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PALACES OF BISHOPS

THEY ARE NOT SO MAGNIFICENT AS THEY ONCE WERE.

At One Time the Archbishop of Canterbury Had About Twenty All Over the South of the Country—Prelate of York Was Also Wealthy In Residences, But He Has Also Fallen on Evil Days.

Bishops' palaces nowadays are not what they were. In bygone times they vied in pomp and magnificence with the abodes of royalty itself. Today the buildings remain, but they are put to much more sober uses. When it is recalled that in former days the Archbishop of Canterbury alone possessed something like a score of palaces scattered over the South of England some notion may be gathered of the scale on which the Church did things in this respect in earlier times. Portions of them, in most cases in ruins now, may still be seen at Croydon, Maidstone, Oxford, Wrotham, and elsewhere; but nowadays the Primate has only two official residences—namely, at Canterbury and Lambeth.

Curiously enough, the one at Canterbury is quite modern, having only been erected within the last fifteen years. Before this the country residence of the archbishop was at Adlington, near Croydon, where the palace is now in private hands. A fine park is one of the features of the estate, the host in keeping up which was one of the reasons why the archbishop's residence was transferred. Nowadays the archbishop spends most of his time at Lambeth, one of the most magnificent and historic of all the existing episcopal residences.

The Archbishop of York, formerly had many palaces also. Of these the only one now remaining, in addition to that of Bishopthorpe, is that at Southwell, now occupied by the Bishop of Southwell. In very early days there was a residence in London attached to the see of York, the remains of which may still be seen in the shape of the old water gate in the Victoria Embankment Gardens. For that matter, however, most of the bishops had London residences, in those days usually known as inns, the sites of which may still be traced in such places as Chichester, Ely, Salisbury, Ely Place, and so on. Bishopthorpe, the only residence of the Archbishop of York nowadays, is one of the largest of all the episcopal palaces, though architecturally not so fine as some of the others, notably Ely and Wells.

The Bishop of London's principal residence is at Fulham, which has been identified with the see of London for centuries. A most striking feature of the grounds of the palace testifies unmistakably to the antiquity of the building, though the greater part of that standing to-day is comparatively modern. The Bishop of London has also a house in St. James' Square, where many memorable meetings have been held.

A very fine palace is that of Farnham Castle, attached to the see of Winchester, although it is a long way distant from the see city itself, resembling in this respect a good many others. The remoteness of so many of the bishops' palaces nowadays from their cathedrals is indeed rather curious. In this connection many may be surprised to learn that the ancestral home of the Cecils at Hatfield was formerly one of the residences of the Bishops of Ely—as is evidenced by the fact that the town is still legally known by the name of Bishop's Hatfield. To-day the Bishop of Ely's residence is almost adjoining the cathedral.

The Bishops of Newcastle (Benwell Tower), Carlisle (Rose Castle), St. David's (Abergwilly), Bangor (Glyn Garth), Oxford (Cuddesdon), and Durham (Auckland Castle) are others whose palaces are all a long way from their cathedrals. The Bishop of Worcester's palace at Hartlebury, which is many miles from Worcester, supplies another instance. It may be recalled, indeed, that Bishop Gore, now Bishop of Birmingham, declined to reside at Hartlebury when he was Bishop of Worcester and took a house, instead, in the city, though the present bishop (Dr. Yeatman-Biggs) has gone back there.

It may also be recalled that the Bishops of Worcester formerly had a house at Hillington, near Uxbridge, known to this day as Bishop's Hall, which was utilized as a sort of half way house in the old coaching days on their journeys to and from London.

Whereas most bishops formerly had several palaces, there are some to-day which have none at all. Rochester, for instance, is one. The present bishop lives at Sevenoaks in a quite unpretentious house. Formerly the Bishop of Rochester's palace was at Bromley. The Bishop of Bristol lives in equally simple style at Clifton. The Bishop of St. Albans has not had an official residence hitherto, but one has recently been acquired just outside the city. The last Bishop of St. Albans lived in Endsleigh street, Euston road, while the present bishop (Dr. Jacob) has until lately resided at Woodford. At Chester there is a palace adjoining the cathedral, but it is practically uninhabitable on account of its gloomy situation, and the bishop lives, therefore, in a comfortable modern dwelling near by, the palace remaining unoccupied and virtually in ruins.

He Paid It. Everbrooke—I want to pay you something on account. Tailor (rubbing his hands)—Ah, I'm glad to see you. Everbrooke—Yes; I want to pay you a compliment on your artistic way of doing. Sh—not a word! You deserve it. Good morning.

Lacking for Coal. Messrs. B. Davies & Sons propose to spend half a million pounds in searching for coal near Port Talbot Docks, Glamorgan.

