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GLADSTONE THE IDOL.

BELIEVED THAT HE WILL AGAIN TAKE THE REINS.

His Speech Protesting Against the Armenian Atrocities Found a Place in the Christian Heart—Our Great Edward Active.

Special Correspondence of The World.

London, Jan. 4.—If by some process a correct verdict could be obtained as to what has been the most important occurrence in England during the last few weeks, undoubtedly the decision would point to the happy incident which took place at Hawarden on Saturday last. Naturally, under the circumstances of his extreme age and vitality, the birthday of Mr. Gladstone excites much public attention and evinces an ever increasing number of congratulations, but this year the event was of unusual importance, inasmuch as the ex-Premier once again favored the nation with an oration of wonderful power. The speech is rapturously admired in all parts of Britain, especially as it was the last political one he delivered in 1894. The venerating whim of the people of England possess for Mr. Gladstone was amply attested by the outburst of welcome with which his latest utterances have been received and are still received, north, south, east and west. One of the leading metropolitan journals remarked on New Year's morning that it would be quite in order to denominate the year just closed as "The year of petty politics," and there are not many who disagree with its statement, especially in view of the narrowness and the acrimonious nature of a proportion of the speeches delivered after the rising of Parliament. But it is agreed that the address made by the Grand Old Man, already published in The World, was a redemptive one and served as a happy termination to the political year. It seems so long since Mr. Gladstone's voice was last heard that it is little to be wondered that his stirring remarks of Saturday were greeted with much enthusiasm and with a spirit exceeding even the old-time fervor. The nation had come to regard him as absolutely retired from public controversy except through the medium of his pen, but the spectacle of the octogenarian once more to the front, strong in the panoply of his eloquence and zeal for the cause of Truth, has revived treasured memories and created a field of speculation as to his intentions for the future. In my last letter I stated that the opinion was general in England that Mr. Gladstone would never re-enter the cabinet, and although this belief is still adhered to, it is said that the country is now full of contrary rumor. Doubtless the people of British Columbia are fully informed of the agitation being carried on for the intervention of the British Foreign Office into the treatment of Armenian Christians by the Sultan, and with this agitation the name of Mr. Gladstone has become inseparably associated on account of his having lately informed the Armenian Association that he "will see the matter through." Certainly there is room for much conjecture in this promise, simply because it is difficult to perceive how it can be redeemed if he remains in private life. It will, moreover, be noted that in his birthday speech the ex-Premier used the words: "As long as I have a voice." It is this latter expression which is really at the bottom of the present supposition that he contemplates an entry into public life. Another thing which lends color to the rumor is the constantly reaccurring assertion that there is a vital difference of opinion between Lord Rosebery and Sir William Vernon Harcourt, and that Sir William carries with him a portion of the Cabinet, a portion of which is declared to be more thoroughgoing and progressive than its present leader. And the report runs that, ere long, a material change will take place in the composition of the Ministry and that Mr. Gladstone will resume his former place. Of course he will hold the Midlothian seat. From a speech delivered not long ago by Mr. Asquith, it has become obvious that at least some of Her Majesty's advisers are anxious to go a faster pace than the Premier is, but it seems almost beside the mark to suppose that any substantial difficulty will arise out of the fact that, whilst Lord Rosebery is a Mender, some of his colleagues are Enders of the House of Lords. If ever there was a time when the acute condition of national affairs called for the administration of a policy of sound Liberalism it is now, and is it not therefore idle to suppose that, in view of this fact, a method of limiting the veto power of the Upper House cannot be devised and accomplished without creating a rift in the ranks of the reforming party? It is in this connection frequently pointed out that Sir William Harcourt has spoken no public word since the close of Parliament, although hundreds of invitations have been extended to him and the questions of the day have been such in a nature as would have made his voice a welcome one. No opportunity is being lost to insinuate that the reticence of the Chancellor of the Exchequer is a sign of disagreement, but this report is circulated in the face of Sir William's avowed preference for a purely private life between session and session. Moreover, about the time that this letter reaches Vancouver the leader of the House of Commons will emerge from his country residence and take the platform at Derby. Needless to say his speech is being anxiously awaited, and, unless authoritative opinion is mistaken, it will then be revealed that the dissentient rumors are nothing more than the product of that section of the London press which is forever sensationalizing and which frequently gets so completely bankrupt for news as to have to draw on the imagination of General Gordon, resurrect Sir Roger Tichborne or kidnap the little Prince Edward of York, otherwise called "the new Yorker."

