The Quiet Observer

MARRYING THE PRINCE.

An article in the Times stirred London and England generally to a consideration of the fact that the Prince of Wales was 26 years of age and eligible for marriage. It is not known that the Prince has thrown his handkerchief anywhere yet, but various Royal matches have been gossiped about, and it was even suggested that Princess Elizabeth of Roumania had been selected. No foreign Princess has commended herself to the British people, and the general feeling is that the blue blood of Britain is quite good enough to mingle with the strain of Windsor. A selection of the eligible daughters of the nobility and gentry of Britain would embarrass the most critical, but fortunately marriages are not the result of the critical faculty, and if the Prince should run across his fate in one of the old country houses of Britain there should be no objection as long as he is satisfied. Of course, all who are not chosen may object, but it is time we got away from the traditions of royalty as far as they entrench false ideas of prestige and birth and precedence. King George has set a fine example of democratic feeling, and it should not be difficult for the Prince to maintain a good-natured primacy among equals.

PREPARING FOR WINTER.

With the assistance of early November rains in softening the ground, most of the fall plowing has been satisfactorily accomplished. The turnip crop has been excellent in spite of fears of dry weather early in the season, but the market does not present the attractive prices of last year. Potatoes are all stored and appear to be a good crop, though Peel reports twenty per cent. affected by rot. The apple market has been fair in spite of handicaps. Huron reports 10,000 barrels shipped. Boxes are being largely used for packing. Cattle have been held very late on the pasture, and it is apparent that a large increase is to be made in the animals carried through the winter. Prices for hogs, like those of other commodities, have been steadily falling.

RED RAG RAISES TEMPER.

A great effort is being made over the tercentenary celebrations of the landing of the "Pilgrims" from the "Mayflower" in December, 1620, to show good feeling towards the United States by the British people. This has been thoroughly reciprocated by most of the people of the great Republic. A certain section, however, has made itself obnoxious by tearing down the Union Jack when it was found among other colors in a trophy, and in the Armistice Day celebrations the same mingling of the British flag with the flags of the other Allies was resented by tearing it down and burning it. Had this been done in any other country there would have been explanations demanded, but the spoiled children of the Republic are so well understood that no one takes them seriously and they only bring obloquy on their own cause. Were the Stars and Stripes so treated in England the situation would be critical, but the English have a breadth of view, a sanity of outlook and a tole rance which these flag-haters no more understand than an angry bull understands its own temper. Real Americans have no sympathy with such manifestations and this must not be forgotten when such displays occur.

BOOKS OF REVELATION.

Mrs. Asquith has once again proved herself a social sensation. Whether she can also be described as a literary sensation is for the critics to say. The publication of her diary has the same effect as the conversation of the precocious child who reveals all the family secrets with an unconscious veracity which is finer than courage and enables the listener to enjoy himself without qualm. But Mrs. Asquith's veracity is not unconscious. She is aware of the importance of truth and also its financial value. She is said to have obtained $50,000 for her revelations whether apochryphal or apocalyptic. Most people would tell all they knew about themselves or anybody else for $50,000, so it is not for such sinners to sit on the seat of the scornful when Mrs. Asquith is in question. Some people have raised the question of taste, but taste is not in evidence any longer, and even if it were it is doubtful whether it would be appreciated, especially when it is understood that taste requires silence in such circumstances. But it is all in the way of education, and if the veil is torn away from the "upper circles" of society as it has been torn away from the lower, we shall perhaps learn to respect each other in a different way. It does one good to know that Mr. Asquith, like other successful men, works hard and has no or little time for frivolity. He gets up at 8.45, is at his chambers or the courts by 10.30, and works till 5. Then he goes to the House of Parliament, works till 8, returns for dinner and goes to the House again till 12. After that he reads for two hours. If he should be at a party and does not return till 2, he still reads for two hours and finishes up with a novel in bed. Talk about an eight-hour-day after this!

ALLIES OF THE CHURCH

BY DR. JAMES I. VANCE.

Important as the church is, it cannot alone meet and master the problem of civilization. It needs the help of the allies. There are three allies to which it has a right to look for helpful co-operation.

One of these is the state. I do not believe in the union of church and state, but we should labor to promote the most cordial relations between the two. The state can make easy or difficult the work of the church. It can build barriers of legal restraint against the tides of pleasure and comercialism that would overflow the church. A town in which lawlessness abounds and the Sabbath is disregarded is a community in which the church is seriously handicapped.