This old world is full of men who abuse their credentials. The man of good sense is not particular to undeserved compliments. A stylish 'dell may have empty pockets.

KING'S POSTOFFICE.

An Account of the Work and Duties of the Court Postmaster.

The postal and telegraphic department attached to the royal household is under the control of Mr. Hiley, who acted for several years as the court postmaster in the late reign and was reappointed to the position by King George on His Majesty's accession.

The headquarters of the court postoffice are at Buckingham Palace, but a temporary office is established wherever the King may be staying, under the direction of Mr. Hiley, who always travels with the court.

The postoffice at Buckingham Palace consists of three large apartments; one is fitted up as a telegraphic gallery, another as a sorting-room, and a third as a general office. There is also a telephone exchange attached to the postoffice, where three operators are employed.

The letters for the King and Queen and members of the household are delivered to Buckingham Palace from the General Postoffice six times a day, the first delivery being made at seven o'clock in the morning. The mail, on its arrival at the postoffice, is at once sorted (there are four sorters on duty throughout the day) and made up into separate packets for the King, Queen, members of the household, and the servants.

The whole mail is, by the way, carefully counted before it is sorted, and the number of letters received is entered in a book labelled "Mails In."

After the packets for delivery throughout the palace have been made up the number of letters in each packet is counted and entered in a book labelled "Mails Out," and the numbers in both books must, of course, be the same.

As soon as the mails have been sorted they are given to two of the palace postmen, who deliver them to their respective departments. The letters for the King and Queen are delivered to the equerries' department and are placed in the secretaries' rooms by an equerry.

The letters for members of the household are delivered to their respective private rooms, and the letters for the male servants are delivered to the steward's waiting-room, where they are put into a large rack, from which they are taken by servants between 9.30 and 10.30 a.m. and 7.30 and 8.30 p.m.

The letters for the female servants are delivered to the head housekeeper's room, and are dealt with in the same manner as the letters for the male servants.

Talent Not Transmitted.

Alfred Tennyson's son, the present Lord Tennyson, appears to have inherited little of his illustrious father's poetic talent. He has served as Governor of South Australia, and recently contributed the accompanying lines to United Empire, the journal of the Royal Colonial Institute. Critics note that Alfred Tennyson, who never saw Australia, wrote the line: "By the long wash of Australian seas, while the son writes 'the faint line of the soft Australian shores.'"

It seems but yesterday I saw at dawn The faint line of the soft Australian shores As fast we sped, borne o'er the whispering tide Within the grim heads of St. Vincent's Gulf; And all the sea was barred with purple and green; And dazzling sunlight, such as Southern climes Know only; while afar in distance shone Through tremulous haze the scanty scattered farms— Homed in the quiet hollow of the hills— A land, they said, of golden air, where scenes Of sweetest flowers float and where the grapes In honeyed clusters droop, a Paradise— Of glowing blue and tranquil loveliness.

Practical Criticism.

The following is a criticism of "Hamlet" by a genius in New South Wales: "There is too much chinning in the piece. The author is behind the times, and appears to forget that what we want nowadays is hair-raising situations and detectives. In the hands of a skilful playwright a detective would have been put upon the track of Hamlet's uncle, and the old man would have been hunted down in a manner that would have excited the audience out of their number eleven. The moral of the piece is not good. The scene where Hamlet checks his mother is a very bad example to the rising generation. Our advice to the author is a little more action, a little more fine sentiment, and a fair share of variety business in his next piece. In the specialty arts of the play scene he has entirely missed his opportunities."

A Rearing Preacher.

It was a certain thundering preacher of the class described by William R. Hayne lately: One thumps the pulpit with each thunderous word And beats the law of Sinai on a board— who once came to grief at family prayers. The morning hymn was "Rock of Ages," and he shouted safely through the three first verses, but when he came to the next, "When I rise to worlds unknown," just as he reached the word "rise" he glanced down and saw it was "soar," and he made the combination, "When I soar to worlds unknown."

Campaign Against Rats.

About 250,000 rats have been destroyed since the campaign against these pests commenced in Essex. Something like \$5,000 per week has been saved in damage done by the rodents. The assumed rat population of England and Wales is about 38,000,000. It is estimated that each rat costs \$1.25 per annum to keep.

Criticism is sometimes as beneficial as medicine.

Indignance has made much trouble in many a family. There is such a thing as being too polite to be sensible.

CHURCHILL'S REFORMS.

Canteens and Gardens for Those Under Preventive Detention.

Canteens, private gardens, and social and literary evenings are to be the lot of the well-conducted British convict of the future.

