

## GOES ON DOING BUSINESS.

### JOHN BULL NO LONGER PULLS THE CHESTNUTS OUT OF THE FIRE.

To Protect His Interests and Care for His People Everywhere is What He is Now Doing—He is No Longer the Cat's Paw for Scheming Nations.

"John Rusk" has the following interesting communication in the Chicago Post:— This is a song long sung. It is more intense at present, lighter in key and reaching far. It is on a par with the idea and in time with the chord promulgated and played upon for twenty-five years—that England is a decaying power.

Why mention twenty-five years? Because in that time those great armies have risen in Europe which have put some nations in the front, which stay there by force of arms. It is argued that England in consequence of these changes is a bit of mud lying off the coast of Europe and living wholly by the sufferance of continental governments. But they prove too much, and the earnestness and force of argument used to show that Great Britain is dead is only proof that she is still alive.

We are told ad nauseum that England never makes a move without using some nation as a "cat's-paw" to pull chestnuts out of the fire. The fact of the matter is, Great Britain, until a few years since has been the "cat's-paw" and she is now refusing to rake the chestnuts. She played her moneybags, and her men to maintain "the equilibrium." Whenever a cry went up the "equilibrium is being destroyed" it was quite certain that England would suffer a hemorrhage of

#### GOLD AND BLOOD TO THAT "BOGEY."

The alliances in Europe, coax, cajole, bluff, swagger, swear, sing softly and quote figures to show her on what side she should throw her magnificent fleet, her immense riches, her small but memorable army. And she says nothing, but goes on doing business.

Isolated in one sense she must be; her people will not permit her to be otherwise. She wishes for no foes. She did not create the circumstances of the vast armament. Why should she be enslaved by its conditions? The task of Europe is to compel her to come into this slavery.

See some of the methods. Great Britain for "equilibrium" of power has sustained Turkey. When Russia was intriguing in Bulgaria it was declared that Great Britain would lose prestige if she permitted it. Bismarck declared very loudly that he would not spend the life of one Pomeranian. That with other things was contrived to let the load down on Great Britain. She did not take it for she saw that the advance of Russia was far more to Germany and Austria than to her. Great Britain sees the situation and proposes to allow the Pomeranian to share it. The Russian so far has not advanced and Great Britain is not isolated in fact. She simply shares the situation where

#### SHE USED TO BEAR IT ALONE.

Recent events in the Pamirs have given rise to much talk. The press of the continent has told Great Britain that the road to Asia is so long; the dreibund can have no possible interest in any matters there. England has always attended to business alone in Asia. The comments of the press simply made the adjustment of the Pamir question between England and Russia a bit more impressive. Just as soon as the question is arranged quietly the continental press raises its voice to warn Albion that Europe is against her. Why? Because she attended to the Asian business alone.

Our own writers say that Great Britain is being fooled. Great Britain alone does not see it. The writers on foreign politics see it best, and say with great solemnity England is being deceived. They should remember the dictum is: Affairs in Asia lie too far toward the sunrise to affect Europe.

England, like other countries, is caught napping, but she manages to make a living, and if anyone thinks she forgets the past or shuts her eyes to the future in dealing with Russia he is mistaken.

#### THE LAST INCIDENT

is the passing of Russian ships of war through the Dardanelles. England permits it. Leaving Russia out of the question, the people who live north of the Black Sea have the right to come down to the sunlight and beauty and business of the Mediterranean. The sooner that is recognized the sooner will much of the congested political condition pass away. If Great Britain willingly permits it—permits what is natural—she will have friendship on a true basis. Let those who want to bottle Russia up do the business. Why call so frantically to Great Britain? So long as there is talk about a feeble degenerate and isolated England, there is room to think her situation is not desperate. That she wants territory is natural. Her condition is such that she must have markets. When her spindles and wheels are still, her forges smokeless, her ships gaunt and empty, her children die, pitifully stoical as her soldiers on the bleak and bitter winter hills and sands of the Crimea.

The "belly" is a wonderful factor in life and the talk of trade in England is a simple matter of meat and bread. A nation like an army, is successful only as it feeds itself.