Another ally is the school. The school can do some things the church cannot do. But the school is a poor promoter of civilization when it discredit the church. The education that breaks down faith in God is not to be desired. The schols we need in Canada are not sectarian institutions, but they are the schools whose atmosphere is kindly to a faith in God.

But the most important ally of the church is the family. If family life is Godless, the work of the church is hopelessly crippled.

Men may differ as to their conception of the tendencies of the present age, but they must agree that the seat of power for both the [illegible] and the church is in the family.

Not the individual but the family is the social unit, and as goes the home, so goes the nation and so goes civilization.

These are the allies the church needs to do its work: A state that enacts normal values into its statutes; a school that harnesses life to convictions, and a family with an altar as well as a hearthstone.

WHAT CONSTITUES A LOAD OF WOOD?

STANDARDIZATION OF DELIVERY BOXES WOULD PROMOTE CONFIDENCE ON THE MARKET.

The fasct that, on cut-over lands, hardwoods are becoming the preponderating species and that a very limited market exists for this timber demonstrates the desirability of the greater use of hardwood for fuel. The coal shortage could be largely offset by using the fuel which our forests provide.

One drawback to the more extensive use of hardwood for fuel has been the method of marketing. Prices are quoted per load, and a load may consist of any quantity, depending upon the dealer. Naturally the public is reluctant to purchase an unknown quantity.

The experience of one consumer with what is known as "millwood" emphasizes this point. The dealer refused to sell it by the cord but quoted it at $3.00 per load. Measurement of the load disclosed the fact that $3.00 per load was equivalent to $28 per cord. On the basis of heat values, this was equivalent to $56.00 per ton of anthracite. This class of wood was later sold by the municipality at $7.50 per cord, and hardwood (one cord equal to one ton of anthracite) at $13.50.

One Canadian city has standardized the size of wood delivery wagon boxes. A by-law provides that the capacity of a "double load" box must be 168 cubic feet, which is considered to be equal to one cord of wood as ordinarily thrown in. The box for a "single load" must have a capacity of 84 cubic feet. The by-law also requires that the driver of the wood delivery wagon shall before unloading invite inspection of the load by the purchaser or his representative.

This regulation might well be adopted by all municipalities; it would undoubtedly enlarge the market for wood fuel, as the consumer would no longer be compelled to purchase a load without knowing what quantity he was getting.

SEASONABLE REMINDERS.

Crowded chicks do not thrive. Where a number of small brood coops are placed together the chicks may change mothers, and it is a common thing to find one hen with three or four chicks anl others with 30 or 40. Later in the season, when the mother hens are removed, the chicks will continue to crowd some coops while others are almost vacant. It is worth an effort to keep them divided up more eveny.

Dark-colored chicks are less in danger from hawks than the white breeds. Because of this, in hawk-infested regions the dark-colored breeds that blend with the landscape are generally more popular. Growing the chicks in the corn field or beside a grove of trees where they can get protection easily reduces the losses from hawks.

We never saw a really firstclass bunch of pullets growing up along with the farm flock. The older birds worry the pullets and get the best of all the food supplies. The young birds cannot be constantly frightened from their feed and make a satisfactory growth.

In some sections rats and weasels are the greatest enemies of the poultry. Brood coops and colony houses, or whatever the growing stock is housed in should have strong, tight floors, and openings that are closed each night.

A Wattsfield (Suffolk) school teacher has just received a card posted to her on January 5, 1905, at Scole. 12 miles distant.

FOOLISH FRANCESCA

By Olive Wadsley

CHAPTER XIX.

Carissima Intercedes.

Mme. Kain had known Leon Savinge for nearly twenty years, ever since the beginnig of her career; his father had indeed helped to start that great career.

Leon, in his very youthful days, had given her a boy's adoration; later on he had really cared for her with an affection half fraternal, half admiring. He had always come over for her premieres if he could, had once traveled from St. Petersburg without a stop in order to hear give "Aida" at Covent Garden

Her feeling for him was of that tenderly protective nature which a much older woman gives to a man whom she has known as a boy.

His wildest escapades, his most secret plans had been told to her; but until that afternoon he had never spoken to her of Francesca. Frankie had herself told her of the interview in Berlin, and she had only half believed it; regarded it as a rather ill-bred and unnecessary affaire du moment on Leon's part.

Now he spoke to her of his love, and he spoke with the voice of a man who suffers.

"But Leon," she said, taking his hard, brown hand in hers; "it is that you really love Frankie? Is this the one divine passion you have always sworn to wait for?"

