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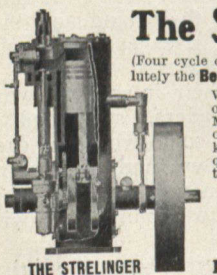
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## HITHER AND THITHER

THE quarrel about the Shakespeare Memorial goes merrily on. Some of the discussing literary men have fallen into poetry on the subject. Mr. Alfred Austin and Mr. William Archer have expressed themselves in agitated verse as entirely opposed to the project, feeling, as John Milton did before them, that Shakespeare's "hallowed bones" need no memorial in stone or marble. The members of the committee go bravely on, however, in spite of the dismal prediction that some uninspired Anglo-Saxon sculptor will be chosen to mould the statue which is to be set up in Portland Place. If the author of the *Midsummer Night's Dream* can return in spirit to the London which he loved, one can fancy him breathing an echo of *Puck's* mocking cry: "What fools these mortals be!"

Mr. G. Bernard Shaw naturally has many remarks to make on the subject and insinuates that a sculptor is after a commission, a contractor after a job and a chairman after a knighthood. Mr. Shaw is nothing if not dramatic and stirs up strife in a delightfully thorough fashion. On the new provisional committee there are many names of influence, including Mr. A. W. Pinero and our very own Sir Gilbert Parker. Miss Corelli is also on the brilliant list.

\* \* \*

MR. HENRY MILLER, who is now managing the Savoy Theatre, New York, is a Canadian by birth. Mr. Miller and the Ottawa actress, Miss Margaret Anglin, had an extraordinary success with Mr. Moody's play, *The Great Divide*, in which Mr. Miller played the hero's part. Once more Mr. Miller, who has temporarily given up acting, has been blessed by theatrical good fortune. The drama, *The Servant in the House*, which has been the attraction at the Savoy for some time, is hailed as the most original of the year's plays. The playwright is the husband of Miss Edith Wynne Matthison who was well-known to Canadian audiences in the early days of Ben Greet. It is generally admitted that it was Miss Matthison's genius which made those "greenwood" productions of five years ago so rare in magnetic quality.

\* \* \*

THE conceit of North America is occasionally disturbed by the reflection that Central America and South America were busy with certain features of civilisation before Sir Walter Raleigh smoked Virginia Leaf and were establishing universities before the *Mayflower* had reached Plymouth with the ancestors of all good United Statesers on deck. A Yale doctor has arisen to remind this part of the American continent that the first Spanish settlements in South America antedated England's settlements in North America by nearly a hundred years. When Harvard University was yet a dream, the University of San Marcos in Peru was a fairly flourishing institution already older than Cornell is to-day. When Cornell celebrates her hundredth anniversary, this Peruvian university will be celebrating the four hundredth. It is just as well to be reminded of youth.

\* \* \*

EXHIBITIONS are not always a soaring success. Toronto, of course, manages to pick up a few dollars towards the first week in September, but Toronto has the exhibition habit and makes money out of her Ontario friends every season. Buffalo did not find the Pan-American affair of 1901 a financial gratification, St. Louis is reticent as to the Exposition of 1904, while Jamestown is frankly doleful as to the dollars lost in the Exposition of last year. Of course there was the wonderful World's Fair at Chicago in 1893 but that was a White City all by itself and its equal will not be built for many a day. Taking all these events into consideration it is not surprising that a San Francisco editor remarks: "An evidence of Canadian sanity appears in the fact that the observance of this historic event (the voyages of Champlain) will not take the form of either a world's fair or a national exposition."

\* \* \*

THE marriage of Miss Shonts of New York to the Duc de Chaulnes, a French nobleman of many debts and limited gray matter, attracted some attention a few months ago. The bride's father had been rash enough, in the years before his daughter's maturity, to draw up a list of rules for the guidance of young women in choosing a husband and the world was naturally diverted by seeing Miss Shonts drive a coach and four through the paternal rules. In fact, the fair New Yorker chose just the sort of man whom her father had carefully condemned. On their arrival in Paris the Duke and his bride were met by a huge welcoming party of the former's creditors who were curious to see how far the good U. S. dollars of Papa Shonts would go towards paying for flowers, bracelets, automobiles and boots which their aristocratic customer had "charged." The troubled bridegroom was taken violently ill and died. Now, after a few months as the bride of an impecunious nobleman, the daughter of Mr. Theodore Shonts may return to this continent a charming widow and a stately duchess.

\* \* \*

"THE richest square mile in the world" is asserted regarding that territory known in London, England, as "the city." On April first a new law came into force by which 114 ancient parishes were made into one. The work formerly done by 250 officials will in future be carried on by twenty-one with the activities properly centralised. One of the parishes—All Hallows—has a population of only fifteen and the population of many of the 114 is below fifty. Most of the parishes have significant historic names of which "St. Andrew by the Wardrobe" is perhaps the most striking. It is the greatest financial centre in the world which has been unified and re-organised by the recent change, a district which controls an immense supply of the gold which helps to make the commercial world go round.



Mr. F. R. Benson as Richard III.

Mr. and Mrs. Benson are in charge of the Shakespeare Festival at Stratford-on-Avon.

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