

By WHITE & WILLIAMS.

DOWNS GROVE, ILLINOIS

Mura Kahn evidently is a misnomer. So far as whipping the British is concerned it is quite evident that Mura can't.

Everyone would amount to more if he would cut off more frills. A man can't be a success if he attempts too high a polish.

The latest marvel in electrical inventions is that of telegraphing from Scotland to the island of Mull by induction, that is, without any wire connecting the stations. The principle is not a new one, but hitherto its application has been limited to short distances through the earth or water. In the case reported it was successfully used at long distances through the air. If this can be made feasible important changes in telegraphic and telephonic systems are inevitable. The disappearance of the unsightly and dangerous wires would be welcome on many accounts.

It is probable that the report sent from Pueblo to Canada to the effect that pleuro-pneumonia exists among cattle in the southwestern states is, as department officials believe, a mere echo of the report that the disease existed in Kansas. That report, however, was shown to be without foundation in fact. Canadian officials may watch very carefully all cattle imported from the United States, but it is not probable that they will discover pleuro pneumonia, for investigations by the department of agriculture, it is claimed, have failed to show the existence of a single case of that disease in this country in the last two years.

A dime of 1829 is worth but its face value, from the purchaser's standpoint; dealers charge for such from 25 cents to 60 cents. A dime of 1839 or one of 1840 is worth to sell but for its face value. The dime of 1859 having on the obverse the letters O. P. is sold by dealers at from 30 to 65 cents. A 3-cent piece of 1867 sells for 75 cents to \$1; dealers pay from 20 to 35 cents for such. A half-fra of 1861 has no special value. Dealers do not purchase half dollars of 1829, but sell them for 75 cents to \$1. Where the figure 29 is stamped over the 27 the charge is from \$1.25 to \$1.75. There is no demand for flying eagle nickels of 1857, but those of the issue of 1856 are worth from \$1.50 to \$2.50, according to state of preservation.

Some things about the administration of city affairs in Dorton may not be all that they should be, but the prospect of doing away with the city council will not better the matter. It will only place the government further from the people. The danger of corruption is always increased when power is concentrated in few hands. Such power naturally tends to concentration, and this tendency is one that ought to be discouraged instead of being fostered by legislation. If the people have not enough public spirit to keep the officials honest when they have the right of self government, there will be no improvement by taking the power from them. The political bosses who will rule by autocratic power will be then subject to no restraint.

Boyshood owes a debt of gratitude to "The British Medical Journal," which, in one of its recent issues, explodes the fallacy with regard to early rising. Courageously turning its back on all the wisdom of the past, and in flagrant contradiction with all those writers of moral essays concerning greatness achieved by early rising, this leading medical authority takes the part of the sleepy youth against his wakeful parents. We learn now that it is natural and proper for elderly people to rise at 5 or 6 a. m., because their vascular system has become stiff; but that it is equally natural and proper for the healthy boy to keep his bed till 8. Henceforth boys must deny themselves such violent delights as rising with the lark, and their elders must cease encouraging them in so vicious a practice.

An American education which does not comprise patriotism as one of its branches is lacking in an essential feature. It is incomplete. Especially is this true in our republic, wherein "all men are born free and equal." In any country where government rests on the consent of the governed—and this alone—it is important to its future greatness that love of home and country, the flag and all it represents, should be underlying principles permanently fixed. And a nation where this love is grafted, inculcated, and nurtured in the hearts of the young and rising generation, there need be no fear of a lack of loyalty on the part of its citizenship, to meet later on any emergency which can arise; hostile to its institutions or threatening its stability.

Queen Victoria has sixty planes in her different residences. The probable reason for this is that she has been taking music lessons and practicing so much that the neighbors have notified the police.

Results of German inquiry prove that overhead wires tend to reduce the violence of thunderstorms and lessen the danger from lightning. Cases of damage from lightning were about 50 times as numerous in places without telephonic systems as in those having them.

BUILDING A NEW EMPIRE.

New Russia Is Rapidly Developing the Riches of Siberia.

