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KING'S AGED SUBJECTS

LONGEVITY IN ENGLAND SEEMS TO BE ON THE INCREASE.

Old-Age Pensions Act Has Brought to Light Many Remarkable Centenar-Been Entered on the Official Records - Most Are In the Lower Watks of Life-Irish Heads List.

It is a seeming paradox that these

an era of longevity.

Extended inquiries throughout the enquiries are yet complete.

Many wonderful old people have Germany and in Spain. been brought to light in remote parts about four to one.

These old people have in few cases had easy days shielded from the stress and storm of life. Nine out of every. ten of them have been of humble origin and had to work hard for their bread so long as they had vigor to do so. On an analysis one finds that in the social scale the men ascend to no further elevation than is represented by one man of science, a elergyman, and a retired colonel. It regard to people who were born in or before 1810 modern works about the peerage are singularly silent.

Mrs. Cranley, of whose life little is known, was born, if her age is given correctly, before Byron, Shelley, or Carlyle, and must have been thirteen at the time of the Irish rebellion. which cost 150,000 Irish and 20,000 English lives before it was surpressed. She is a link with a period when Ireland had its independent Parliament. She was nineteen in the year

of Trafalgar!

No Irishwoman has lived so long since Mrs. Meighan, of Donoughmore, who died in 1813 aged 130. Charles Kelly, of Inver, Donegal, who is 112, must not be confused with a namesake, Thomas Kelly, of Sixmile Cross, Tyrone, whose death at 110 was reported recently, The Donegal Kelly is still active, and his sight and hearing are but slightly impaired. He produces documentary evidence of the date of his birth, lest, looking at him one should be sceptical on the subject. Kelly has never lived more than three miles from the spot where he was born in 1798. The house in which he lives he built himself. carrying stones on his back from the adjoining moor because in his young days carts in Ireland were unknown. For the same reason he carried flour on his back fourteen miles from Donegal to the little holding he cut for himself on the mountain side. One of his recollections is of Government relief ships sailing into Inver Bay every week to deliver Indian mea!

during the famine of 1847. There are men in Ulster who, when they want to refer to old days, talk not of a time before railways; but of the pre-wheels epoch. Patrick Mc-Cart, of Strabane, Tyrone, "has" 110 years, Bryan O'Donnell, of Mountcharles, Donegal, 107, and William Knightland, of Killater, Castlederg. Tyrone, 104. If Ulster had not sixtecn centenarians to talk about, these men, all able to see, hear, and walk about, would be regarded as celebrities. Most of them have had hard lives. McCart remembers days when food and money were so scarce that he was paid for his work on the farm with doles of cabbages leaves. Knightland has worked hard and smoked hard all his life, and his recipe for good health and long life does not, exclude whisky. O'Donnell does not remember much about Napoleon, but can tell in this year of 1910 how in his youth and in the days of Napoleon a battle with shillelaghs was fought between the parish of Inver and the parish of Glenties, and how when the man of the latter place looked to be defeated women of Genties came forth, and using their stockings as pright adjustable mirror, 6 x 7 1-2 slings, rained such a hail of stones on the men of Inver as made them

> beat a retreat. Old Bryan can speak of a seafaring adventure eithty years ago. With fourteen companies he set sail in a smallthree-quarter-decked schooner from Inver Bay for America. The little boat was well provisioned, and for seven weeks fought its way on the sea. At last land was sighted. But when the explorers disembarked they found that the "natives" spoke Irish. and that they were at Innescrane, on . the coast of Sligo! With Ireland O'Donnell has been content ever since, though he has two sons and two

daughters in the United States. A silver-haired lady at a house in Cemetery road, Londonderry, will tell a caller how Aberdeen, her native town, welcomed back the heroes of Waterloo, Mrs. Jane Stewart is her name, and at 105 her faculties remain bright. She can remember the celebrations at Queen Victoria's coronation as though they were last year. Even older than she is, a Mrs. Moore, of Killy Vane, County Monoghan, edmits having seen 106 summers. And there are other aged ladies with such biographies going back to George III.'s reign.

