

NOTES AND COMMENTS

An interesting and scholarly lecture by Lord Haldane on the meaning of truth in history has started a lively discussion in England. Is history a science or an art? Should it be written by patient diggers and students of documents or by men of imagination and literary gifts?

Lord Haldane contends that history is a combination of science and art. The historian cannot neglect documents, but he may miss the essence and spirit of a great change or event if he relies on documents alone.

Various theories concerning the writing of history have been held and practiced. Romances have been written and called history, and very good 'artistic' history has been told in 'mere' romances.

What, then, are the generalities of intelligent men to do with regard to history? How are they to master its 'lessons' and get at its true inwardness? The rough answer is that they must do with the past what they do, if they are wise, with the present—hear all sides, weigh hearing, compare and weigh evidence, allow for bias and point of view, and form a sort of synthetic notion of things.

COURT INFLUENCE.

Example of the Queen Is Reflected on the Whole Community.

It is well that society should have its periods of 'introspection.' It is undergoing one just now. When we speak of the moral condition of society at the present day it should be remembered that society is composed of all sorts and conditions of people as widely different as the Poles, says the Gentlewoman.

Hospitals of Olden Time. Hospital patients of to-day are better off than their ancestors of 'the good old times.' Mr. Wheatley in his book on 'London,' quotes from a Scottish act of parliament of 1286 to the effect that 'if any man brings to the market corrupt swine or salmon to be sold, they shall be taken by the bailie, and incontinent, without any question, shall be sent to the leper folk.'

However much of a Suffragette a woman may be, she'll still wish there was a man at home when a tramp comes to the door.

Fashion Hints

Tid-Bits of Information.

Paris can never get away from black and white, and this year the magpie combination is often seen. It is always a good choice, especially for the woman who realizes that she is not an adept at combining colors. This is nothing to be ashamed of—something to be acknowledged and coped with wisely.

One of the interesting developments of the spring styles is the blouse of chiffon or crepe de chine which shows a little tucked vest of organdy or linen with a folding or flaring organza or linen collar.

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For the young girl nothing prettier for summer wear could be found than a hat made of figured chiffon mounted over a wire frame. Tie strings of velvet that go either under the chin or under the hair give character to such a hat.

A good many of the new skirts have shown a silhouette which strongly suggests the Turkish trouser. But upon examination the effect is shown to be produced by gathers, cleverly manipulated and folded, of material about the ankles.

It is odd, by the way, that the butterfly persists. It still appears in ornaments for the hair, in lace medallions on underwear and blouses, and in designs in silk and crepe.

STORY OF KILKENNY CATS.

Barbarous Act of Cruelty of Hessians Soldiers. During the rebellion which occurred in Ireland in 1797 Kilkenny was garrisoned by a regiment of Hessian soldiers, whose custom it was to tie together in one of their barracks two cats by their respective tails, and then throw them face to face across a line generally used for drying clothes.

The Oyster Defined. The teacher was instructing the youngsters in natural history. 'Can any little boy or girl,' said she, 'tell me what an oyster is?'

'Why so gloomy looking, Madge dear?' 'Jack has thrown me over for a girl with more money.' 'Oh, there, cheer up! That's no sign that he doesn't love you.'

SIR JOHN HENNIKER HEATON.

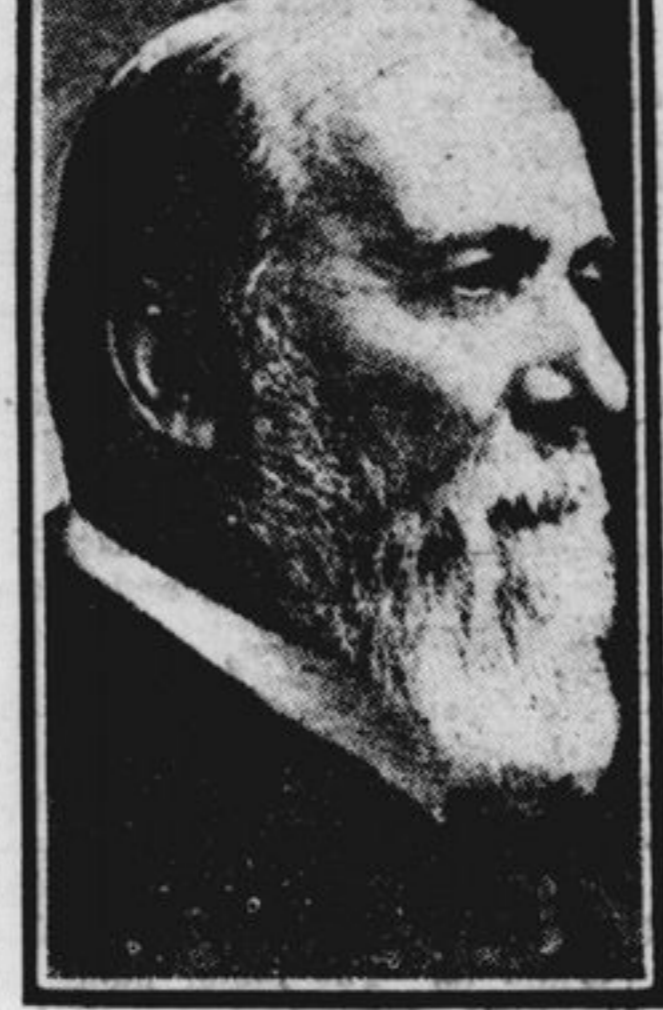
Father of Penny Postage Striving For Cheaper Rates.