In her interesting letters to the St. James' Gazette Mrs. Bishop draws a striking picture of the manner in which the Russian government is opening up the fertile regions of eastern Siberia. Nikolskoje is a place of 15,000 inhabitants, the center of a large government flour mill and elaborate barracks. For many miles on either side the new Siberian railroad passes through neat villages and prosperous farms. "From Spasskoje," says Mrs. Bishop, "and east of the Hanka lake up to Ussuri, the magnificent region is waiting to be peopled. Grass, timber, water, coal, a soil as rich as the prairies of Illinois, and a climate not only favorable to agriculture, but to human health, all await the settler; and the broad, unoccupied, and fertile lands which Russian Manchuria offers are capable of supporting a population of many millions. Here Russia is laying solidly the foundations of a new empire, which she proposes to make a homogeneous one. 'No foreigner need apply!' One thousand families, assisted emigrants from Russia of the best class, will come out next year, and the number is to increase progressively. Each head of an emigrating household has to deposit 600 roubles with a government official on leaving Odessa, which he receives on landing in Siberia, the emigrants, on reaching Vladivostok, are lodged in excellent emigrant barracks, and can buy the necessary agricultural implements at cost price from a government depot. Already along the railroad houses are springing up; and if security can be obtained there is nothing to prevent the country from being peopled up to the Chinese frontier, the rivers Sungacha and Ussuri, which form the boundary from the Hanka Lake to Khabarofka, on the Amur, giving a considerable protection from brigandage."

NEW SHIP FOR THE NAVY.

Amphitrite Completed After Twenty-One Years' Work.

Another vessel was added to the United States navy recently by the completion at the Norfolk navy yard of the armored coast defense monitor Amphitrite, which has been under construction for the remarkable period of twenty-one years. A telegram reached the navy department from Norfolk announcing the final completion of this job, which promised to go on forever, like Tenyson's brook. So great was the rejoicing at this news that, while the ship was still on the stocks, the secretary gave orders to have officers and crew ready to put the Amphitrite in commission at once. The Amphitrite has literally been built on the installment plan. In 1874 her keel was laid and work progressed for a time until the partial appropriation then available was exhausted. Other things then occupied the attention of the department, and a year or two passed before more money was set aside to carry on the work. When this was done, work was resumed and continued in earnest until this second appropriation was exhausted. Then there was delay again until more money was in sight, and so it has continued spasmodically ever since. In the whole history of the American navy there is no other instance where the construction of a vessel was carried on for such a remarkable period. There has never been pressing need for the completion of the vessel, and it is probably a wise thing after all that her construction went on by such remarkably easy stages. From year to year changes have been made in the plan of the vessel to keep abreast of the remarkable improvements in naval architecture, and today the Amphitrite is a modern ship of war in all respects, just as if she had been originally designed a year ago.

Nicknames of the States.

Alabama, Cotton State; Arkansas, Toothpick and Bear State; California, Eureka and Golden State; Colorado, Centennial State; Connecticut, Land of Steady Habits, Freestone State and Nutmeg State; Dakota, Sioux State; Delaware, Uncle Sam's Pocket Handkerchief and Blue Hen State; Florida, Everglade and Flowery State; Georgia, Empire State of the South; Idaho, Gem of the Mountains; Illinois, Prairie and Sucker State; Indiana, Hoosier State; Iowa, Hawkeye State; Kansas, Jayhawker State; Kentucky, Corn-cracker State; Louisiana, Creole State; Maine, Timber and Pine Tree State; Maryland, Monumental State; Massachusetts, Old Bay State; Michigan, Wolverine and Peninsular State; Minnesota, Gopher and North Star State; Mississippi, Eagle State; Missouri, Puke State; Nebraska, Antelope State; Nevada, Sage State; New Hampshire, Old Granite State; New Jersey, Blue State and New Spain; New Mexico, Vermilion State; New York, Empire State; North Carolina, Rip Van Winkle, Old North and Turpentine State; Ohio, Buckeye State; Oregon, Pacific State; Pennsylvania, Keystone, Iron and Oil State; Rhode Island, Plantation State and Little Rhody; South Carolina, Palmetto State; Tennessee, Lion's Den State; Texas, Lone Star State; Utah, Mormon State; Vermont, Green Mountain State; Virginia, Old Dominion State; Wisconsin, Badger and Copper State

Like Our Women.

During the stay of the Prince of Wales at the Riviera his partiality for Americans, especially for American ladies, was again remarked with many ill-natured comments from expectant Britishers hovering near.