He Is No Hypocrite. Tom-Are you going to wear mourning for you wealthy uncle? Jack-Only a black pocketbook.

the steaks. Becember is the slowest month in the year-for the little folks. Wish some men the desire to be presiassesses assesses assesses dent is a ruling passion.

KNIGHTS BACHELOR.

They Are Those Men Who Belong to Where Common English Phrases Originated.

No Knightly Order. Knights Bachelor are not necessarily bachelor knights. The designation of the popular phrases of to-day it is indeed misleading it is applied practically impossible to say, but it to those who have received the honor is not so difficult to trace the origin of simple knighthood, with the prefix of the sayings. Cheshire cats, for of "Sir" to their Christian name, but instance, are no different from those without membership of any of the spe- of other counties, but because Cheeific orders of chivalry, such as the shire cheeses used to be made in the ians, a Hundred of Whom Have orders of the Bath, St. Michael and shape of cats with fixed, broad grins, St. George, the Victorian Order, the the phrase, "Grinning like a Cheshire Thistle, the Star of India, etc. There cat eating cheese," arose. has never been any requirement of The phrase, "He's a brick," origincelibacy on the part of these Knights ated from an eastern ruler, who, while Bachelor, and the term, according to visiting Sparta, asked his host to show

days of high pressure coincide with French words "bas chevalier," or hands toward his troops, which were "lower knight," indicating that the drawn up in soldierly array, the Lacechevalier was of a lower grade of daimonian said to his guest: "These British Isles reveals the fact that 100 knighthood than those who were are my fortifications; every man is a inhabitants of the islands total beat knights of any of the orders then ex- brick." Phone 76. o41 Princess Street. tween them over 10,000 years; that isting, such as the Garter and the The phrase, "Mad as a hatter," is, more than a hundred centenarians Bath, in England; the Thistle, in really means as venomous as a viphave already been brought to light, Scotland; the St. Louis and the St. er. "Mad as a hatter," is simply a and it cannot be claimed that the Esprit, in France, and the Golden corruption of an ancient form, "Mad Fleece, in Burgundy and afterward in as an atter, or adder." Mad in this

> The "bas chevalier," or knight poisonous. of the country through the working bachelor, was likewise inferior to the . The clause "It suits to a T," meanof the Old Age Pensions Act. In Ire- knight banneret, a dignity which has ing it fits exactly, is as old as the land, which is pre-eminently the land now gone out of existence, and which, familiar instrument, the T-square, or of long life, a Mrs. Cranley, of Clon- though not hereditary, was only be- T-rule (so called from its resemblance brin, Monasterevan, claims to be 124. stowed for services in the field. The to the letter T), used by mechanics A mother of eight, of whom the young- bannerets were usually already in pos- and draughtsmen for making angles est daughter is seventy, she is doubt- session of the dignity of ordinary true and for obtaining perpendiculars. less King George's oldest subject, for knighthood, and the ceremony of in- The expression was in common use she is twelve years ahead of three vestiture consisted in the sovereign in the time of Dr. Johnson, who is male centenarians-two in Ireland at giving directions that their pointed quoted by Boswell as saying of War-112 and 110, and one in Scotland (110) pennant should be clipped in such a burton, "You see they have fitted him -each of whom has thought himse f fashion as to covert it into a square to a T. If a woman looks old sooner than a derived from the fact that no other hear the expression so often used, "I lives longer. The so-called weaker sex the realm was allowed to display his profane. The word "dam," however, sentative meeting of centenarians by ner. The last instance of the bestowal in the least profane, and is equivalent of the dignity of knight banneret was to saying, "I don't care two cents." One further fact is remarkable, at a naval review at Portsmouth; in The dam is a two-cent piece current

from the Norman-French word batte; equivalent expressions. lier, owing to the fact that knightmilitary services only, while still othapplied to this degree of knighthood by King Henry III. in order to signify that the honor would die with the person to whom it was granted.