"God knows," Savinge said sullenly. "Sometimes I feel it's all a tomfool dream, that there is no truth in the whole thing. I tell myself the girl is crude, bourgeoise, dull, that she would bore me within the first week; and then, somehow, I don't know how, little memories of her come to me, and the absolutely unshakable conviction seems to break over me that she is the woman. I was meant to have, the one woman for me to worship and adore.

"I can't explain it. I dare say it sounds imbecile to you—" He paused and then added. "Doesn't it? Own up, Elena; tell me that you think me a total fool, blinded by my own folly. Go on."

His strained, nervous voice held contempt and pleading.

"I do not think that. How could I think such a think of you? But I can't understand this sudden overwhelming passion for a girl who, apart from her God-given voice, is much as other girls, it seems to me."

"Much as other girls!" Savinge mocked. "Do you mean to say you think she can sing as she does and have no temperament? She is young, how young is it? Nineteen. She has been nowhere, seen no one.

"She is asleep emotionally, unconscious of her own power to feel. But wait. Wait till some day some man by chance awakes her; wait, I tell you. You will not say then that she is as other girls. I tell you she has what few women ever really have—a need to love deeply, a power to do it.

"I know when first I saw her that she was not the ordinary tame type of being. I have never lost that belief. I never shall. I can't tell you what I feel about her, but it's—it's as though I were standing out in the cold and saw a fire and could not reach it. I want to reach Francesca's hidden fire, that fire which burns deep down in her heart; I—"

He got up abruptly and went over to the window. De Sourne and Valous had gone out. Von Clere to the smoking room. Leon turned round suddenly and flung out his hands.

"Elena," he said, "it's as though I were caught in some trap from which I can't get free. I've always in a sort of way been afraid of love, real love, I mean. I believe lots of men are. It seems a sort of giving up of freedom and individuality.

"That's why I've never bothered much about women of your class; I wanted to be free as long as possible. But now I'm no longer free; I'm caught, bound down; and unless I can teach Francesca to love, I shall go out suffering like this. I have it and yet I can't break away. I can't."

Mme. Kain absently twisted her rings round. At last she said slowly:

"Shall I speak to Frankie for you and try to persuade her?"

"Persuade her! She hates me because I ignored her once, and afterward because I was unable to do so!" He laughed bitterely.

"I've been a consummate fool, Elena. I'm a beast to worry you like this. Yes, help me if you can. If you can't, if your help is useless I'll—" He thrust his hands into his pockets and came toward her, "I'll take a way of my own."

Mme. Kain found Frankie sitting nonchalantly upon the kitchen table watching Alphons make shrimp patties for dinner.

Alphons, immaculate in his white coat and cap, was holding forth volubly upon the comparative merits of Patti and Calve. Like all the best French servants, he had entered heart and soul into the success of his mistress, and Frankie's future had been freely discussed between Mme. Kain and himself frequently.

"Francesca, I want you," Mme. Kain said. Frankie slid off the table and went forward.

"Why this sudden sterness, why this free use of the baptismal name?" she asked. Mme. Kain led her into her bedroom.

"Frankie, Leon wants to marry you."

"I don't want to marry him," Frankie retorted instantly. "I told you how I hated him that last time in Berlin."

"But he is fascinating, world-famous, a man who counts—"

"And a brute being, too," Frankie finished. "He'd never even let me sneeze by myself, I dare say; he's that sort. No, thank you, Carissima, I'll have a career. Men are to be left out of it. They're all selfish and possessive, more or less. Besides, how can Count Savinge love me! Why, he hardly knews me!"

Mme. Kain sighed.

"Leon isn't like that," she said. "He was always a creature of instant impulse; but because I say that you are not to think he doesn't know his own mind. He has a will of iron, a determination nothing can alter. He tells me he loves you. I know it to be true."

Very dimly a certain feeling of pleasure stirred in Frankie's heart.

"Will you go and see Leon?" Mme. Kain ventured.

"Yes, I'll go if you want me to, but it won't be any good," she asserted.

As she walked toward the salon the feeling in her heart stirred again. Very faintly a dim intimation of what love might mean came to her. She was softened, more tender, when she entered the room. It was in darkness; she switched on the electric light.

"Don't do that," Leon said quickly, and, crossing, laid his hand on hers, and turned the light into darkness once more.

Frankie stumbled back against him. As she tried to move away she put out her hands and caught the lapel of Leon's coat. She held it for an instant and in doing so pressed involuntarily against him.

Beneath her hand she could feel a quick, vivid pulsation. She knew it was his heart beating at her touch.

"Oh! she said, very shyly releasing his coat.

He didn't speak, but his arm closed very gently round her. It closed so tightly that she seemed to feel its pressure all through her—she was being drawn back close to him.

