

ENGLISH ROYAL VETO.

at Is Practically Extinct, Not Having

The earliest mention of the exercise the royal veto was when King Hen-Ty V., shortly after the victory of Agincourt, said "Le roy s'avisera" (the king will consider it) to a petition of parliament against the transferring of suits at common law into chancery. Many instances are mentioned dur-ing succeeding reigns until that of Queen Anne, who is responsible for the latest exercise of this very interesting spower in refusing the sovereign's as-sent to the bill for settling the militia of Scotland, passed by the lords and the commons on March 17, 1708. This is recorded in the journals of the house

Since 1708 the veto has never been used, though there was a threatened exercise of royal power of rejection toward the close of the reign of George III. and also by Queen Victoria in 1858. Mr. Bagehot considered that this power is extinct and added that "Queen Wictoria must sign her own death warrant if both houses present it for her aignature."—London Standard. Since 1708 the veto has never be

Wild California

'A geography published in 1812 con-cains the following startling descrip-tion of that section of our country which Charles Dudley Warner bap-tized "Our Italy."

"California is a wild and almost un-known land, covered throughout the year by dense fogs as damp as they are unhealthful. On the northern shores live anthropophagi, and in the interior are active volcanoes and vast plains of shifting snow, which sometimes shoot up columns to inconceivable heights."

The book adds that some of these

The book adds that some of these statements would seem incredible were they not so well authenticated by trustworthy travelers!

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The Coming of 5 Grandma

By BERTHA BLAKE

Copyright, 1905, by T. C. McClure 0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0 The man strode toward her with undisguised pleasure in his eyes.

"Helens, this is indeed an unexpect-"Surprise?" broke in the girl, unmindful of the ambiguity her interrup-

tion lent to his remark.
"Pleasure," corrected Norton firmly.
He did not fail to detect an undertone of sarcasm in Helena's tone. She shrugged her shoulders. "Oh," she said simply, but that one word con-

veyed depths of incredulity.
"Going away?" asked Norton, looking about for some traveling impedimenta. And yet if Helena had been going away surely he would have

known it.

The girl flung him a scornful glance. "No." she said, tapping her foot nervously on the tiled floor of the station. "And you?" looking pointedly at the bunch of violets he carried.

"I've come to meet a train." Helena glanced at the big clock on the wall. "It's six minutes yet," she informed him knowingly. Since his arrival her chin had been elevated percep-

Norton's glance followed hers to the clock. "Jove, it's in now—my train!" he said, and, with a hasty adieu, he rushed off through the great doors, leaving her staring after him dazed.

Again her eyes sought the clock. No, she was not mistaken. Florence had wired that she would arrive at 3:10, and it was now only 3:04. "Never mind meeting me," she had added in her telegram, but Helena had only laughed away her friend's instructions. Flor-ence had always been overthoughtful. Now she sat down on the depot bench. Norton must have been misinformed as to the time of arrival-hewhy, of course, Florence had sent him word too. It seemed quite unnecessary to Helena and yet—she suddenly recalled that he had stopped off at Poughkeepsie once or twice. She saw it all now: Norton had only been coming to see her, taking her out, kee in touch with her, on account of Flor-ence. He wished to be welcome at the Bradford home when the girl visited them. "Never mind meeting me"—the words in Florence's message rang in

words in Florence's message rang in Helena's mind. Why were they so se-cretive about it all?

The girl brushed her hand over her eyes. Was she dreaming or—oh, she longed to be at home where she could bury her head in her pillows and— She started. Coming toward her, at-

tentively guiding an elderly woman, was Norton. He held her arm and look-



THIS WAS PERHAPS HIS GRANDMOTHER

ed down into her wrinkled face with tenderness Helena had never before seen in his eyes. Then—he did not come to meet Florence? This was perhaps his grandmother. She was too old for his

Norton raised his hat and smiled as Norton raised his hat and smiled as he passed her, but Helena stared at him stupidly, barely nodding her head. A dark flush mounted to his very hair, but as he followed her into the carriage Helena saw him hand the old lady the violets. The girl's brain sleaved.

How she had misjudged him! Her heart beat wildly, and she longed now to rush after him and apologize for the way in which she had greeted him. But, even when she saw him, how could she explain her behavior?

could she explain her behavior?

In her excitement and in the rush of condicting emotions which surged through her Helena almost forgot the train she was to meet. But, girl-like, her guest was looking everywhere for some one from the Bradford family, in spite of her suggestion that none of them should be there.

"I knew you'd come," she said after an effusive greeting.

"I knew you'd come," she said after an effusive greeting.

"Of course, goosle," retorted Helena, hugging her friend's arm enthusiastically, "Not meet you when I haven't seen you for months?"

But all afternoon, above the chat and gossip incident to her guest's arrival, Helena's mind reverted to her conduct at the station. Would Norton ever come to see her again? And if he did not, could she afford to write him a note of apology?

That evening whenever the bell rang her heart did somersanits with undue energy. And when Norton was announced she could scarcely keep her

joy within bounds. Never before today had she realized what a large part he played in her life; how much she had learned to believe him hers in spite of the indifferent manner in which she always treated him.