The first civilian to receive the hon-

on the yery spot. The Knights Bachelor have within the last few years enrolled themselves into a society. Col. Sir Henry Pellatt, commander of the Queen's Own Rifles, has recently been made president of the society.

Some Curious Taxes. From time to time the exchequer of Great Britain has been replenished by up later by the ambulance men who singular taxes. Henry VIII. taxed followed the force, presumably in purbeards, and graduated the tax accord- suit of a defeated enemy. A label ing to the status of the wearer. The had been given to him for the infor-Sheriff of Canterbury was constrained, mation of the ambulance men, deto pay the sum of 3s. 4d. for the scribing his "serious injuries," which | privilege of sporting his venerable consisted of a broken arm, fractured whiskers. Queen Elizabeth fixed a jaw, bullet wounds in both knees; similar tax on every beard over a in fact, he was a "terrible case." The fortnight's growth, and bent on mak- ambulance men came along and dressing an example of people who did not ed his "wounds" so effectually that he attend church imposed a fine for ab- could neither move legs nor arms; in sence. In 1695 it was decided that consequence of the "fractured jaw" the arrival of every child in the world his face and mouth were strapped and should be greeted with a tax. The bandaged so tightly that only his eyes father \$150, whilst the advent of a him carefully on the roadsid for the of 50 cents. Moreover, it was an ex- pushed on to the next "case." Bepensive matter to die, as it is, in- fore the arrival of the ambulance deed, in this year of grace 1910, with wagons a motor party passing caught the exacting of death dues. Bache- sight of the fearsome object on the lors and widows were compelled to pay roadside and pulled up. In consternafor the privilege of single blessedness, tion they gazed on the trussed-up It was due to William Pitt that the man, who, being quite unable to speak window-tax was instituted, and in the for himself, could offer no explanareign of George I. it was necessary tion. They held a consultation, and Then there was a tax on hair powder, the question to leave him on the roadand another was laid on watches and side, so he was carefully lifted into clocks. In the reign of George III. the car and driven to the nearest a duty of 60 cents was imposed on hospital some fifteen miles away. Exbricks. At a later period in the same planation soon followed his arrival at reign, bricks were divided for the pur- the institution, and it was with mixed pose of taxation into common and feelings that the motor party contindressed oricks, and the duty on each ued their interrupted journey, while kind of brick was regulated according the victim of their misplaced concern,

London cor Club in Net aid the correspondent, "The Kiny

"was visiti ufford Abbey, and one empany with his host, Lord Savile b took a walk over the ly man, meded forward and seized a

shabby fe w with a dead pheasant tellow is a bad egg. This is the second time I've caught him peaching."

beamed, and he laughed his gay and really were a bad egg, you know he Liberal in politics. Westminster Abwouldn't poach'."

King George V. is reported to be afternoon," said the King, "and was upcle's in the country, walked out bidding my distinguished hostess across the fields with his grandpa. good-bye when her little daughter, a Seeing a cow, he was greatly excited, child of seven or eight years, came and asked: forward timidly, looking as if she had something to say. She was a . "Why that is only a cow," was the beautiful child, and when her mother formally presented her she courtesied prettily and said in a loud, clear | head?".

wonderful man.' -"Why do you say "'Because,' said the little girl, mamma told me to ."-M.A.P.

Only One "BROMO QUININE," that is ures a Cold in One Day, Grip in 2 Days

"LIKE A CHESSY CAT."

Who first gave utterance to some

case is generally synonymous with

entitled to boast of that distinction. banner, the value of this change being Many people are shocked when they man-which is open to doubt-the person below the rank of a peer of don't care a dam." They think it is would be in a majority at any repre- armorial bearings on a square ban- when used with "I don't care," is not 1773, when George III. conferred it in India, and this phrase is of Indian upon Admirals Pye and Sprye and origin, and was originally used to conupon Captains Bickerton and Vernon. vey the idea that the user was utterly Other authorities, again, argue that " indifferent. "I don't care a brass butthe term Knight Bachelor is derived ton" or "I don't care a cent" are