The German Evangelical Presbyterian Missionary society has recently opened a theological academy at Tokio. Its library has 2,000 volumes.

St. Augustine, oldest city in the United States, founded by the Spaniards, 1565.

AFFAIRS IN CANADA.

ALL EYES NOW FOCUSED ON THE DOMINION.

The Party Built Up by Sir John A. Macdonald Has Seen Its Best Days— Cabinet Disrupted and the Liberals at the Gate.

(Special Correspondence.)

DOOR MADEMOISELLE Canada is in a sorry plight. In a little less than four years she has lost three tory premiers—Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir John Abbott, and Sir John Thompson. The brains have gone from the governing party, and the cabinet is divided against itself. Young "Charlie" Tupper has kicked over the traces, and has boosted himself into the position of a man rash enough to resign but lacking the courage to stay resigned. The present premier, Sir Mackenzie Bowell, is driven nearly crazy, and simply can not keep things together. Never was the government of Canada more utterly weak and inadequate. Young Tupper evidently wants the premiership himself, and will likely get it, only he is smashing the party by a premature "buck." At this rate it looks as though the conservatives would be hooted down on the floor of parliament this session, and it is not hard to imagine Sir John Macdonald's spirit weeping over the incompetency of the leaders of a political party which he led to victory at the polls for nearly twenty years. The government has been between the devil and the deep sea. It has been

PREMIER AND PROBABLE SUCCESSOR.



SIR C. H. TUPPER.



M'KINZIE DOWELL.

afraid to face the house for fear of defeat upon the Manitoba school question, and even the most optimistic has failed of hope when it came to belief in the ability of the government to win victory at the polls. The outlook has been that Ontario would surely go against the government in case of a general election, and the Liberals would carry the country. For the last three months the country has not known whether to expect a session or an election. New voters' lists were prepared and it was thought that the government would make a wild dash and appeal to the country. Then it was announced that parliament would meet April 18. Now it is again hinted that the session may be called off and the elections brought on.

It is a vacillating and a perilous time, though clearly Lord Aberdeen ought to insist upon a session. Only very grave reasons should warrant the use of the prerogative to shorten the period fixed by law. To be sure, the prerogative was thus abused under Lord Lorne and Lord Stanley, but they had to deal with Sir John Macdonald and were overpowered by his consummate statecraft applied to party interests. At present the Canadian government is notoriously weak, and the decision to grant remedial legislation in the Manitoba school case has brought about a strong cabinet. Still it is most likely that parliament will meet, and should the legislature of Manitoba and the dominion parliament both refuse any legislation on this present burning question it will then be in undeniable order for the ministry to ask for a dissolution. The coming session will be a stormy one from beginning to end; it needs no seer's prophetic eye to assume that.

The Liberal party have their chance at last; too long have they sat within the cold shades of opposition, and Wilfred Laurier and his followers are ready to make some bold moves. Encouraged by the dissensions known to exist in the cabinet the opposition party is eager for the fray, and Wilfred Laurier is a skillful tactician, seemingly quite able to out-general such men as Foster or Bowell, should either lead, and it is known that Foster is straining for the position. Bowell is an old man and one who is swayed by the conflicting advice of his friends. Besides, the



THE HON. WILFRED LAURIER.

fact of his being in the senate makes him of little or no use in the house of commons, where all the great battles of the session are fought. Foster is clever, but narrow and prejudiced, is not popular, and never was, so clearly Sir Charles Tupper is the only steadfast hope the party has. He is bold and capable, but lacks in the judgment and caution which is characteristic of Laurier. Before this last disagreement it was generally conceded that if Premier Bowell found his load of office too heavy Tupper would assume the duties and position of leader of the government. Also that if a general election

were brought on and resulted in the defeat of the government party that Tupper would come back to parliament as the leader of the conservative party in opposition. Young Sir Charles (who must not be confounded with the elder Sir Charles, his father) is best known outside of Canada through his preparation and conduct of the Bering Sea case. He is the youngest statesman who has ever held the portfolio of minister of justice in a Canadian cabinet and is gifted with wonderful fluency and a pugnacious fearlessness which is a direct inheritance from his noted father. Young Sir Charles is thoroughly up in American ways, having been educated at Harvard university.