#### IT WILL BE A COMMON CAUSE.

We ought not to fight British Advances in any territory, for the time is coming when we shall take the lead in the Anglo-Saxon race. We shall have enough to do to make headway against the hundreds of millions of Slavs and Mongols when they waken and they will. Watch patiently the growth of the English language. Its future, its lands will be ours to share in most. We shall be isolated—Anglo-Saxon isolation. It is the Anglo-Saxon vs. the world; not in war, but valor of ideas. Great Britain has a difficult role. Can she remain free of entangling alliances?

Her riches make the dream of her foes a danger. They would seize her territory, dismember her empire. The continental press delicately phrases it thus:—"Let us strike the monster at the heart; take London. Carthago delenda est."

The combination of many powers against Great Britain is a contingency she must contemplate. Then better go down to the sea bottom and sacrifice every man she has than surrender. If her colonies have any blood or pluck they will stand with her. Great Britain's isolation is simply attending to her own territory. That is all.

## SPRING SMILES.

Judge—"What made you turn burglar?" Tramp—"I am so fat that people refuse to give me food."

"Do you go to church to hear the sermon or the music, Maude?" "I go for the hims," said Maude.

"And, papa, what did grandfather do for his country?" "Nothing whatever, my son. He was a member of congress!"

She—"Papa is saying that you stay too long when you call on me." He—"All right. I will not come so early after this."

"My furnace," said the man who keeps house, "is out of sight." "So is mine," replied another; "out of anthra-cite."

"A designing man I hate!" cried Nell, with scornful head erect. And yet within a year she loved And wed an architect!

"Beware of the vidders, Samivel," said old Weller. "Werry good, old man," returned Samuel. "I'll never have one if I can help it."

He—"Oh you may talk, but you would have been mad enough had I married any body else." She—"Yes; anybody I cared anything about."

Mr. Newcome—"What is the latest at the opera?" Miss Wagner—"For the last three nights it has been young Mrs. Felix in her latest Parisian gown."

She—"Why, this is only thirty-two inches, and you advertised it as a yard wide. Three feet make a yard." Gallant salesman—"Not such a feet as yours, lady."

"There's a good deal that is swell about Cholly Cadkins," said one girl. "Yes," replied the other; "the only trouble is that most of it has gone to his head."

Mamma—"You and your little visitors are doing nothing but sitting around and looking miserable. Why don't you play something?" Little daughter—"We is playin'." "Playing what?" "We is playin' that we is growed up."

Traveler (inquiring at famous castle)—"Can I see the antiquities to-day?" Servant—"I am afraid not, sir. My lady and her daughter have gone to town."

"I saw De Castro, the magician, make a \$20 gold piece disappear in three minutes." "That's nothing. You ought to see my wife with a \$20 bill at a church bazaar."

"Oh, Georgie!" "Laura, dearest, I'm so glad to see you, George! I'm ever so glad to see you, of course, but I just will not have my sleeves rumpled!"

"I do not like big women," said the headless gentleman sitting next to an unusually tall lady at dinner, and then seeing his blunder, he added, "At least, when they are young."

In the spring the young man's fancy Turns to love and tender sonnets, But the maiden meditates on Wrap and dress and new spring bonnets.

"I say, doctor, tell me what the difference between the grip and a cold really is?" Dr. Pilem (in a confidential tone)—"The doctor's fees. People don't call a physician for a cold."

Of all sad words of wife or cook These probably are worst, To man with slender pocketbook: "The water pipes have burst."

"My wife," complained Mr. N. Peck, in an outburst of confidence, "keeps me in hot water all the time." And all the other passengers in the car looked at him in shivering envy.

He loves to steal an hour away And give himself a treat On reading up on sunstrokes And sufferings from heat.

O don't you remember sweet Alice, Ben Bolt? Sweet Alice with hair so brown? She puts as much calico now in her sleeves As she used to put in a gown.

Little sister—"Any new studies this term?" Little brother—"One—elocution." "What's that?" "It's learnin' how to read a thing so it will sound as if you was at the other end of a drainpipe."

Mr. BJones—"Don't you think Johnnie is getting too big to be a messenger boy?" Mrs. BJones—"No; I'd rather keep him there, because there is no danger of his getting into fast company."

"Do you think a girl ought to learn to cook before she gets married?" asked the practical man. "Yes," replied his dyspeptic friend. "Either that, or else she ought to be willing not to try."