To return to the subject of the G. O. M., it is worthy of being pointed out that the party in power is still called the Gladstonian party. No one ventures to name it the Rosebery party, and few even refer to it by the good old name of the Liberal party. So long as the ex-Premier lives, it is practically certain that the gentleman who at present sit to the right of Mr. Speaker will continue to be designated Gladstonians, and even if the venerable statesman should not assume the leadership or deliver another address, it is beyond doubt that the oration of the 29th ult. will be ever cherished by his followers as a possession of sterling worth, replete with the true spirit of Liberalism and fragrant with Christian love and sympathy for those who are suffering indignity at the bloodstained hands of the Ottoman Government. It is highly appropriate that Mr. Gladstone should have thus become publicly connected with the Armenian difficulty. Throughout the whole of his life he has been an earnest advocate for freedom and righteousness, and nothing could be more fitting than that, retired from office, he should embrace the opportunity of striking at the tyranny and iniquitous practices of Mussalmanic despotism. The Armenian question has now arisen to the forefront among the problems demanding immediate attention, the published accounts of atrocities enacted by the Turks being almost intolerable. Public meetings have been and are still being held in London and elsewhere in England, at all of which an unmistakable desire is expressed that Great Britain should at once intervene. With his passionate ardor for liberty and justice, the Hon. Edward Blake is in the front rank of the distinguished gentlemen who have called on the Government to take immediate action. With him there are associated such leaders of the people as Dr. Joseph Parker of the City Temple, Cardinal Vaughan, Dr. Clifford, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Canon MacColl and the whole strength of the really Christian public. The conscience of the people is aroused to the inhumanity of the Sultan, and, considering the fact that, under the Berlin Treaty and the Cyprus Convention, England is morally bound to suspend diplomatic relations with a Government so barbarous, the nation is highly indignant that the Foreign Office moves so lethargically. Every true Englishman feels humiliated to think that, whilst the authorities in Downing street are to a large extent responsible for the continuance of the outrages, Christians in Armenia are being massacred by Turkish troops, not in fives and tens, but in hundreds and thousands. The international documents above referred to distinctly stipulate that England shall shield the unfortunate people from the rapacity of the Turks, and the Foreign Office is being severely denounced for its apparent neglect of a pressing duty. Official intimation has, however, been lately given by Lord Kimberly, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that the Cabinet has instituted a searching enquiry, and the inference is that, if the newspaper reports are found correct, friendly relations with Turkey will be at once terminated.

The speech recently delivered in Edinburgh by Mr. McEwan, one of the Gladstonian representatives of that city, does not come as a surprise in England, although possibly it may be a little confusing to people abroad. He frankly declared what the Liberal party acknowledges as inevitable, viz., that for for some time at least it will be impossible to enact a Home Rule bill. In view of this fact he took the initial step looking to a conference on the subject in order that some sort of a compromise may be arrived at. This proposition finds considerable favor in certain quarters and has aroused hostility in others. "In the urgent necessity of a settlement," said Mr. McEwan, "even if it be by compromise, is accentuated by the process of events during recent weeks. Before the delivery of the Prime Minister's speech at Bradford Home Rule was believed to be the measure overshadowing all others, but now the question of a House of Lords has been forced into the forefront of politics and bids fair to swallow up all other questions. That conflict once begun, no man can calculate its results, but we know that the British people can never be got to concentrate their attention on more than one great question at a time, so that if the Liberal party persist on having a Legislative or nothing, they may have to wait a long time. Let us be frank and honest. Let us tell them that we know now that it is beyond the power of the Liberal party, even in close alliance with them, to carry a Home Rule bill on the lines of 1893." This cannot, of course, be gratifying to the Irish party, but it is undoubtedly the real position of affairs and no advantage can be gained by believing otherwise. Lord Rosebery has candidly told the people than an Irish Legislature can never be instituted until England is converted to the idea of it, and the depressed state of commerce and agriculture here precludes the possibility of the electorate giving consideration to any but its own affairs. Application is being made by the government to enact remedial legislation of a hundred different kinds, and not before something is accomplished to alleviate the social, industrial and agricultural interests, will the "predominant partner," as Lord Rosebery calls England, be likely to rise to any conception of justice to Ireland. Meanwhile it is satisfactory to note that the majority of the Irish members stand loyal to the Government. The Irish Times commends Lord Rosebery for his efforts on behalf of the people and its contemporary, the Freeman, is alike zealous in its endeavors to keep the party consolidated. The forthcoming session of Parliament will be a highly critical one for the Government, whose majority in the Commons is now 30. Mr. Labouchere has announced his intention of moving a motion derogatory to the Cabinet, and, if a sufficient number of Irish members should follow him into the Opposition lobby, there will unquestionably be a general election.