An emotion so violent suddenly wakened in her that she quivered. She was conscious of some breathlessly sweet sensation in her heart which seemed to make her feel frightened and yet exquisitely happy. She lay still in Leon's clasp.

He looked down at her pale, little upturned face in the firelight, very slowly bent and laid his lips on hers.

To Frankie when the long kiss ended it was as though she had come back to earth from heaven.

(To be continued).

Girl Fought As Czecho-Slovak.

Anna Holokova, a Czecho-Slovak girl who fought in the front line with the soldiers of the new republic until her sex was discovered when she was seriously wounded in the breast, is ranked as Czecho-Slovakia's greatest hero. At the outbreak of the war, Anna Holokova, then fourteen, studied music in Warsaw. With thousands of others she was thrown into prison, suspected of being a German sympathizer. For more than a year she lay in prison until she was released. Upon the formation of the Czech army, Anna donned man's clothing as the only means of joining her countrymen in fighting for freedom. Her sex remained undetected all the time until her secret was revealed by the bullet wound in the chest. Upon her recovery the doctor refused to allow her to go back, but permitted her to remain as a nurse.

Two fishermen of Buckpool, North Scotland, have invented a device for a net drawn by drifters acting in concert, as in mine-sweeping, to prevent the loss of the nets through the weight of the fish in gales.

HOW BEST TO STORE FRUIT FOR WINTER

CHOOSE RIGHT VARIETIES AND SEE THAT STORAGE SPACE IS COOL.

(Experimental Farm's Note).

With the exception of apples, grapes and pears there are no fruits of our own production which can be called winter fruits, but of these three sorts every householder may have an abundant supply in good condition until at least the middle of winter.

Three prime requisities are necessary to keep in mind when laying in a supply of fruit for winter. The first is the selection of the proper variety of varieties; the second is the selection of only firm fruits, free from bruises and disease or insect injury; and the third is proper conditions of storage.

With regard to the first, the following is a list of winter varieties of apples, pears and grapes which, when free from disease and injury and stored under proper conditions, will keep anywhere from January up to May.

Well-known Winter Varieties of Apples of Good Quality:

Variety, McIntosh; season, November to January.

Variety, Fameuse; season, October to January 1st.

Variety, Rhode Island Greening; season, December to February.

Variety, King of Tompkins; season, November to February.

Variety, Wagener; season, November to February.

Variety, Northern Spy; season, January to May.

Variety, Golden Russet; season, January to May.

The above varieties are all good and cover the entire winter season if proper selection is made.

Among Pears the Following Are Desirable for Winter Use:

Josephine, Mid-winter.

Kieffer (rather poor quality) October to January.

Lawrence, December.

Winter Nelis, Mid-winter.

Grapes: Normally the grape is not a winter fruit, but, stored under good conditions, the few varieties mentioned here may be successfully kept until the last of February: Herbert, Barry, Vergennes, Agawam, Lindley.

Storing: In the storage of all fruits a cold, moderately moist room is necessary. Fruit stored in a dry, warm cellar will not keep. Storing at as near freezing as possible, without allowing the temperature to drop to 32 degrees F., will insure the maximum time for the retention of the quality of the product.

By wraping apples and pears in paper and then placing in boxes which are covered the juiciness and firmness of the fruit is easier to retain. This is especially true of the Golden Russet, one of the best keeping apples, but one liable to shrivel if kept in any place but a cold, moist cellar. Wraping is a great help in keeping Russets.

Grapes should be wrapped in paper and stored in six-quart baskets which should be covered. If the grapes can be obtained with a large piece of vine attached to the bunch and a few leaves before they are killed by frost, the cut end of the vine may be inserted in a bottle of water through a hole in a stopper and placed away in a cold place. In this monner the fresh sprightliness may be retained for many months.

M. B. Davis,

RESTORING PAINTBRUSHES

Every house and farm has a small bit of painting to do every spring, and usually the brushes used in past years, when gathered together, are as stiff as a good piece of concrete.

Don't throw them away and don't buy new ones; but particularly don't buy expensive paint remover to make them usuable again.

Put an inch of ordinary vinegar in a granite dish. With the brushes in this, set the pan on the stove and let it boil. As the paint softens and comes off, try working the brushes to help the process. When the vinegar has lost its strength, replace with fresh as often as necessary till the brushes are clean.

A word of caution is necessary at this point: Do not let the vinegar come too high on the brush, where the bristles are held in place. Cement-set or glue-set brushes are liable to soften and let the bristles fall if the boiling vinegar works into the glue or cement. A little care readily overcomes the danger of this.