Lawyer—"You say the prisoner stole your watch. What distinguishing feature was there about the watch?" Witness—"It had my sweetheart's picture in it." Lawyer—"Ah! I see. A woman in the case."

Old Lady—"Why are you two men using such frightful language?" Ragson Tatters—"Well, lady, me an' me pard has to exchange heated words fur ter keep warm, not havin' no overcoats."

Madge—"Oh, dear, it's so hard to decide." Alice—"What?" "Why, whether Charlie ought to save his money to build us a home in the spring or take the money to go sleigh riding once this winter."

Men may, for broken wood or glass Some strong cement invoke; But there is no cement, alas! To help a man who is broke.

The Depression in Wheat.

The debonair young agriculturist had been talking with great empressment to the handsome young woman, but she didn't quite believe him.

"Oh," she exclaimed, "you are chaffing me."

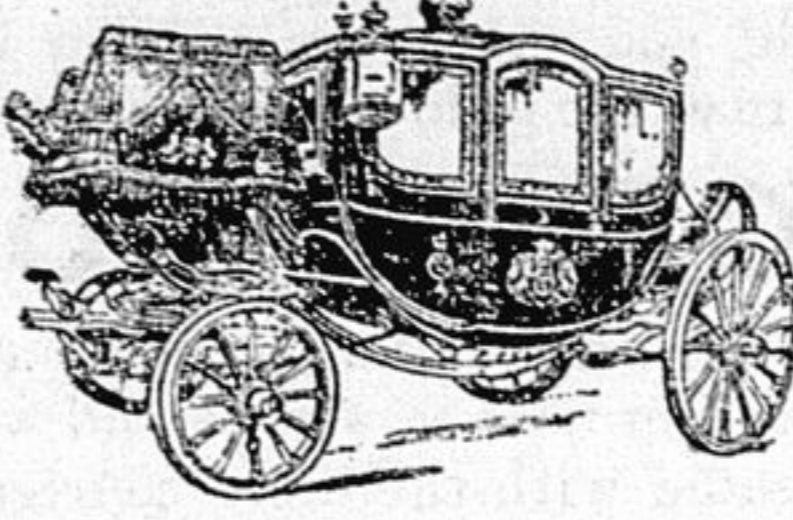
"My dear young lady," he responded, "you were never more mistaken. With wheat at its present price, it would be an insult to offer you chaff."

## PALACES ON WHEELS.

### THE COACHES OF THE ROYAL PEOPLE OF EUROPE.

The Queer "Bowling Machine"—A \$50,000 Carriage That is Never Used—Gorgeous Vehicles Used for State Purposes—The Queen's Carriage.

Few persons have any idea of the enormous sums of money lavished on the state coaches and so-called "dress carriages" of



THE PRINCE OF WALES'S CARRIAGE.

European royalty. Queen Victoria's principal state carriage represents a value of no less than \$30,000.

The paintings on the different panels are by the great artist Cypriani and date back to 1761, when the carriage was built. It weighs four tons. The Queen has, however, never used the vehicle since the death of her husband, in 1861, preferring instead a mere \$10,000 coach, elaborately gilded, but of modern manufacture, which does not, however, have the disadvantage of making Her Majesty sea-sick, as did the older of the two carriages.

One of the most elaborate and costly carriages ever built is the state coach of the Bavarian sovereign. It was constructed for the late King Louis, and is believed to have cost more money than that of Queen Victoria. The body, wheels and every part were lavishly gilded, the roof being surmounted by plumes. The decorations are of the Louis XIV. period, and are of a gorgeous character. This was the carriage in which the mad King used to drive in the middle of the night through the country surrounding his royal palace. During the Winter he transformed it into a sleigh.

#### PRINCE OF WALES'S CARRIAGE.

The dress, or state carriage, of the Prince of Wales is valued at about \$15,000. Its arched roof is surmounted by a gilded coronet, and it represents the acme of modern comfort and old-time splendor. The Prince and Princess are accustomed to use their vehicle when proceeding from Marlborough House to Buckingham Palace to attend state functions there, and it is invariably preceded and followed on such occasions by an escort of Horse Guards.