A genuine row has arisen in the ranks of the Labor party. The new standing orders which have been drawn up by the Parliamentary committee of the Trades Union Congress have created a commotion, and the leaders are anxiously endeavoring to modify them. The sharp comments of James Mawdsley and Kier Hardie in the New Weekly are abundant evidence of the disruption in the ranks. No one can wonder at this. With few exceptions the so-called leaders are narrow in their ideas, self-seeking in their policy and bombastic in their conceit. No matter which Government is in office they regard themselves as dictators of its policy, and it is not at all surprising that Lord Rosebery feel himself compelled to snap his fingers in their faces, as he recently did at West Ham. A deputation waited on him to call his attention to the fact that the Labor party, but it was so outrageous in its statement of the number of unemployed that His Lordship frankly told it that such a state of affairs could not possibly be, that he disbelieved its representations, and that he would promise to take no action without an investigation into its allegations. The Labor party proposes to contest a host of constituencies at the next general election, and is bringing out candidates in preparation. Anticipating that there will be an appeal to the country this year, an industrial programme is being prepared, and where there is no workingman's candidates the other candidates will be solicited to subscribe to this beneficent document. It will be a matter of surprise if any of the members of the Government pay any attention to it, for it is unreasonable to suppose that a body of statesmen like the Rosebery Cabinet will trust its future to mere caprice.

GEO. J. TOWLER.

HOG RAISING.

The World has frequently pointed out the profits that are to be derived from this branch of industry. In an address before one of the farmers' institutes in Wisconsin, James Fisher said in regard to hog raising: "I take it for granted that you all have well-bred stocks to start with. It matters little what breeds you have so that it suits your fancy. There are excellent properties in them all when properly handled. There are three cardinal points in successful swine breeding—first, management of pigs and hogs; second, regularity in feeding; third, what to feed." He speaks of these in detail, and we condense a few of his suggestions. Too much expectation is based upon blood and too little upon treatment. If you are going to neglect your hogs and feed them just enough to keep them from starving, you had better breed the scrub, which is used to that kind of treatment. It is a great mistake to breed from immature animals. You may have success for a time, but it is sure to bring disaster at some time or other if followed up. If you are going to breed sows, and breed from them you will want the same number, carefully watch each sow as a mother, nurse and suckler, and when the pigs are weaned select the five sows that raised the litter of poorest pigs and fatten them for the market. Then select five young sows from the five mothers that raised the litter of best pigs. Keep an old sow as long as she continues to raise good litters of pigs. In selecting a male look at the pig before he comes to the pedigree or ask the price. These should be secondary considerations.

MOVING INTO CANADA.

A Calumet, Mich., despatch announces that Rev. Father Paradis has prevailed upon nearly 500 heads of families in the vicinity of that city to emigrate to Canada. They will settle near the flourishing village of Vernon, north of Lake Nipissing, and will be within easy access of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The country was formerly heavily timbered, but is now suitable for farming. There are big deposits of marble and sandstone, with lumber not far away. Father Paradis has made the emigration business a study. He has traveled from place to place getting contributions from the charitable, and has placed many poor families on free land, where they have prospered. For a time he was forbidden to preach, but finally made his peace with Rome and founded a new order of St. John the Baptist, whose special mission it is to carry out his ideas. What a pity some of these worthy people do not pay British Columbia a visit and form colonies here. There is room and to spare for many such.