Nor is this the full sum of Canada's woes. The young miss has been pert enough to criticise her governor-general, though she has not driven him off to Ireland, as rumor said. The first open showing of a recalcitrant temper by the people was at the time of the winter carnival last January. Before the death of the late premier, Sir John Thompson, the Earl of Aberdeen was enthusiastic in supporting the idea of a winter carnival at the capital. He was patron of the citizens' committee and took great interest in the success of the scheme. After Sir John died Lord Aberdeen wrote impulsively and advised the carnival committee to drop the enterprise entirely by way of showing respect for the memory of the dead premier. The committee in reply pointed out that the date of the opening of the carnival was some two weeks after the date of the funeral in Halifax, and the Thompson family had particularly requested that the festival should proceed. In addition the committee protested that a large amount of money had been expended, and this would have to be made good if the enterprise were dropped. His excellency then suggested a postponement of the carnival, but this the independent committee declined to do, and what ap-

peared to be a spirit of resentment the governor-general resigned his position as patron of the carnival, announced his intention of remaining in Montreal during its duration, and is declared to have said many unpleasant things about the codfish aristocracy and disrespectful spirit of the Ottawa public. Now, this being altogether too much of a truth to be taken quietly, the Ottawa people waxed exceedingly wrath, and the success of the carnival, which up to that time was problematic, was immediately assured by the sudden waking up to exertion on behalf of the committee. The people were still more enraged because their excellencies gave and attended large balls and receptions in Montreal at the same time that they deplored public festivities in Ottawa, and hence most unkind things were said about vice-royalty, some of the local papers even going so far as to suggest a petition to the British government asking for Lord Aberdeen's recall. This, of course, was both petty and absurd, for Ottawa is but a small bite to the big cherry of Canada, and in most sections of the country the Aberdeens have won a fair meed of appreciation. The carnival was a success despite the conspicuous absence of vice-royalty, and Lord Aberdeen asked the committee to re-enact the storming of the ice castle later, so that he and his suite might see it, at the same time offering to pay all expenses. The committee bluntly refused. The governor-general was snubbed.

The next friction arose from Lord Aberdeen's failing to head the national testimonial fund subscribed for the family of Sir John Thompson. True, his excellency adopted the dead premier's two young sons, taking them to maintain and educate until they come of age, but again Ottawa people were aroused, and again they were angry. Out of these petty squabbles have doubtless grown the rumors that the Aberdeens were going to Ireland, a rumor which has been flatly contradicted. If the people of Canada must have an expensive figure-head they should be wise and refrain from complaining now. They have had a Marquis of Lorne and might fall into misfortune again.

STRANGE CANNONS OF STONE.

Defenses of Malta Cut Out of the Living Rock.

The most wonderful cannons on record are those which are described by Brydone, whose travels in Sicily and Malta won well-deserved renown toward the end of the last century. Many facts and stories he recounts that seem strangely old-world to us, though the date is little more than 100 years ago, so grandly did the French revolution transform Europe. Malta was full of wonders more or less droll while the knights held it, but nothing equalled the stone guns. Everybody knows that the fortifications were cut out of solid rock, but Brydone was right in saying that a kind of ordnance used to defend them was unknown to all the world besides. As we understand his description, the knights left a great block of stone where they hollowed out an embrasure in the cliff, which afterward they shaped and bored in the form of a gigantic mortar. These engines contained a whole barrel of gunpowder. That shoveled in, they plugged it with a great piece of wood, fitted exactly to the bore, as a wadding, and loaded up with cannon balls, shells and other deadly materials. About fifty of these remarkable guns commanded the spots which a hostile ship was most likely to approach. The mouths of some are six feet wide and they are able to throw 10,000 pounds' weight of balls or stones. The range is not stated, but the falling projectiles covered an area of over 30 square yards.

WHO GETS OUR BEST?

THE GIFTS THAT MAKE PEOPLE POPULAR.

Riches, Rank, and Beauty Are the Most Certain Means to the End—Apar From Their Surroundings What Qualities Are Best Suited.