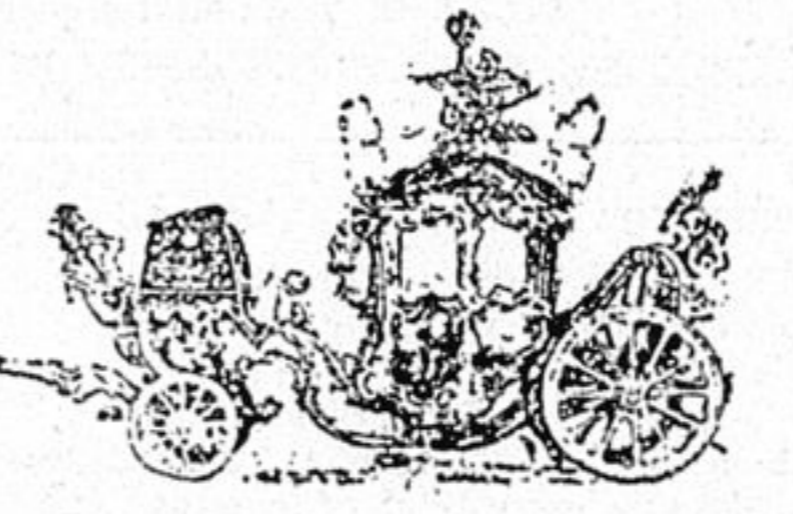
Emperor William's state carriage is of more antique construction and more ornate in character. It was built for old Emperor William, but has been greatly embellished by his grandson, William II., who did not consider it as sufficiently magnificent. Still, however, it differs from the state carriages of the Emperors of Austria and



THE GERMAN EMPEROR'S STATE CARRIAGE.

Russia in being of nineteenth century instead of sixteenth century fashion. Blue and gold are the predominant colors, and it is drawn on state occasions by a superb team of eight horses of the Trakene.

Coaches were for many years used only on state occasions, and for purposes of pomp, when a gorgeous show was made by their hangings and trappings, and by the pair of horses to draw them. At first they were open at the top, but in time a canopy was added. As glass windows were not thought of for carriages until many years after



STATE CARRIAGE OF THE LATE KING OF BAVARIA.

their first introduction they were long closed up with shutters. Indeed they were almost as bad as some of the provincial hansom of to-day, and a little less bad than our fine London growler. The London coaches were built very narrow so that they might be able to run along the miserable streets. The first improvement in carriages came from France, and the Count Grammont gained great credit at the court of Charles II. by bringing over an elegant calash, which cost him 2,000 louis. He presented the beautiful vehicle to the King, and the Queen and the Duchess of York rode in it for the first time "to their contentment and the admiration of the whole court."

#### THE "BOWING MACHINE."

Apocryphal of royal carriages, it has often been a source of surprise to many who have witnessed the graceful and easy manner in which the aged Queen of Great Britain and Empress of India, acknowledges the salutations of her loyal subjects upon those now rare occasions on which she makes use of her state coach. Comparisons between the stately inclination of Queen Victoria's head and shoulders and the bow made with the appearance of greater effort on the part of her daughters and granddaughters are a continual theme with the British press. Even the young Duchess of York is set down as making a far less majestic bow than her husband's grandmother. The secret of this is that her Majesty's carriage is fitted with one of those "bowing machines," which, as long as the vehicle continues

in motion, causes the seat to oscillate with an up-and-down motion at almost right angles to the floor. The power necessary to accomplish this is supplied by a rod connected with the axle of the carriage, and thus the royal lady is enabled to spare herself the fatigue of bowing at the expense of her own muscles.

Nor is Queen Victoria the only sovereign who carries use of this ingenious device, for the carriage of the Empress of Austria is fitted with a bowing machine constructed on the same lines. The Emperors and Kings of Europe do not deign to avail themselves of mechanical assistance in the making of their salutations, which may possibly account for their too often unbecoming shortness of temper and peevish frame of mind, displayed after a long ride through the streets in their vehicles of state.

## SOME FORTUNE STORIES.

Lucky Distant Relatives—Tin Cans Filled with Gold Sovereigns—A Foolish Young Man—A Ruined Noble Family.