IMPORTANT MINING SUIT.

Capt. Adams and W. H. Brandon have not yet secured undisputed possession of the Bon Ton mine, Slocan. Representations have been made to the proper quarter, and the issuance of the crown grant has been withheld to await the result of an action brought by C. W. McAnn on behalf of P. A. McPhee, T. J. Roadley and others, the owners of the Manhattan mineral claim. They dispute the Bon-Ton record and allege fraud and perjury in the securing of the certificate of improvements. They also claim $10,000 damages and the possession of the mine. The suit is one of the most important yet brought in the district, as the ground is supposed to be rich in mineral wealth.

AFTER THE HONEYMOON.

THE PERIOD OF COURTSHIP AND MARRIAGE CONTRASTED.

All Is Love, Honey and Kisses Before the Wedding Day, But Frequently the Little Paradise on Earth Does Not Last.

(Written for The World by Lady Cook, nee Tennessee C. Claflin.)

Marriage is the natural centre of gravitation to all sexual affection. Wooing and flirtation, playfulness and coquetry, esteem and friendship, are, more or less, its preludes. Even the most prosaic feel that a dalliance should precede it. Not to have been courted would be a reproach to any matron, and is acutely resented by the most antiquated spinster. Many lovers like to prolong the process on the same principle that a child makes a sugar stick last as long as possible. For there is a charm, and a sweetness, and a romance about courtship which nothing can equal, and which makes it as delightful to the poor, ignorant and rough little peasant girl as to the most beautiful and accomplished peeress—perhaps even more so. For love is oftener truly told "beneath the milk-white thorn" than under "canopies of costly state." The affections are freer and fuller, and altogether more natural among the respectable lower and middle classes than at either extreme of society.

Eminent naturalists tell us that some birds exhibit some curious habits during the mating season. The cocks indulge in dancing matches, gyrating in circles until, like the Shakers, they drop from exhaustion, and all for the delectation of the hens, who demurely stand by and watch the performance. The mates strut and ogle with downspread wings, displaying every inch of feather and every antic they possess, and become so intoxicated as to be oblivious to danger. This occurs in spring before their marriage. But see these birds in autumn, wild and wary, and who would believe them to be the same. Their character in the meantime appears to have undergone a complete change. Then you might walk over them; now you can hardly approach within a hundred yards.

And so it is with these other bipeds. Before marriage they practice a sort of stage-acting. They display every article which they think captivating. They conceal their real characters from each other and assume others which do not belong to them. Each "makes up" extensively. He is manly, generous, forbearing, overflowing with delightful solicitude. She is ingenious, trustful, sweet-tempered and gushingly affectionate. They hang upon each other's slightest wish, so that each seems made for each. They only require marriage to complete their happiness. For—

Hope springs eternal in the human breast:
Man never is, but always to be, blest.

And this must be so while we substitute fancies for realities, and take a mirage for a lake; while we weave ropes of sand and take them for life cables; while we lay our foundations for happiness in the shifting quicksands of passion and dissimulation instead of on the eternal rock of truth. If we would be happy we must be wise. If we would be wise we must see clearly, must investigate without prejudice, and weigh with judgment. It is all too easy to link our fate with that of another. We may do so as blindly as the birds and the beasts, but very many important considerations are required to make the union prudent and permanent.

And thus it too frequently happens that the honeymoon is scarcely through before domestic miseries commence. One by one the defects of character in each reveal themselves until the whole are exposed in all their deformity. Desire gives way to indifference and indifference to dislike, until at length they positively hate each other. Seeming pleasantness and unkind in manner; she petulent, capricious of uncertain temper, and careless of her person and her home. The lover who had paced the clouds fancies themselves as a miniature Eden becomes an ever-widening hell, engulfing day by day each hope and pleasure of their lives, and eventually robbing them of the very faculty of enjoyment.

