

CURRENT NOTES.

There are signs that the Czar's attitude toward the Sultan has been modified, and that, should another massacre take place at Constantinople, Russian, French, and English war ships will be sent thither for the purpose of maintaining order. Such interference would doubtless lead to the deposition of the present Sultan, and it is possible that, instead of permitting a new ruler to be chosen, the powers principally interested may recognize that the time has come to divide the Ottoman possessions.

Although, however, the Turk is a sick man, he has been in a worse plight four times in the present century. The Ottoman Empire was brought to the verge of ruin in 1829, when a Russian army under Diebitzch crossed the Balkans and reached Adrianople. Again, in 1833, Mahmoud II. consented, at the bidding of the Czar, to sign the treaty of Unklar Skelessi, which, if France and England would have suffered it to be carried out, would have converted Turkey into a vassal State. That treaty placed the Dardanelles and Constantinople itself under the protection of Russian war vessels, and it was plain enough that in such circumstances all of the Sultan's official acts would be dictated from St. Petersburg. Again, in 1879, when the Turkish army was annihilated by Ibrahim Pasha at Nisib, and when, almost contemporaneously, the Turkish fleet was handed over to Mehemet Ali at Alexandria, nothing but the interposition of England and France saved the house of Osman from de throne. Once more, in March, 1878, when a Russian army had reached the suburbs of Constantinople, nothing saved the Turkish Empire from destruction except the knowledge that, if he invaders entered the capital, a fleet of British ironclads would be ordered to the Bosphorus. On every one of the occasions named it seemed improbable that Turkey would survive, yet it continued to exist so it may be that even now the Ottoman Government will be suffered to go on under a new ruler who will make the pretence of instituting some reforms.

The Moorish kingdom of Grenada lingered for some two centuries longer than in the natural course of things it could have lasted, owing to the rivalry of Castile and Aragon. It is for an analogous reason, namely, the rivalry between Russia on the one hand and Austria and England on the other, that the Osmanli have been allowed to retain Constantinople for the last three-quarters of a century. The house of Hapsburg has good cause to fear that it would be unable to hold its Slav subjects in subjection should the great Slav sovereign gain a footing in the Balkan peninsula. English statesmen on their part have hitherto assumed that their country's short line of communication with India would be threatened if a strong power like Russia, whose navy is capable of indefinite expansion, should gain control of the Bosphorus. The political and strategic objections seem as valid now as they ever were, and it may be that they will once more avail to postpone the partition of Turkey. But in England, at all events, there are indications that public opinion will no longer tolerate the abandonment of the Sultan's Christian subjects to butchery. In order that British commerce in the Levant may remain shielded from Russian rivalry, the day has gone by when Lord Beaconsfield could describe an arrangement by which millions of Armenian and Greek Christians were left at the mercy of a sanguinary despot as "peace, with honor." If, to save them, it is necessary to let the Czar take Constantinople, the English people will doubtless authorize Lord Salisbury to face the risk.

BORES IN PARLIAMENT.

How a Slip of the Tongue is Treated in the British House of Commons. Parliamentary manners are brutal in Westminster when a member in debate is convicted of a bull. A speaker with an expansive oratorical manner recently astonished the Commons with an outburst of unconscious humor. He was speaking of the ruin and exhaustion wrought by misgovernment in Ireland, and worked himself up into a fine frenzy of excited declamation. "The population of Ireland," he exclaimed, with flashing eyes and outstretched arms, "has been decimated to the extent of two-thirds!" The mathematical absurdity of the statement did not fail to excite amusement, although the bull was less obvious than a similar one attributed to the Irish member, Major O'Gorman. "The population of Ireland," said the contentious major in the Commons, "is six millions less than it would be if it were an uninhabited island." That was a joke which provoked unrestrained merriment among the benches. The Irish members are pardoned many blunders, however, because they are, with few exceptions, humorous speakers, who even the tedium of debate with merry quips and jests. The bores, who are constantly speaking with

A WELCOME CHANGE.