The father of Imperial penny postage, having accomplished his aim of bringing about two cent postage between all parts of the British Empire, and also between Great Britain and the United States, has now turned his attention to France, and before long it is probable that letters will cross the Channel as cheaply as they cross the pond.

The great event happened on July 12, 1869. Imperial Penny Postage was carried by seven votes to five at the London Conference on that day. One of the delegates made straight for the House of Commons to tell Heaton the news that he had won.

The Man of Letters.

By an irony of fate, Australia, Sir John's own continent, held out



Sir John Henniker Heaton, M.P.

against the penny rate, but on March 25, 1865, Lord Stanley wrote: 'Dear Henniker Heaton—I cannot allow the bald statement which will appear in Monday's papers, to the effect that a penny postage rate is to come into force with Australia on April 1, to be the first of announcements to you of the fulfilment of one of your postal dreams.

In the year following the inclusion of Australia in the Imperial scheme he extended his activities to Universal Penny Postage. At that time it was Mr. Sydney Buxton who received his attentions and was given no loophole of escape. In proposing the penny rate between England and America Sir John was able to tell the Chancellor of the Exchequer that he would place in his hands a bank guarantee, 'bearing names honored on every Exchange,' for the amount of the proved loss during the first three years' working of the reduced rating.

Occasionally a man wins a fight because he hasn't the nerve to run away.

HEALTH

Operations in the Home.

It is sometimes necessary to perform a serious operation in the home of the patient. All surgeons prefer to operate in hospitals, when they can, because there they find everything in scientific readiness before, during, and after the operation. But many a country doctor performs difficult and dangerous operations at a minute's notice, and under the most difficult circumstances.

Therefore, when an immediate and serious operation must be undertaken in a clearly private home, no one need be panic-stricken. When no nurse can be had, the surgeon will say what he needs. Most of all he needs a quiet, self-controlled assistant who has plenty of coolness and common sense.

Cleanliness is the great thing for the assistant to keep in mind—no ordinary domestic cleanliness, but an absolute surgical cleanliness. Be sure that there is a constant supply of boiling water for sterilizing instruments. If water cannot be boiled in the operating room, you can set an alcohol lamp in the bath tub, and put the sterilizing pan on it.

Kissing and Influenza.

If you are of a warm and affectionate nature, if you have the inveterate habit of breaking into oscillatory expression of your joy and enthusiasm, you must make an heroic effort to conquer that practice during these days of uncertain weather—one day cold and the next as mild as milk.

Women with a bad cold or anything of kissing their own or anybody else's children. They think nothing of the chances of infecting the child with their own ailment, although they know that there is nothing more nagging and disagreeable than a cold in the head, which lowers the system and makes a person susceptible to other more serious troubles.

It is the same with influenza, this doctor affirms. A woman who is right well with influenza will ask her friend to come in and cheer her up, in spite of the fact that influenza is one of the most highly infectious diseases known.

A WORKMAN HERO.

His Presence of Mind Saved His Mate From Being Killed. While a building was in course of demolition at Newton Row, Birmingham, England, part of the upper floor gave way.

Dubbleth—Miss Sharp called me a fool. Do I look like a fool? Dawson—No, you do not. She couldn't have judged you by your looks.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, APRIL 26.

Lesson IV. The Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin, Luke 15, 1-10. Golden Text, Luke 15, 10.

Verse 1. Now—During this general period. No events intervene between this and our last lesson. Publicans—Tax collectors for the Roman government, and despised of the Pharisees because serving the oppressors of the Palestine.

Pharisees—Members of the religious-patriotic sect dating back in their origin to the Maccabean period or still earlier. They were strict in the literal observance of the Jewish law and ritual, bitter in their hatred of the Romans, and self-righteous and oppressive in their attitude toward the common people who knew not the law.