THE question has been asked, which is considered to be the most popular type of society woman? Reading between the lines this might be taken to mean, Who gets on best in society? It is a matter-of-fact way, perhaps, of looking at the subject, but it is usually the point at issue. To answer one question with another, it might again be asked, What is implied by "getting on" in society? Those who do not get on know a good deal about this depressing condition and could give the best interpretation of what "not getting on" signifies. Society popularity is attained not by one type of woman alone, but by many and most diversified types. One thing is certain, however, circumstances and surroundings either create or foster popularity or are dead against its growth. Riches and rank are, it goes without saying, the most sure means to this end and are the direct road to success. Beauty, again, scores for its possessors a distinct popularity in society, and when these three gifts are united the position is exceptionally strong and commands success. As regards the individuality of society women apart from surroundings, what qualities are best suited for winning the race and reaching the goal? Does the vivacious and merry, animated and demonstrative woman, or the reserved, self-contained and composed one come most to the front and gain the greatest number of social laurels? Placing them side by side and judging from results, the permanent gains are to the latter. Women of this order are pre-eminently successful on various counts; whatever is lacking in them of brilliancy and animation, and even of brain power, is counterbalanced by an amount of persistent perseverance that produces a slow but sure effect. An amusing woman is led away from her point by the talent she possesses; she is a delightful company, but she does not inspire the reliance upon her or the belief in her that the less clever woman does, while from a marriageable point of view a woman who sees the humorous side of every situation in daily life is not the one a man desires to make his wife, and a woman without a scintillation of humor in her composition is chosen before one who is dangerously clever. For why? Most men look for a haven of rest when entering into matrimony and prefer a placid and reserved woman, even to insipidity, to one whose conversational powers are undeniable.

It is the placid woman who scores the greatest success in society. Her husband is under the spell of her influence and never attempts to evade or contest it; her will is law, and all that she projects and desires is carried out if within the region of possibility. Perhaps the secret of her supremacy is that she is an unknown quantity; she suggests the probability of there being a depth in her character not easily fathomed, of there being so much in her if the right note were only struck to sound it. As a girl this placidity and unruffled composure attracted many suitors; as a woman it secured her a firm footing in society, and the circle to which she belonged believed in her to any extent and was not surprised at the strides she made in popularity and to see how easily she grew toward the light. Of mediocre women there are many, and it is to them the greatest share of social disappointments fall. Their mediocrity consists partly in being neither one thing nor the other—not amusing nor brilliant, but merely talkative; chatty, if not gossip; not attractively placid, but only dull and commonplace; and, given surroundings equally moderate, what wonder is it that they find their level in society, and, as a natural result, do not "get on." Originality is a gift that wins for its possessor quick and almost instant recognition, but so few women can actually lay claim to it; counterfeited originality generally amounts to nothing more than eccentricity and unconventionality, and, unless supported by great wealth or acknowledged beauty, society soon puts the right name to it and is not too tolerant of it in any case where or when it comes to the front. Literary women are now becoming a great battalion in themselves and society could hardly be considered complete without their presence. Then, also, the wives of distinguished men take front rank in society and enjoy a prestige by reason of the names they have rendered conspicuous by the talents of their husbands. As regards "getting on in society" the race is not always to the swift; some have a good start and yet remain far behind; others, not so well placed at the beginning, get a front place in an incredibly short time, or they work out the proverb that "everything comes to him who waits."—London Queen.

Summer Heat in Various Countries.

The following figures show the extreme summer heat in the various countries of the world: Bengal and the African desert, 150 deg. Fahrenheit; Senegal and Guadalupe, 130 deg.; Persia, 125 deg.; Calcutta and Central America, 120 deg.; Afghanistan and the Arabian desert, 110 deg.; Cape of

Good Hope and Utah, 105 deg.; Greece, 104 deg.; Arabia, 103 deg.; Montreal, 103 deg.; New York, 102 deg.; Spain, India, China, Jamaica, 100 deg.; Sierra Leone, 94 deg.; France, Denmark, St. Petersburg, Shanghai, the Burman empire, Buenos Ayres, and the Sandwich Islands, 90 deg.; Great Britain, Siam and Peru, 85 deg.; Portugal, Pekin and Natal, 80 deg.; Siberia, 77 deg.; Austria, and Scotland, 75 deg.; Italy, Venezuela and Madeira, 73 deg.; Prussia and New Zealand, 70 deg.; Switzerland and Hungary, 66 deg.; Bavaria, Sweden, Tasmania and Moscow, 65 deg.; Patagonia and the Falkland Isles, 55 deg.; Iceland, 45 deg.; Nova Scotia, 34 deg.