The London newspapers within a day or two have told interesting stories of the fate of three large private fortunes. Each episode might make the basis for a striking drama. The first is altogether charming. A rich Bordeaux merchant died intestate without direct heirs. His fortune of 22,000,000 francs has just been distributed among a large number of humble French families and distant relatives of the deceased man who never saw him. Among the beneficiaries are two barbers, a cooper, a shoemaker, and several laborers.

The second story is the blackest contrast. It tells of the fate of an old man long known as a miser, who kept a little cigar shop in London. The shop was closed for several days, and finally it was entered by the police, who found the owner almost naked and frozen to death. There was no food nor fuel in the place, but on the shelves were found several large tin cans, usually holding snuff.

#### FILLED WITH GOLD SOVEREIGNS.

Complete search revealed money and securities amounting to \$150,000. The dead miser had no known relatives.

The third story is that of a foolish young man who inherited a fortune of \$3,500,000. He recently spent within a period of two or three weeks no less than \$435,000 for jewelry. He is now suing one of the best known Bond street jewellers, from whom he bought the stuff, on account of alleged overcharges to the amount of \$85,000. Joseph Tasker is the young spendthrift's name, and among the trifles which he testified to buying from the persuasive canvasser for the jewellers were the famous Agra diamond at \$75,000, seven large brilliants \$150,000, a beautiful bow brooch for \$25,000, the Stafford collection of colored gems for \$50,000, and a model of the Holy City for \$6,000. He wanted to buy the renowned Hope diamond and offered \$160,000 for it, but the sale was not completed. The plaintiff created a good deal of amusement, and disgust as well, by his behavior in court. He professed the utmost indifference for the whole matter, and was much annoyed when he was urged to recall the particulars of transactions

#### INVOLVING FORTUNES.

He had more important affairs than such trifles, he declared, and frequently he replied to questions by such words as "Oh, it don't matter," and "Blowed if I know." It was brought out that he had spent many thousands more for curios, "rubbish" he called them, in all parts of the world, to fill up his apartments at the Hotel Belgravia. It was attempted to show that some of his largest purchases had been made at his rooms when recovering from the effects of a debauch.

The case of a ruined noble family was made public last week. Count Stezzi hazarded the whole of his fortune in big land building speculations in Rome a few years ago, and for two or three short weeks was seemingly an assured winner of millions. But a crash came while his operations were still open, and he went under, with scores of families as noble, as ancient, and as reckless. The Count's young daughter was engaged to be married at the time, but her lover proved as

#### PICKLE AS FORTUNE.

and the ruined family retired to Bologna. The young Countess, in order to support her parents, took a place as chambermaid, and recently, under stress of poverty, stole some of her mistress's jewelry, and being tried and convicted was mercifully sentenced to only twelve days' imprisonment, the Judge admitting as extenuating circumstances the sad change in her family's fortunes. The publicity thus given to the case may possibly prove the salvation of the family. The young Countess is now 28 years of age.

## Shot Dead by His 11-year-old Daughter.

A despatch from Charlestown, W. Va., says:—Cordelia Hill, a colored child 11 years old, living with her parents near Rippon, shot and instantly killed her father, Robert Hill, about 9 o'clock on Monday morning. The father was chastising one of his sons, who tore away from his grasp and ran to the mother for protection. The father then assaulted and beat the mother. Cordelia, who was absent at the commencement of the trouble, returned, and Hill ceased beating his wife. In a short time Hill went in the kitchen, where his wife had gone, and began to beat her again, throwing her to the floor and choking her. The daughter ran in with a revolver and placed it near the back of her father's head and fired. The ball pierced the base of the brain and death was instantaneous. The child was arrested and taken before Justice Hefsebror, who committed her at once to the Grand Jury, which was in session, and an indictment for murder was found against her within a few hours after the homicide.

## THE FIELD OF COMMERCE.

### Some Items of Interest to the Busy Business Man.

British fishermen daily drag \$1,000,000 worth of fish from the sea.

Money is firmer in London, and there is a somewhat better demand at New York.

The Canadian Pacific Railway pays a half yearly dividend of 2 per cent. on its preferred stock.

Paper is used in Germany in the manufacture of pianos, being employed for all of the parts which are usually made of wood.

Canadian Pacific is gaining strength, there being a rally of 2 to 3 per cent. from the low price a few days ago.