Prepared by the prison commissioners, a draft of rules, modified in the case of persons undergoing preventive detention, was issued recently by the Home Secretary, Mr. Winston Churchill.

In the course of his introductory remarks Mr. Churchill points out that discipline must be firmly maintained, and hard work enforced for those subject to the new treatment. Neglect or relaxation would lead to escape or mutiny or vice.

Only the professional criminal is aimed at in the new form of punishment, which is restricted to those already found deserving of three years' penal servitude.

"It has proved a matter of much difficulty," comments the Home Secretary, "to secure uniform action among 150 different police authorities throughout the country," and he proposes, therefore, to issue further instructions to the police to guide them in the selection of cases for presentation to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

In addition to the qualifications expressly required in the Prevention of Crimes Act, the criminal whose case is submitted must be (a) over thirty years old; (b) have already undergone a term of penal servitude; and (c) be charge anew with a substantial serious offence.

Under the draft rules the career of Mr. William Sikes, the professional criminal adjudged worthy of preventive detention, will be something like that of a schoolboy.

He will start by being placed in one of three grades into which he and his fellows are divided—viz., ordinary, special and disciplinary. Six months later, if he has been a zealous and industrious worker, he will be awarded a certificate of industry and good conduct.

Together with this certificate Sikes will receive a good conduct stripe, which entitles him either to certain privileges or to a small money payment.

If he continues to behave well he will at the end of eighteen months have received three certificates, which will render him eligible to have a little garden of his own.

At certain prescribed times he will be allowed to cultivate his garden allotment, and, if possible, the produce thereof will be purchased for use in the prison at market rates, the proceeds being credited to him.

If he continues to be good and work well he will, after receiving four certificates, be entitled to promotion to the special grade and become a veritable aristocrat among prisoners.

But if he departs from the path of industry his lot will be a harder one. Any misconduct or any exercise of bad influence on others will lead him into the disciplinary grade, and in this he will not be associated with others, except at labor.

While he is in the ordinary or special grades, however, he will not only be employed in a useful trade, but will be allowed to earn gratuity by his work.

He may either spend a portion of this gratuity by purchasing such additions as he fancies to his daily menu, or may send it to his family, or allow it to accumulate against the time when he is once again fighting his own way in life.

Should he fall ill, genuinely ill, his gratuity will continue proportionate to his average earnings when he is in health.

So long as he avoids the disciplinary grade, he will be permitted to be a member of the prison canteen, a new institution. Here will be sold articles of food and other small articles at costs which will be charged against the amount of his gratuity.

After gaining his second certificate he has been allowed to associate with his companions in the evenings as well as at meal times, but now that he has reached the special grade he shares his meals with those who have been as well conducted as himself.

Not only this, but in the evenings he "shall be allowed such additional relaxations of a literary and social character as may be prescribed from time to time."

He will be permitted, too, to write and receive a letter, and to receive a visit from a friend at fixed intervals. Throughout his life within prison walls he will have been periodically visited by the prison chaplain, who is charged with the duty of promoting the reformation of those under his spiritual charge.

Divine service will be held weekly in the prison, and there will be, in addition, such mission services, lectures and addresses on religious, moral and secular, subjects as may be arranged.

Not Again.

A farmer going over his land the other day caught a village loafer, accompanied by his dog, trespassing in a field, and after threatening him with certain prosecution in case he caught him trespassing again hurried away, expecting that the offender would at once quit the field after the severe warning given to him. Returning, however, through the same field an hour afterward he was surprised to meet the man in another part of it and exclaimed in a very angry tone: "What—trespassing again?" "No, no," answered Geordie; "it's still the same trespass. Fair play, sir; fair play noo."

Faith Unshaken.

"Is that man a reliable weather prophet?" "Should say he is," replied Farmer Cornfoot. "Some times his weather is a few days ahead of time or a few days behind, but it always gets here."

Not Even Started.

Many a man imagines that he's at the top of the ladder when, as a matter of fact, he still has one foot on the ground. Up to date no dude has been known to die of brain fever. Trouble, a good many times, goes with borrowed money. You may pity and sneer at the old bachelor, but he does not buy soothing syrup or pay alimony.

Sunlight Soap

For the cleansing of all dainty things in the household—as well as clothes—nothing does quite so well as Sunlight Soap. There is nothing in this purest of soaps to hurt the most delicate surface (Sunlight is kind to the hands too.) Everywhere it works the magic of cleanliness—cut glass and silver shine their brightest—painted work, shelves, linoleums gladden and look their best. Sunlight Soap makes the whole house spick and span. And with so little labor! Just try Sunlight. FOLLOW 5c. DIRECTIONS



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