Another of the chief reasons of this state of things is that women frequently take great pains to secure their husbands, and, having succeeded, act as if nothing more were to be done. But it is far easier to catch a man's fancy than to keep it. Any pretty fool can spread a careful angling, hook a wise man, but it takes a sensible woman to retain his affections, or even those of a foolish one. Men are vagrants by nature, they are as they seem to suppose, a prescriptive right to wander. Ages of mastery and oppression of women have warped their perceptions of truth and justice. The most generous and most reasonable of them have a lurking and deep-seated feeling that they ought to lord it over women. With most men it has become an instinct, so that whenever they make us concessions they do not always do so from a sense of right, but from mere gallantry. We are poor, frail, inferior creatures; so it becomes our lordly superiors to pity our weakness, and to treat us liberally. Thus we meet with the usual fate of slaves and dependents from time immemorial—caressed to-day and kicked to-morrow.

On every hand we see the unhappy effects of careless marriages without fearing for consequences. Just as "all men think all men mortal but themselves" so we think the errors of others are nothing to us. Is there any other folly equal to such fatuity as this? and how can anything but misery result after marriage from unions made so thoughtlessly or hastily that life is not long enough to repent them sufficiently.

Observe the case of a poor man who selects a girl because he is smitten with her smart appearance. She appears cheerful, active, careful and scrupulously neat. Yet within a year of marriage she develops into a slatternly and irregular wife, neglectful of her home and untidy in her self. She does not recognize the importance of enhancing, if possible, those qualities which won her husband's regard. On the contrary she is indifferent whether he is pleased or not. Time does not improve her. Step by step she recedes from the picture of her whom he "walked out with." Another dream is shattered, and unless he happen to be a man of high morality and inflexible honor, he seeks a solace for his misfortune in some other direction—and usually a bad one. In all the other classes of life it is the same. Marriage is frequently followed by excessive vanity, by extravagance, love of pleasure, any distraction, in short, to cure the monotony of home. The woman, no matter how high her rank, who is about in search of dissipation, while her husband is working hard at his profession or occupation, is tolerably sure to meet with an admirer among the idle votaries of pleasure, thousands of whom are ever on the watch for vain and weak-minded women. There would be little occasion for our divorce courts if married women remained at home and did their duty in their husband's interest. And if women after marriage were as assiduous to please them as they were to please their lovers such courts might be dispensed with altogether, except for a few irrecalcitrable men.

After marriage husband and wife are too secure of each other from a legal point of view, and can, therefore, indulge in greater liberties than are consistent with mutual comfort. There should be larger reliance on good behavior. At present the marriage bond is too strict, and needs much relaxation. We bind two people together so tightly that we strangle their happiness. If their continued union depended upon their satisfaction with each other; if they could be separated at will, there would be every inducement for them to strive to please each other; and married life would not be the spiritless or wretched existence that it so often is now. Nothing less than a radical change in our marriage laws can improve the relations of married people; and these laws are incompatible with human nature. Absolutism in government has succumbed and destroys desire. Limited possession accords better with the frailties of humanity. We sigh for what we have not; we fear to lose that which we hold by a slender thread. It is the irrevocability of marriage that demoralizes it, as though it were a scheme especially invented to assain those who entered into it. Make it revocable by mutual consent and by simple registration, and its purity and usefulness to mankind will be restored. The abominable crimes which daily disgrace our social history, and which have blackened our annals for centuries, will at once expire. Then love will not die after marriage, as it does now, but will be regenerated and purified with every successive age.

FACTS FOR THE RANCHER.

The Raising of Vegetables and Berries—Hints That Should be Kept in Mind.

Special Okanagan correspondence of The World.