PERILS OF A PEARL DIVER.

Hanging Head Down for Half an Hour Before Being Rescued.

I had not been diving more than three weeks when my first accident happened, and it was so utterly unexpected and so nearly cost me my life that it taught me a lesson which I never forgot. It happened in the following simple way: "I had been working in about ten fathoms of water, on a fairly good patch of shell, for several hours, and about dinner time, having a full bag, I screwed up the air valve, to make myself lighter, and gave the customary signal to be pulled up. The life line tightened, and I was soon lifted from my feet and being drawn toward the lighter water above. The angry frame of mind that usually attends a diver at work passes away as he is raised to the surface, and I was within ten feet of the boat, and just getting good-tempered again at the thought of a mouthful of fresh air, when I felt a sudden jerk under my left arm, and at the same instant my progress was stopped. Before I realized what was the matter the air pipe that held it under my arm, slipped over it, and I was pulled head downward, while the hauling of the boys above on the life-line, which was fast around my waist, raised the lower part of my body and left me suspended heels up!

In the first few moments of my surprise and terror I did not stop to think what had happened; my presence of mind deserted me, and I struggled and screamed like a caged madman. I felt that I was trapped and I was in an agony of fright. After a little while, having kicked myself into a state of exhaustion and common sense, I reasoned out the case of my dilemma. As the strain on the air pipe was downward and that of the life-line upward, I concluded that the air pipe must be fast below, and that the only thing to be done was to go down again and clear it. First, I regulated the air in my dress, letting out as much as I could spare, for in my present position all the air went into my legs and kept them floating upward, and then I tried to make the boys understand that I wanted them to lower me. All my jerks and shakes on the life-line, however, failed to get what I wanted. They obstinately held the line taut, trying every few minutes to pull me in halves. Fortunately all my gear was in very good shape or they would have accomplished it. I learned afterward that all on deck were so scared that they were of no use, but they finally had sense enough to signal for help, and, after hanging between the top and the bottom for about half an hour, my air pipe was loosened from below by another diver and I was pulled up, thankful enough to get my feet down to their proper level once more.

Excessive Heat in the East.

In 1302 and 1304 the Rhine, Loire and Seine ran dry. The heat in several French provinces during the summer of 1765 was equal to that of a glass furnace. Meat could be cooked by merely exposing it to the sun. Not a soul dare venture out between noon and 4 p. m. In 1718 many shops had to close. The theaters never opened their doors for three months. Not a drop of water fell during six months. In 1773 the thermometer rose to 118 degrees. In 1778 the heat of Bologna was so great that a great number of persons were stifled. There was not sufficient air for the breath, and people had to take refuge under the ground. In July, 1793, the heat again became intolerable. Vegetables were burned up, and fruit dried on the trees. The furniture and woodwork in dwelling houses cracked and split up; meat went bad in an hour.

The Peanut as a Native of Brazil.

In reply to a question by the editor of the Richmond dispatch the department of agriculture has decided that the peanut is not a nut, and that "the weight of authority seems to be in favor of accepting it as a native of Brazil."

SPOOKS, "HANTS" AND SIGNS.

A Maine ghost in a freight car, after frightening a brakeman into a chuckle-headed funk, proved to be a granite statue. Nebraska mediums have been interviewing the spooks about crop prospects, but the spooks don't know anything about it. The ghosts of those killed in a railroad accident so worried John Elliott of Crawfordsville, Ind., that he has sued the company for damages. The English Society for Psychical Research reports an output of 1,684 ghosts for 1894. Only 112 spoke, and in only a few cases did bad news follow the apparition's appearance. There's a ghost at Little Nahant, Mass., who probably guards Capt. Kidd's treasure and shakes the shovel out of the hand of a treasureseeker—at least, so folks say. William E. Mahoney of Northport, Me., was chopping when a fox barked thrice. He told his wife, and next day she begged him not to go into the woods. He went and was killed by a falling tree. Score one for the fox's warning, says superstition. A Maine doctor recently met with an accident while driving along a road late at night. Arriving home, he found his wife up and waiting for him in hysterics, more or less. She had awakened with a sense of evil happening at the very moment of the accident.