Caller—Mr. President, I have long held the opinion that the office should seek the man, and not the man the office, and I cannot adequately express my detestation of the hungry horde who are worrying you night and day. I simply call to pay my respects. The President—My dear friend, sit down. Won't you stay to dinner? Caller—Thank you, but time is very pressing. As I said before, I simply call to pay my respects, but while here I might as well leave these recommendations, and my address, so in case any office starts on a still hunt I will know where to find me.

A TALE OF THE SEA

Beach Street was in those days much as it is now, the quaintest, saltiest, imaginable thoroughfare on the coast of Great Britain; littered with anchors of all sizes, with huge coils of hemp cable, with odd fantastic capstans for the winding-up of boats, with tall poles for the spreading of nets, lines from window to window for the easy drying of linen, queer dusky alleys leading at night-time into a true smugging blackness of atmosphere; beerhouse after beerhouse in friendly juxtaposition, with a perpetual seething and hissing of surf upon the steep shingle, as a regale to the ear, and miles of sand plains beyond billowing to Sandwich, and sweet and musical into late autumn daytime with wild-flowers of fifty different sorts and birds of all kinds.

It was now about nine o'clock in the evening; there was no moon, the starlight made no show, and the sea brimmed in tremulous ebony to its confines. The few oil lamps in Beach Street threw a feeble gleam upon the shingly road; but how full of people Deal was on this particular night, York might have gathered from the groups of men showing through every tavern window he passed; drinking, arguing, singing, capercutting, as Jack will when newly come ashore, amid motionless fogs of tobacco-smoke. The first sign his eye caught was that of a copper-nosed sailor in position of a waiter, and he stepped forward, arguing, singing, capercutting, as Jack will when newly come ashore, amid motionless fogs of tobacco-smoke. The first sign his eye caught was that of a copper-nosed sailor in position of a waiter, and he stepped forward, arguing, singing, capercutting, as Jack will when newly come ashore, amid motionless fogs of tobacco-smoke.

York took a chair near the door and called to the waiter for a glass of spirits. After a little he knelt at the door and asked if he would object to a bedfellow; and that his answer was the gentleman who came to him, and he stepped forward, arguing, singing, capercutting, as Jack will when newly come ashore, amid motionless fogs of tobacco-smoke. The first sign his eye caught was that of a copper-nosed sailor in position of a waiter, and he stepped forward, arguing, singing, capercutting, as Jack will when newly come ashore, amid motionless fogs of tobacco-smoke.

York had now reached the Sandown extremity of Deal; he retraced his steps and passing the houses he had visited, he arrived at such such another one as they called the Lonely Star, into which he walked. At the end of a tolerably long narrow passage was an open door, out of which floated clouds of tobacco-smoke along with the incense of the punch-bowl. A little on this side the door was a staircase, and nearer yet to the entrance, a recess, in which sat a plump woman of fifty, with side black eyes and red cheeks and treble chins. Over her head hung an old-fashioned lantern, the light of which was comfortably reflected in rows of bottles on shelves behind her filled with liquors of various dyes.

"Can I have a bed in this house?" asked York of the plump, good-humored woman, who at his approach let fall some knitting she was at work upon. She ran her bright black eyes over him with an expression as though she found pleasure in the sight of his long womanly hair and pale handsome face and manliness of stature, and answered after a minute's thinking: "I'm afraid not, sir. Ever bed in the house is taken, I never remember Deal so full of strangers." "I shall have to return to the ship, then," he exclaimed. "Yet I would rather not. Flying betwixt the Downs and the shore is costly work to a poor man—at least your boatmen make it so. A spare sofa would serve me. I have been ill in South America, and am not yet well, and durst not lie in the open. A pillow and a roof for my head would suffice. I must be up by daybreak, perhaps before. My sweetheart's mother, Mrs. Bix, lives 't'other side of Sandwich, more Ministerway than that town—D'ye know her, ma'am?" "By name, sir; a very decent good lady, I'm sure."

what you want in the left-hand pocket. York felt, and found the things, placed them near the rushlight, extinguished it, and got into bed.