Fifteen cents' worth of vinegar and an hour's time will make soft, pliable, and as good as new, a dozen brushes that have been dried in paint a dozen years.

W. L. Hartshorn.

PLANNING MORE ROAD WIDTHS

UNNECESSARILY WIDE ROADS ENCHANCE COST OF IMPROVEMENTS.

The present unscientific system of fixing the alignment of roads is accompanied by an equally unscientific system of fixing road widths. Most roads are too wide and many are too narrow, and those that are too narrow are restricted in width by reason of the law which requires the others to be too wide. It may be claimed that, both in rural and urban territory, a general average of 66 feet is wide enough for all purposes and that no community, even when relatively closely settled, can afford to lay out and pave streets of a greater average width.

The minimum standard in Ontario and elsewhere is 66 feet. This standard applies to the main arterial thoroughfare required to carry heavy traffic and to the short residential street required for the purely domestic needs of a few houses. In many districts acres of macadam, asphalt and concrete laid in a few streets might with advantage be used over twice the length of street now paved. One consequence is that the cost of local improvements in many localities is so great that money is not available for necessary purposes of public sanitation. Another is that the tax burden on the property owners is so heavy that they are proportionably limited in the capital available for making their houses sanitary and durable in construction, and they are compelled to crowd their land with buildings in order to put it to economic use.

But even at this late day, with all the lessons we have had of waste of land and unnecessary expenditure of capital in providing far too wide roads for purely local traffic, there are those who regard any suggestion to make streets narrower than 60 or 66 feet as reactionary. There are few, however, who will deny that it is impracticable, in any community where the density of building is comparatively open, as in Canada, to provide land and make satisfactory roads or streets to a greater average width than 66 feet. What hapens is that the land is provided for roads or streets, as the law requires, but that few of the roads or streets are ever properly constructed, the reason being that there is too much road surface for the population, even when the land is closely settled. Excessively wide streets, instead of securing more air space, cause congestion, e.g., in the erection of apartment houses in towns, because without such congestion the frontage could not afford to meet the cost of local improvements. This is being proved in Canada where the tendency towards the tenement building is being created by the wide street. In the rural districts, although land is plentiful and cheap, it stands to reason that all roads should not be of the same width, and that there should be variation to suit the requirements of traffic.—Rural Planning Department.

The History of Your Name

DAVIS.

VARIATIONS—David, Davidson, Davision, Davie, Davies, Davey, Davers, Davye, Dayson, Days, Day, Dawson, Dawkins, Dawkinson, Dakins, Davidge, Dow, MacDavid, MacDaid, MacDade, Kay, Dodd, Dodson.

RACIAL ORIGIN—English and Celtic.

SOURCE—A given name.

From the foregoing list of variations it looks almost as if every family name beginning with "D" belongs to the Davis group. As a matter of fact, David had given rise to an exceptionally large number of family names, because it was a far more popular given name in the Middle Ages than it is to-day.

These family names come in the first place from the unchanged name David, giving us, by the various processes of adding "son," cutting it down to a mere "s" and the elision of the final "d" in some cases, Davis, David, Davidson, Davie, Davies, Davers, etc.

But a most widespread variation of the given name in the Middle Ages was "Daw," derived from the pronunciation of the name with the broad "a" (like Daw-vid). The long "a," as in "day" is a development of modern English. This variation gave rise to the family names of Dawson, Dawkinson ("little Daw's son") and Dawkins. The broad "a" pronunciation also sometimes led to Dodd and Dodson, though these names are more commonly ascribed to the old Anglo-Saxon given name of "Doda" or "Dodd."

The given name of David also had a strong hold in Scotland of the Middle Ages, and was borne by a number of the Scottish kings, where it is to be found, principally among branches of the Clan Chattan Confederacy, in the Celtic forms of "MacDhais," "Clan Daibhaidh" and "Clan Da'idh," whence the Anglicised forms of MacDavid, MacDonald, Macdade and Kay. The English forms of Davie, Davis, Dawson, Dow, also found as septs of this clan, known today as Davidson.

The family name of Davidge is simply a variation in spelling and pronunciation of Davids.

TORONTO FAT STOCK SHOW.

Be sure you arrange to attend the 11th Annual Fat Stock Show, which will be held at the Union Stock Yards, West Toronto, on Thursday and Friday, December 9th and 10th. The entries are very large in all classes. The judging will take place Thursday, December 9th, at 10 a.m., and the auction sale of show stock will take place on Friday, December 10th, at 10 a.m.