The question is very often asked: How can the rancher of Okanagan better his condition and add to his meagre store of home comforts? It is my intention in this letter to make a few suggestions which may direct the thoughts of some of the upper country ranchers in the right direction towards making home life on the ranch more comfortable and attractive. One who has been accustomed to living on a modernly conducted farm in Ontario or the Eastern States, on coming to Okanagan misses the well-kept fruit and vegetable garden, the source of so many luxuries found on the table of the Ontario farmer. Some will say that luxuries are not for the hard-working farmer, but with that I cannot agree. I contend that no one is more entitled to the best the land can produce than the hard-working but patient tiller of the soil, and more especially when so many luxuries can be produced in the kitchen garden with little trouble and outlay of labor. There is scarcely a ranch in Okanagan on which cannot be selected one or two acres of land which may be irrigated with but little trouble. One or two acres of land irrigated and liberally dressed with manure, so much of which is hauled out and dumped into gulches, may be made one of the most remunerative sources of income and one of the greatest checks on grocery bills on the whole ranch. What shall we grow in the garden? Outside of the commoner vegetables such as cabbages, onions, cauliflowers, which latter attain their greatest perfection in Okanagan, string beans and peas, I should never think of making a garden without laying down a good asparagus bed, which, when properly made, with but little care each year will yield an annual supply of this most delicious vegetable for 25 or 30 years. Asparagus coming, as it does so early in the spring, is one of the greatest delicacies that can be put on our table. In another letter I will give full direction for the laying down of a bed and for its subsequent management. A very useful adjunct to the domestic economy of a farmer's kitchen is a couple of rows of rhubarb, or, as it is perhaps more commonly known, pie-plant. A bed of rhubarb well manured, well irrigated and well manured each fall, furnish from the middle of May until cut down by frost, weekly pullings of tender stalks. Two or three dozen roots will yield more than enough to make sauce and pies for the average-sized family, besides leaving a good surplus out of which to make preserves and jam for winter use. At present the majority of ranchers who use fruit at all have to depend on the store for their supply, which generally consists of evaporated apples, peaches and prunes, which cost 18 or 20 cents per pound. A far more palatable sauce can be made from rhubarb than from any evaporated fruit. How much wiser it would be for the rancher to grow a good supply of rhubarb than to pay out hard-earned cash for evaporated fruit, all of which comes from Ontario or the States.

Perhaps the greatest source of genuine pleasure is to be derived from the strawberry bed. This fruit lasts but so as blindly as the birds and the beasts, but very many important considerations are required to make the union prudent and permanent.

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CHAMPION JAS. J. CORBETT.

AN INTERESTING INTERVIEW WITH THE GREAT PUGILIST.

What He Says of His Coming Fight With Fitzsimmons.

From the St. Louis, Mo., Chronicle.

James J. Corbett's history as a ring hero will reach the end of the chapter when his battle with Bob Fitzsimmons is won and lost, for, as the world knows, Corbett is matched to fight Fitzsimmons before the Florida Athletic Club within a year, for $10,000, the largest amount in stake and purse ever hung up since pugilism was promulgated in England, 170 years ago. Corbett, attired in a frock coat of the period, plug hat and shoe in patent leather, was in his apartments in the Southern Hotel at St. Louis, the other day, and delivered himself of a few opinions regarding his coming fight with Bob Fitzsimmons:

"I am fully aware that Fitz will give me the scientific battle of my career," said the champion to a Chronicle man. "He is a hard hitter and cool headed. I saw him fight Dempsey and pound myself on his style. He is very equal almost in height and reach, though after carefully comparing his method of boxing with mine, I can't see where he has any advantage over me, for I am young, strongest shifter, hit oftener and mix my blows more. Fitzsimmons is foxy—he was cute enough to feign feebleness in several of his battles, thus throwing his opponents off their guard. He can't fool me by wearing the greasy dollar. I will take no chances with him, I think I can whip him within fifteen rounds. After my fight with Fitzsimmons I will devote my entire attention to my theatrical enterprises and retire permanently from the prize ring."