They lay talking for a while. Mr. Workop, it seems, had been boatswain of a West Indianman for three voyages. He had been paid off in London a week or two before; and having been born at Deal, had run down to spend a few days at the old spot and to take a short cruise about the district; but it was too sleepy to talk much; but it was plain, from the little he let fall, that he was a man who had had much ocean for many years, and had much to tell, whenever he should feel disposed to deliver himself of his experiences. Presently he began to wander, then to snore, York lay awake for some time, listening to the hum and roll of the voices of the drinkers in the room below. There was an oil lamp just outside the window, which threw a dim illumination sufficiently clear to reveal the outlines of the objects. The young fellow rested, lost in thought, with his mind going to his sweetheart, from whom he had been parted fourteen months or so, and to the owners of the Coelia, and the like; and then the noises below quieting with the departure of the one or the revellers, he closed his eyes and was peacefully asleep.

He was awakened by a sense of suffocation and found himself bathed in perspiration, panting for breath under the weight of the bedclothes. The boatswain was snoring heavily. All was silent out of doors, saving at intervals a long hurrah, a running through the stealthy seething sound of the mid-night waters pouring upon the shingle. He sat upright for the relief of the posture; but whether he was not yet out of him, or that his condition rendered him particularly sensitive to atmospheric conditions, he found the temperature of the room insupportably clear to reveal the outlines of the objects. The lungs of the boatswain, to judge by his breathing, seemed to fill the air of the open ocean to fill the lungs with a tepid glow of fine, too. There was an odour of wet bedclothes, that was as stifling in its way as the atmosphere of a bakehouse.

The young fellow quietly got out of bed with the design of opening the window, but found the casement, as he had been told, in a sort of fixture, whose dislocation must result in the waking of the whole house. He pined for a drink of water; but there was no jug or washing apparatus in the room, and it was manifest that the boatswain expected no better convenience than an outdoor pump for their ablutions. Now, the Lonely Star was sure to have a pump of its own as well as a back-yard, coupled with a short spell of breathing the dewy night-air worked so irresistibly in the feverish young man that he resolved at all hazards to explore the room. He put before his fancy a figure of the house, and kept in his mind the bearings of the staircase and the public room he had entered. In eight months he was divorced, the Lonely Star was sure to have a pump of its own as well as a back-yard, coupled with a short spell of breathing the dewy night-air worked so irresistibly in the feverish young man that he resolved at all hazards to explore the room.

He partially clothed himself; but, on trying to do so, he found he could not lift the latch with his fingers. He felt in his pockets, but was without anything to enable him to pry open the jammed and rusty arrangement. The boatswain, who was fast asleep, recalled that whilst seated in that room, he had taken notice of a glass door screened with red curtains at the extremity of it, with a white step between it and the back-yard, where, though he should not meet with a pump, he was certain to obtain fresh air.

York took his knife, went to the door, and succeeded in lifting the latch; and this done, he sidle forth, leaving the door ajar, then putting the knife in a pocket, he found the way down stairs all very quietly, as he did not wish to disturb the house. The street lamp that had helped him in the bedroom served him below wherever there was a shadow, and he made his way without difficulty through the long, low-ceiled public room, reeking and sickening with the lingering fumes of tobacco and rum punch, and pulling back the single bolt of the glass door he had taken notice of, he found himself in a little back-yard, with sure enough, the outline of a pump in the corner faintly touched by the starlight.