And yet, if we can judge from the meagre reports which have been left us of this great day, Jesus does not seem to have been at all elated by His reception. On the contrary, Luke tells us specifically that as "He drew nigh" he looked across to the valley to the city, gleaming white as alabaster in the blazing sun, "and wept over it!"

What man of you—Jesus appeals to their personal experience. The wealth of many of them may have consisted in flocks and herds. One of them—Just one is lost and so many remain, yet the utmost concern is felt. This is the love of God for each individual shown.

Joy in heaven—The interests of heaven and earth meet in the individual. Repent—Both in the literal sense of facing about from the wrong to the right and in the sense of regret and sorrow for wrong-doings.

What woman having ten pieces of silver—The silver coin is the Greek drachma, worth about sixteen cents. Women of Palestine wear strings of these silver coins hanging from the head as ornaments. Perhaps the lost coin had been worn in this way.

Light a lamp—A peasant's hut has no window. Until she find it—As in the case of the lost sheep, the earnest, persevering activity of the owner is emphasized.

GIFT KING CAN'T ACCEPT.

Mother of Pearl Ikon of Lord's Supper, Sent From Arabia. A mother of pearl ikon, of the 'Lord's Last Supper,' almost identical to that presented to the Emperor of Russia by the Sultan of Turkey as a peace offering on the outbreak of the late war with Italy, is in London awaiting a claimant.

When the Russian gift was finished the agents of the Sultan paid for it and carried it away, but the Kobi tribesmen did not know how to send the replica to King George. It was finally taken to Sir John Gray

LONG PROMISED MESSIAH

Jesus' Humility in the Hour of Success and Courage in the Moment of Failure

"And many spread their garments upon the way; and others, as they went, cried, Hosanna, blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest." Mark xi., 8-10.

It was a wonderful reception which Jesus received upon this final occasion of His entry into Jerusalem. It marked without any question the flood tide of His popularity and fame. Here were people gathered from all the four quarters of Palestine, and some of them undoubtedly from foreign lands, to celebrate the great feast of the Passover.

Inspiring, indeed, was this popular triumph in the Holy City. And yet, if we can judge from the meagre reports which have been left us of this great day, Jesus does not seem to have been at all elated by His reception.

Why not? There are several reasons. He was weary from the long journey, and the heat of the sun was oppressive. He had just passed through the wilderness, and his mind was filled with thoughts of His mission.

ARE PRAIRIES PERMANENT?

Signs of Their Disappearance in the West. The dictionary defines a prairie as "a level or rolling tract of treeless land covered with coarse grass." Strictly speaking, then, the prairies no longer exist in Canada except locally, for there are no longer any large areas exempt from settlement and the settlers throughout the West have already been supplied by the Dominion Forestry Branch with over 24,000,000 trees.

John Bull's Bills. What Great Britain Will Spend in 1915-14. Britain's national expenditure for the year 1913-14 involves a sum amounting in all to more than £198,000,000.

Anti-Alcohol Campaign. School Girls and Boys of Russia Drink Vodka. A despatch from St. Petersburg says: The Novov Vremya, an anti-alcohol campaign, asserts that 90 per cent of the boys and 85 per cent of the girls in the schools of the Verovskiy Government drink habitually vodka, wine and beer in their homes, and that children of six to eight years old have been found drunk.

Ontario Archives. Toronto. Why Not 7 Per Cent. If your money earns less than 7%, we are offering the Bonds of a successful company which yield 7% interest and feature as well. Your investment must be made before we close our doors.

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Young Folks The Fat Little Birds. Once upon a time there were six little fat birds, and they sat on the shore of a big blue sea.

Winners Green. Whinnipeg, April 21—Wheat—No. 1 Northern, 90c; No. 2 Northern, 88c; No. 3 Northern, 86c; feed, 65c; No. 1 clover, 55c; No. 2 clover, 53c; No. 3 clover, 51c; No. 1 alfalfa, 45c; No. 2 alfalfa, 43c; No. 3 alfalfa, 41c.

United States Markets. Montreal, April 21—Wheat—No. 1 hard, 92c; No. 2 hard, 90c; No. 3 hard, 88c; No. 1 soft, 85c; No. 2 soft, 83c; No. 3 soft, 81c; No. 1 red winter, 86c; No. 2 red winter, 84c; No. 3 red winter, 82c; No. 1 white, 80c; No. 2 white, 78c; No. 3 white, 76c.

Live Stock Markets. Toronto, April 21—Cattle—Choice butchers' steers, \$12.00; second choice butchers' steers, \$11.50; cows and calves, \$10.00; pigs, \$8.00; sheep, \$10.00; horses, \$100.00.

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