speaks of the navy as the surest guarantee of peace which the country possesses. Shame upon the chief executive that he should place an instrument of brute force above the nation's sense of justice as a guarantee of peace—the best guarantee of peace is our nation's principle to deal justly with other nations. War ought to be a last resort; not a first consideration. It is bad enough to have a few professional soldiers. It is not necessary that the whole nation shall be kept up all the time to the fighting point.

GIRLS ENTERING WOMANHOOD

Will Find Bileams a Boon—A Word of Advice to Mothers.

The development of a girl at the time when she is just emerging from girlhood and passing into the fuller life of womanhood, should be carefully watched by all mothers.

Very often a girl complains that her clothes weigh her down. She becomes weak, has a feeling of weight at the stomach after meals, suffers from frequent headaches, and is often restless and miserable. All these symptoms mean that her vitality has reached a low ebb, that some natural tonic is required to re-tone the system and increase her vigor and energy. This can only be done by enriching and purifying the blood; and the surest method of doing this is by undergoing a course of Bileams.

Mrs. F. Butterfield, of Mexboro, writes: "My daughter, Jane Hannah, seemed to be losing all her strength and all her good spirits. She became weakly, pale and despondent, instead of the bright, energetic girl, full of life and vivacity she had always been. I had proved how good Bileams were when I was out of sorts, so I gave her a few doses. The result was wonderful. They seemed to tone her up and give her back her life and energy in a few days! She is now in excellent health, although at a very critical age, and I have Bileams alone to thank."

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There is room for large increases in the imports of sugar, spices, merchandise and drugs in Persia, according to the British consul at Teheran.

Drugs are especially finding an increasing sale in that country.

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CUTS OUT "GOD"

School in New York Is Said to Teach Atheism.

New York, Dec. 6.—American-born children, all of whom are near their teens, testified yesterday afternoon in the study of John T. Prout, pastor of the Catholic Church of St. John Nepomuk, in East Seventy-first street, that they are taught in school that there is no God. Father Prout sat at his desk and did the quizzing. William Sehanek, a towhead, was the first to the bar.

"William Sehanek," began Father Prout, "what is it the teachers tell you at the Bohemian free school where you go on Wednesdays and Saturdays to read in Bohemian books?"

"That there's no God, father, and no angels," replied William. Like the other youngsters he talks English well. "And they say that going to church is foolish."

Robert Kellner, of East Seventy-third street, said that he, too, had been told not to go to church. The teachers had warned him, he said, that a patch would grow on his tongue if he did.

"In the books they put a pencil mark through wherever it says God," went on Robert, "and if we forgot and read the word anyway they sometimes hit us with a stick."

Annie Jellinek came next. "What about you, Annie?" began the priest. Annie was checkfull of information

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and jumped right past him in her testimony. "I learned that I shouldn't believe in God, that there wasn't any use in going to church, that the teachers would like Father Prout to tell if he can how a soul's going to get clear from earth to heaven, and how long it takes."

"You see," concluded the priest after several had testified, "they're all agreed. All the children tell it the same way."

"This is a non-sectarian school," explained Father Prout. "We admit all; anybody who wants to learn Bohemian. Religion hasn't anything to do with it, Catholic or Protestant. It is true that where church prayers are found in our books the prayers are cut out entirely. But we have never struck out the word 'God,' and have never taught atheism in any way."

doctors on the ground that they affect one's regular sleep. Scientists have found that in the ordinary course in the human being there is the greatest vitality between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., and the least between 2 o'clock and 6 o'clock in the morning. Long sleeps during the day interfere with this order of organs, causing headache. The nap of forty winks, but only forty, proves refreshing to many because it is so short to have any injurious consequences.

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Tamagno, the Italian tenor and one of the greatest singers of today, describing

ing to leave for his children some record of his genius, recently had made, on specially prepared plates for reproduction in the phonograph, several records of his songs. Two of these records have been preserved in a museum in Paris. The plates were made with great care and are sealed in metal boxes, containing also chemical compounds for their preservation. The boxes are labeled and dated. One will be opened fifty years from now and the other at the end of a century.

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