The local trade in flour remains very dull. The relative price of wheat is too high, and at current quotations flour shows a loss.

Oats are higher owing to limited offerings. Sales are reported on the Northern at 52½ to 53c., and on the Midland at 34 cents.

The Bordeaux Chamber of Commerce has petitioned the Government to place Canadian petroleum under the minimum tariff so as to enable it to compete with the Russian and United States oil.

The wheat markets are firmer. Stocks are being reduced a little more rapidly than had been expected, and the weather of March is usually a menace to the winter wheat. Prices are so low, too, that there is little incentive to sell.

In the case of Argles vs. McMath, regarding the question of fixtures as between landlord and tenant, Chief Justice Armour has reversed the decision of Chancellor Boyd given in October last in favor of the landlord. The chief justice upholds the right of tenants to remove their fixtures.

The leather market is dull in the United States, and the demand small, but no concessions in price are made. Hemlock sole is selling slowly, and the fall trade does not open because of the position of jobbers in the matter of prices of boots and shoes. Receipts of union crop exceed sales, and many cutters have stopped, for though inferior soles are saleable, they cannot afford to sell those only. Receipts of rough are about equal to the sales, but the business is narrow, and the demand for wax and kip is small.

Advices from our Quebec branch tend to indicate a favorable condition of affairs in the surroundings of the rock city and district. Despite very severe weather there has been ample employment for all laboring classes, not only in the removing of great quantities of snow, but also in the construction of the new city hall, besides which the pressure of work brought to bear among the boot and shoe manufacturers has called in demand all the available factory help, so that actual misery has been less than in several previous years. It is announced that the necessary funds for the extension of the Great Northern Railway construction have been realized from New York sources. Another important point to the district is the likelihood of the government carrying out its promise of the payment of 20 cents per pound of all winter butter destined for exportation. But one failure was recorded in the twenty-four counties last week, and this without any capital or credit rating. A slight decrease in sugars is noted, but eggs and molasses have augmented quotations.

The millinery openings and more spring-like weather have had a stimulating effect on millinery and similar lines at Toronto. The volume of business is said to be satisfactory, but profits are restricted on keen competition. The movement of staple dry goods is small. A large number of wholesale merchants seem to expect a general improvement in trade in the near future. There is a further advance in oats, which are selling outside in car lots at 32½ to 34½. Very few peas are offering, while the demand is good and prices are higher. They are said to be in few hands, and will be exported. The large decrease in stocks of wheat in elevators and storehouses has had a hardening effect in the prices of this cereal, and France is said to be a good buyer. Some large shipments of eggs to the States are reported within the week, and prices have a firmer tone. The butter bounty has had but a slight influence on the market. Supplies have increased, and prices close weak. . . . The money markets show little change. The rate is firmer in London at 1½ per cent. for call loans, while local rates are 3½ to 4 per cent. Sterling exchange is firmer, which leads many to believe that gold exports will be resumed at New York before long. Cable and Telephone stocks are higher. The annual statement of the former shows earnings of over 10 per cent. for the year.

## One Oyster Enough for a Meal.

Pliny mentions that according to the historians of Alexander's expedition oysters a foot in diameter were found in the Indian sea, and Sir James E. Tennent was unexpectedly able to corroborate the correctness of his statement, for at Kottiar near Trincomalee, enormous specimens of edible oysters were brought to the restaurant. One measured more than eleven inches in length by half as many in width. But this extraordinary measurement is beaten by the oysters of Port Lincoln in south Australia, which are the largest edible oysters in the world. They are as large as a dinner plate and of much the same shape. They are sometimes more than a foot across the shell, and the oyster fits its habitation so well that he does not leave much margin. It is a new sensation when a friend asks you to lunch at Adelaide to have one oyster fried in butter or eggs and bread crumbs set before you, but it is a very pleasant experience, for the flavor and delicacy of the Port Lincoln mammoth are proverbial even in that land of luxuries.

## Getting Even.

Friend—Moved back to the city I see. Suburban Resident—Yes. A human porker bought the vacant lot next door to me, stuck up his house close to the street, and built a barn alongside of my windows. What have you done with the property? Rented it to a man who plays a bass horn.