Florence was not ready to go down-

Florence was not ready to go down-stairs, and her hostess, glad of the op-

stairs, and her hostess, glad of the opportunity to see Norton for a minute
alone, preceded her.
"Helens," began the man, holding
out his hand just as he did that morning in the depot, "I had to come tonight." He searched her eyes, half
tooking for the scorn which he saw in
them in the station. He was visibly
relieved, if puzzled, when he discovered
her old sauciness playing in them
again.

again.

"Why?" she asked hypocritically.

"It is for me to ask why—after this morning," he said softly and stepping closer to her.

"Florence arrived this morning," He-

lena began irrelevantly.

The man frowned—not at the news she had imparted, but at her persistency in changing the subject.

"And my grandmother, too, arrived," he said.

Helena nodded. "Yes, I saw you."
"I wouldn't have known it from your glance.

"Perhaps you are imaginative or-or oversensitive," the girl persisted, trying to make the outcome easier for hersels. She fell, A. herself. She felt—oh, so wickedly de-ceitful; she almost hated herself. Both cheeks burned, and she avoided his direct gaze.

"Look here, Helena," said Norton, laying one hand on her shoulder. "Why were you so—so different this morning?
Was it because my dear old grandmother is so—so different from the
women we meet here?" Helena raised
a protesting hand, but he hurried on. "My father, as you know, was a self made man—and his mother—but don't think I am ashamed of her!"

think I am ashamed of her?"

Helena's lips quivered and her eyes burned. "Oh, believe me, it wasn't your grandmother. I think she's lovely. I—I, thought you had come to meet—Florence," she cried, throwing up her head and looking him squarely in the eyes at last. in the eyes at last.

"Helena," the man said, and his breath came quickly. "And you cared?" The girl nodded her head slewly. A few moments later she raised her

eyes shyly to his.
"Don't you think we might have a matron of honor instead of a maid?" "She shall be my best man if you

Checkers is a less dangerous game than chess. Few checker players go craxy, although many are crany to play. A safer game than any of them is seven up, and there is nothing the matter with four handed euchre. And then there are cribbage and sixty-six, both of which are almost entirely safe, as very few cribbage or sixty-six players ever get more than half crasy, and then only when they lose seven or eight games in succession. But perhaps the game that allows the most latitude for vigorous kicking without in any way affecting the mentality of the kicker is the game of spade hearts, occasional-Safer Games Than Chess is the game of spade hearts, occasionally played in Boston and other places down east, where the game originated. down east, where the game or instead.

A man must be of sound mind to be able to play spade hearts. He can't keep the queens off him if he gets rattled, and a queen counts twice as much against him as a jack, king or any other heart. Men of ugly tempers never play the game. To be a good player one must be a cheerful loser and keep still about it. - Lafayette (Ind.) Journal.

Direct Preaching. Uncle Isaac was a well known character in a Connecticut town. He was a butcher and a very blunt and outthe Baptist church, his pastor was greatly tried by some of his business habits and finally resorted to what would seem heroic measures to correct them. His text on the Sabbath in

question was, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy."

"Now," said he, "If a friend of a certain man had just \$700 and gave that man \$600 of it, and the man stole the seventh hundred, what would you de to the man?"

"Hang him!" rang out Uncle Isaac's

voice in emphatic response.

"Uncle Isaac, you're the man," said the preacher. "The Lord gave you six days to sell meat in, and you stole the seventh.

"I won't do it any more," came the prompt answer, and the sermon pro-ceeded. And Uncle Isaac kept his word.

Napoleon and Tebacce Smeke.

Although in later life Napoleon was a votary of the snuffbox, he was never known to attempt smoking but once.

The Persian ambassador having presented him with a magnificent oriental volume by which is a result of the state. After the state of the s sented him with a magnificent oriental pipe, he wished to give it a trial. After being instructed how to proceed he desired his attendant, Constant, to light it. It was accordingly properly charged and lighted. We will let Constant tell the rest of the tale: "I obeyed and returned it to him. But scarcely had he drawn a mouthful when the smoke, which he did not know how to expel from his mouth, turned back by his palate, penetrated into his throat and came out by his nose, nearly blinding him. As soon as he recovered breath he exclaimed: Take that away! What an abomination! The brutes! My stomach is quite upset!" In fact, he was so annoyed for more than an hour that he renounced forever all desire to try the experiment again."

A Streak of Good Fortune.

Bunker—Bloomer is looking pretty-well lately. Has he had any luck?

Hill—Why, haven't you heard? He married a widow, and her former hus-

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Tariff.

Tariff was the name of the Moorish chieftain, Abou al Tarifa, who had a fortress near the strait of Gibraltar and levied toll on ships and merchandise passing through.

A Queer Cure.
In Spain a favorite panacea, in theory, for the whooping cough is found in three hairs plucked from the back of an ass. This remedy is not often resorted to in actual practice, however, from an accompanying belief that the ass from which the hairs have been plucked will decline as the patient is restored to health and will die when the cough is completely gone. The bayonet was invented in 1323 by

a woman of Bayonne, and the use of this weapon was at first strongly reprobated by military authorities. The first battle in which a bayonet charge decided the fate of the day was that at

yard and the like.

In the light of love the least may

The Yard Measure Yard was once any stick, rod or pole. The expression is still used with this meaning when applied to various parts of a ship's equipment, as yardarm, sail-



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