Corbett is now the picture of health, weighing 214 pounds. "I am bigger, better and stronger than ever before," replied the champion when asked about his health. The rheumatic complaint that held me captive off and on some time ago has left me completely, and I know I am cured of it. I contracted rheumatism before training for my fight with Peter Jackson," continued Corbett. "How I got it or where I got it is a mystery to me, but that I had it is a fact that I am not likely to forget very soon. I suffered a good deal with rheumatism after that fight. Some days my arms, wrists and fingers would be so stiff and swollen that I could not use them at all. My legs also pained me, but to a less degree. Then, again, all this would leave without any apparent reason, and I would not be troubled again for weeks. Of course, I doctored for my complaint continuously, but the attacks seemed to come every few weeks just the same. A short time after my fight with Jackson I went east and met and defeated Dom nick McCaffrey, though I was handicapped by rheumatism in my right leg in my encounter with McCaffrey. These periodical attacks of rheumatism affected me until a few weeks before I began training for my fight with Mitchell. One day I sat in the Coleman House, New York, reading a newspaper. My eye chanced to cross an advertisement of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. I had never heard of them before, and as an experiment purchased a box. I consumed two boxes and was pleased with the result. The pills seemed to tone up my stomach and legs. After taking four boxes, according to directions, I found myself greatly improved, and the improvement is permanent. I am sure, for I haven't been troubled with rheumatism since. Before using the pills the rheumatic attacks returned every month or so, especially if I caught cold. When I trained for my fight with Mitchell in Florida I suffered from nasal catarrh and used the pills as a tonic with splendid results. I found that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills were efficacious in building up the system after a malarial attack."

The above I attest as entirely correct.
Signed, JAS. J. CORBETT.

THE DOMINION ABROAD.

Many Prominent Topics Affecting Canada's Interests Discussed in England.

A correspondent writing from London states that Lord Jersey's report has fallen very flat upon the people of Great Britain. Nothing is known of the contents of it. The decision of the Government in regard to its recommendations has not yet been made known, and it is not believed that any action will be taken until after the consideration of the Cabinet. Possibly some reference to the Ottawa conference and its recommendations may be made in the Queen's speech at the opening of Parliament, on February 5th, but the action of the Government will be very much strengthened if Lord Jersey's report could be kept prominently before the public in the meantime. It is believed in colonial circles that the representatives of the colonies will be requested by their governments to press the matter either individually or jointly upon the Colonial Office. The so-called Colonial party also has an opportunity of showing its activity and strength, and it remains to be seen what course they will take. No indication has yet been forthcoming.

The treaty recently concluded between Great Britain and Japan and the Dominion must necessarily be productive of closer ties in the development of steamship communication between the two countries and the consequent expansion of trade. It is hoped that the treaty itself does not come into operation for five years, but tariff concessions are to be extended to Great Britain and Canada immediately, and all the articles include many of those which Canada exports, the result ought to be an immediate extension of Canadian trade. The colonies can join in the treaty or not, as they wish, and Canada, therefore, has the opportunity of waiting for two years to see whether she desires to become a party to it.

The irritation which now exists in several countries in regard to the commercial policy of the United States seems to afford a desirable opportunity to Canada to extend her commercial relations. This applies particularly to Spain and the Spanish West Indies. At the present time Canada enjoys most favored nation treatment, both in the West Indies and in the Peninsula, in common with many other countries, and just now, at any rate in the former, the duties on Canadian exports are lower than those from the United States. If this state of things could be made permanent it has become imperative, as in a more far-reaching treaty, the arrangements would be very beneficial to the Maritime, as well as to the other Provinces of Canada, and the Dominion would thus be able to reap the reward of the efforts her merchants have been making in the last few years to extend their business in that direction.

The emigration from Europe in the present year is not by any means satisfactory as far as Canada is concerned, at any rate in point of numbers. It is generally admitted, however, that the cream of the emigration that has taken place has gone to the Dominion. The causes which have led to the falling off in numbers are to be found both in Canada and in Europe. Although the Dominion has apparently weathered the depression in a much more satisfactory manner than most other parts of the world, the communications that have appeared and the letters and the letters that pass between friends and relations in the various countries, are stated to indicate that times are not altogether brilliant in Canada, and this feeling has been accentuated by the low prices that have prevailed for produce of all kinds. These things combined have an effect upon the emigration movement. Then, again, a large number of people have returned from the United States and Canada, however, the accounts of the state of things in that country they have also included Canada to a certain extent. The revival of the depression and trade generally in Great Britian and in Europe has undoubtedly been bad, but in view of the depression elsewhere there have not been the inducements to emigrate that could formerly be held out. But, above all the classes of people who have particularly desired to emigrate are those who have not the necessary funds to do so, or those of the mechanical or laboring classes whose emigration in any case, has not been encouraged for some time. Therefore, everybody connected with emigration has had to exercise great discrimination and to recommend only those people to go to Canada who were likely to become satisfactory and contented settlers. It will be readily understood that to encourage indiscriminate emigration at a time like the present might lead to an aggravation of the unemployed agitation and congestion, which would have disastrous effects upon legitimate and desirable emigration for some years to come. It cannot be said that the prospects for emigration to Canada are brighter for next year. There can be doubt, however, that Canada is becoming better known, and that the stories of the United Kingdom and of Europe all the time, and that when the movement begins again there are always crops of good years and bad years—Canada will get her share.