> There are two accounts of the origin hood in olden times was bestowed for of the expression "Mind your P's and Q's." According to one, it arose from ers argue that the word bachelor was the early method used in publichouses of charging customers for the amount of beer they had consumed on credit. P stood for pint, Q for quart, and, as the scores were settled weekly, it was necessary for the toper to watch or of ordinary knighthood was Sir his P's and Q's. According to the William Walworth, the Lord Mayor other explanation, the phrase owes of London, who is remembered in his- its origin to the difficulty printers Wat Tyler, leader of an insurrection ial in distinguishing between the lowagainst Richard II. The daring act of er-case p's and q's of the Roman type. the Lord Mayor in thus killing Tyler The similarity between the two letat the head of the rebel forces so ters is so great, particularly when demoralized his followers that the ris- they are reversed, as in the process ing came to an sand then and there. of distributing, that the printer's apthe King knighting the Lord Mayor . prentice is always warned by the foreman to "mind his P's and Q's."

> > Comedy of a Sham Right.

A Birmingham, Eng., man, who is a most enthusiastic Territorial, had quite a remarkable adventure during the recent manoeuvres. He was supposed, writes Looker-On, to be a wounded man, and had been posted at a spot where he was to be picked birth of a child to a duke cost the could be seen. This done the men laid commoner's child was hailed by a tax waggons to pick up later, and they to have a license in order to sell hats. unanimously decided it was out of with a large parcel of splints, bandages, and other dressings, made their way back to camp to explain his dis-Edward's good na- appearance, which had by then been ted recently by a reported. Needless to say, that same ident at the Press explanation was the source of constant amusement in camp.

Plans For Coronation.

London chroniclers have already discovered that the coronation will draw to London five heirs to thrones. "Sudden Lord Savile, a big, bur- They have heard also that the Princeas Royal and her daughters will winter in Egypt and return after protruding from the breast of his Easter with Queen Alexandra and Princess Victoria, who will have a 'Sir,' he said to the King, 'this long yachting cruise in the Mediter-

The successor to Dr. Jos. Armitage "But the King's handsome face Robinson, Dean of Westminster and adapter of the mediaeval coronation ceremony, may be Archdeacon Wil-'Oh, let him go,' he said. 'If he berforce, who has remained a strong bey will be closed for four months during the coronation period.

Neither. A little city-bred boy who had never "I was at an informal tea the other seen a cow, while on a visit to his

> "What is that, grandpa?" "What are those things on her

"Horns," said the grandpa. "'I think your Majesty is a very The two walked on. Presently the cow moved loud and long. The boy was smazed. Looking back he exclaimed : ** "Which horn did she blow, grand-

> Any scholar knows that history oesn't repent itself. Christmas is rapidly approaching. Don't forget to ushoard your money. Repentance makes restitution; reprovides. 25c, morse is sorry, but keeps the goods.

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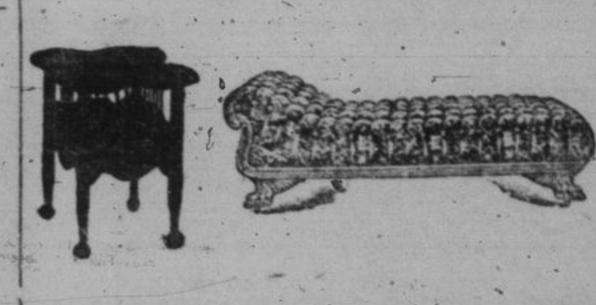
Merry 'Xmas To All.

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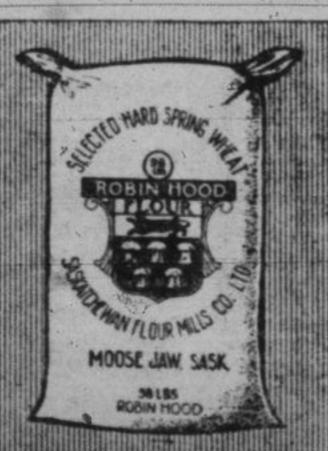
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