He drank and bathed his hands and face, and felt himself greatly refreshed. There was an inverted tub close to the pump, upon which he rested himself, and here he continued to linger for some time, reluctant to quit the sweetness and freshness of the cool air that was breathing direct from the sea for the over-ke oppression of the little bedroom. As he dozed, he was suddenly startled by the near drowsy voice of a watchman calling the hour, two o'clock. On hearing this, he arose, re-entered the house, quietly bolted the glass door after him and returned to his bedroom. (To be Continued.)

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ONTARIO ARCHIVES TORONTO

THE NEWS IN A NU... THE VERY LATEST FROM WORLD OVER... interesting items About Our Great Britain, the United All Parts of the Globe. Assorted for Easy Reading. CANADA. The Hamilton Street Ha... Work on the Grand Trun... at London has commenced... Sal fishing in the Gulf... ence during the past... complete failure... Mr. Byers, an ex-act... School at Stratford, died... of a laudanum. The... Hamilton license commi... inaugurated a campaign... ous clubs where liquor... Serious lush fires surr... William, and for a time... of the highest & Ontario... Co. is having plans prep... for steel steamers to ad... The Norwegian Inscr... from Liverpool to Queb... about two hundred miles... ter city. From the Niagar... by the new Leo-Enfield... popular arm with those w... it a test. A lad named Oliver Em... years fell between the ca... tralis at Stratford, and... was instantly killed. The Department of Mar... has granted permis... time herring fishing in... month of November. Mr. Ridley, the oldest p... sician of Hamilton, on... taking a holiday in the... The Canadian Organiz... Society has been organ... charities, with Mr. W. J... President. A fund of \$600 has been... scrib to Berlin, Ont.,... of the German Emper... in Victoria Park there. The employees of J. M... Co., Hamilton, shoe m... have decided to accept... to enable the firm to... Quebec manufacturers... The Canadian immigrat... to the extent of about 10... the immigration returns... A number of vacancie... caused in the band of... London, by an order... members to take part... Mrs. Phillips, a washwo... Kingston, was overcome... house during a fire on... ing, and before the fire... her she was suffocate... Miss Katherine Ryde... Falls was assaulted by... man, and her hat pin... inch and a half into h... will recover under med... A man who registered... New York, was found de... at the Queen's hotel, Tor... near the motion of the... surrounding his death po... The first brick on the... Trunk car shops in Lond... laid on Friday by Mr. J... Hamilton, who laid the... the old shops nearly two... By the efforts of Miss... Toronto, a well-executed... Sir Isaac Brock has been... light, and has been plac... palmer, for reproduction... A Bradford deputatio... regarding the removal of... to London. Mr. Hays s... time came the company... vor to do some repairin... The Peary Northern ex... reached North Sidney, C.H... to bring back the gr... it was their object... tackling, which took with... strong enough to carry... McGill University, Mon... used a notice refusing to... ture any more U. S. s... United States in payme... accepted if one-quarter per... is added. The last surviving child... of Chateaugay, Lieut. C... Salisbury, died on Mond... She was the daughter... Salaberry, widow of Mr... member of Mr. Hart, Ush... Rod in the Quebec Legis... An influential deputatio... on Mr. Laurier, on Thurs... dollars in the supplement... to enable the Toronto I... prohibition Association to... said he was much impres... arguments advanced, and... and give a reply at the... GREAT BRITAIN... Prime Minister Salisbury... to Bismarck to visit the... Lord Rosebery on Satur... the Burns statue at Pa... The storm that played... throughout the continent... Sir John Evans, one of... the British Museum, h... had a president of the Brit... With a view to encourag... industry the Prince of Wa... to the fashion of the G... in silk waistcoats. The death rate for Lond... was only 14.6 per thousan... an average of 15.1 in thir... owns in England. Ex-Judge Denman, of... High Court of Justice, who... he bench in October, 1892... was seventy-nine years... The Queen has received... number of telegrams fr... her reign has become th... English history. Traffic gales prevailed... night in the British Cha... Great Britain and the w... able were seriously inter... The London Times expr... to a joint protectorate... Russia, virtually taking... that China held her