UNDER THE MISTLETOE.

The pretty girl from Somenos
In some things is not slow.
She says: "Good gracious me? Was I
Beneath that mistletoe?"

The Westminster girl a startled look
At once begins to wear:
As she exclaims: "How very strange!
I didn't know 'twas there."

The Chilliwack maid demure
Is calm as calm can be
As, with a blissful smile she says:
"You've caught right on, I see!"

The Nanaimo girl removes her specs,
Her classic face to view
And as she looks around, she says:
"I'll take a chair and wait."

The Victoria maiden lifts herself
Upon a tiny toe,
Remarking as she takes one more,
"It's English, don't you know?"

But better still, the Vancouver girl
Another plan, instead
Of standing just beneath, she tries—
She wears it on her head!

RICHES IN LUMPS.

The following is a list of the largest gold nuggets ever found, according to the records of the Smithsonian Institution: King of the Mount Wooster nugget, found in Australia in 1853, 228 lbs. and 4 ozs. The Welcome, found in Ballarat, Victoria, Australia, in 1858, 184 lbs. 10 ozs.; Hakary nugget, found at Carson Hill, Cal., in 1854, weighed 180 lbs., and another at the same place in the same year weighed 149 lbs. These two were the largest gold nuggets ever discovered in America. The Corona, found in Tuolumne county, California, in 1858, weighing 147 1-2 lbs. The Parish nugget, found in 1856 at Sierra Butte, Cal., weighed 132 lbs. One found near the same place in 1869 weighed 95 lbs. 6 ozs. The Great Siberian nugget, found near Miask, Siberia, in 1842, weighed 96 lbs. and 6 ozs.

In 1852 the famous Ballarat mine of Australia (mentioned first in this list) yielded three nuggets which had a combined weight of 327 lbs.

The Blanche Barclay nugget found in Australia in 1852 weighed 98 lbs.

The largest gold nugget found east of the Mississippi (and one frequently listed as the largest found in America) was from the Reed mine in North Carolina. It weighed over 30 lbs.

The Rattlesnake nugget, found on Rattlesnake river in California in 1851, weighed 106 lbs. 2 ozs.

The Merlo Creek mine, New South Wales, produced three nuggets during 1851 that had a combined weight of 318 lbs.

THE GREAT LONE LAND.

Three Thousand Miles Through the Frozen North—The Home of the Esquimaux.

J. B. Tyrrell, of the Dominion Geological Survey, and R. M. Ferguson, extra A. D. C. to the Governor-General, have just returned from a 3,000 mile trip through the frozen north, the home of the Esquimaux, far from the haunts of civilization, and in regions hitherto unexplored. To a reporter they recently accorded an interview which contains much that is of interest.

"We have tramped 700 miles in the 'last month,' Mr. Tyrrell said.

"What do you figure the total number of miles covered in the entire trip?"

"I cannot tell now, but it surely must be over 2,000, perhaps 3,000. As you know, we started out on our journey from Selkirk on the 15th day of last June and went down the Red River to Cumberland House. Going up the Saskatchewan one of our canoes upset, resulting in the loss of some trifling articles, among which was a pair of carrier pigeons."

From Cumberland House they went northward over the Hudson's Bay Company old canoe route by way of Big Frog portage to Churchill river. Following this adown stream they reached Deer River, which took them to Deer Lake. Across this they paddled until they reached a trading post at its northern extremity. From this to Churchill on the Hudson's Bay was a barren expanse, with not a white man to be seen. It was