

HER DREAMS CAME TRUE

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HERE is this about Sir Edward Grey—that he always has something in reserve for an emergency. That is what makes him, or helps make him, one of the most perplexing personalities in a perplexing Ministry.

It is not a point I am going to argue, but I should like to make two remarks: First, what would you think of a British Minister who in a controversy with any other Power did fly the British flag and nail it to the mast?

Second, it is not disputed in America that Sir Edward Grey's diplomacy with the United States has been patient in tone and conciliatory in matters vital to the defence of British policy.

What sort of thanks did he get for it from us? We have kept on saying: "Yes, but polite speeches are not what we are after. Deliver the goods."

It was an answer which showed two sides of us. We have our own standard of diplomatic punctilio, which diplomats bred in European traditions sometimes think a little abrupt.

It is the fashion, except in Germany, to think or speak of Sir Edward Grey as an apostle of peace. But there have been very sharp curves in his career.

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A PERPLEXING PERSON

SIR EDWARD GREY IS AN ENIGMA TO THOSE ABOUT HIM.

British Foreign Minister Always Has Something in Reserve for an Emergency, and He Cannot Only Make Up His Own Mind, but Also the Minds of Other People—Patient With Neutrals.

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SAILORS DREAD JONAH'S

They Draw Only One Moral From the Biblical Story.

There is still firm belief in Jonah at sea. Recently a sailor, who was prosecuted for failing to join a British admiralty transport, pleaded in excuse that he was known to seamen generally as Jonah, and that the sailors on the transport had threatened to throw him overboard if he did join.

Certainly if superstition ever could be rational, they had some reason for their. This sailor had served on the Titanic and the Empress of Ireland, both of which were wrecked, and on the Lusitania and Florizan, both of which were torpedoed.

It seems a pity that sailors should know the story of the prophet Jonah, since they get only one moral from it. The book was certainly not written to instruct seamen how to deal with Jonah.

Yet it is unfortunately the only moral which sailors seem to draw. Jonah is probably the character best known to them in the Old Testament, and what they know about him is that he caused bad weather through his own fault, and was very properly dealt with by his fellow voyagers.

They forgot, if they ever knew, that the sailors cast lots to discover who was the cause of the bad weather and that lot fell upon Jonah.

The Jonahs of modern times are not discovered by such means, nor do they ask to be thrown overboard. They are assumed to be Jonahs because they have been unusually unfortunate. Perhaps they are pitied as well as shunned for their misfortune, but have done something to deserve them, and then the superstitious fear of their fellows becomes cruel.

The worst of it is that a Jonah may himself share the superstition and may be unnerved by the thought that he is marked out for misfortune. But even landsmen who believe themselves free of superstition are apt to be intimidated by a run of ill luck. It unnerves them, and the wisest of us, if unnerved, are prone to superstition.

If there were no such tale in the Bible, sailors would believe in Jonahs under another name or under no name at all. They would think that there was some reason for a run of ill luck and that it must continue unless by some means the curse, whatever it may be, is removed.

The worst of superstitious tales is that they are often true, that men do have extraordinary runs of ill luck in life as at cards. The superstition lies in the conclusions that are drawn from them. For in life as in cards a run of ill luck is against the average, and sooner or later the average will right itself.

Superstition always suggests that there is something wrong. That in the devilish cunning of our animal fears, and the only way to frustrate it is to be against superstition altogether, in small things as in great—to cultivate an almost irrational unbelief in all superstitious tales.

We need to be almost superstitious in our fear of superstition, as a reformed drunkard needs to avoid wine.

More Boy Babies Born. The proportion of boy babies born in England and Wales during 1915 was the largest since 1844, apparently confirming a popular belief that more males are born during war time.

For the quarter consisting of July, August, and September, 1915, the proportion of male births to female was 1,055 to 1,000 in 1844, the ratio was 1,054 to 1,000.

The ratio of boy babies to girl has been increasing with every quarter. In the first quarter of 1915 the proportion was 1,032 males to 1,000 females, in the second quarter 1,042 to 1,000, and in the third quarter 1,055 to 1,000.

Science can give no explanation of this phenomenon, contenting itself with declaring that there probably is some natural law at present hidden from us which is responsible.

The best Royal pianist is probably Princess Victoria, who so often plays to her mother, Queen Alexandra. The piano used at Marlborough House by her Royal Highness is a magnificent instrument, bearing the inscription, "Victoria, from Papa and Mamma, 1895."

SMASHED THINGS UP.

Exploits of a British Submarine in Sea of Marmora.

Daring exploits in the Sea of Marmora that threw the Turks into a first-class panic are breezily described in a letter from a member of the crew, who is now a prisoner in Constantinople.

He says: "It is hopeless to try and give you a detailed account of it in a letter, but you can take it from me it was a fine show. We took all previous records. Cochrane (the commander) was simply splendid. He went round the Sea of Marmora, leaving a trail of sunken and burning ships. We fairly shook things to the core."

"We are the first submarine in history to bombard a place on shore under fire. I think we were under fire about three times a day on an average. We penetrated into all sorts of places, destroying shipping. We even ran the railway and destroyed two troop trains. We shelled the enemy bankment, blocked the line, and then caught the trains as they came along."

"It was the funniest thing you can imagine to see the trains trying to hide behind the trees, but we caught them and smashed them all to pieces. Three ammunition wagons blew up with a terrific explosion. The soldiers, of course, got out and took cover and fired tons of ammunition at us, but we were out of range. Altogether we sank:

"Five steamers (one of 3,000 tons). "Seventeen large sailing vessels. "We destroyed two trains, one railway embankment, and a few who fired on us got it in the neck for doing so. We also fired up to Constantinople and fired a torpedo at the wharf and arsenal where there were a lot of ammunition lighters. There was a most terrific explosion which shook the boat, although we were one and a quarter miles away."

"We had a small duel with a gunboat one day on the surface, but drove her off, although she fired about 200 rounds from her two guns. Afterwards we were left alone, and everything ran like blazes when we appeared anywhere. The only drawback was that we all had dysentery. "Two men nearly died, and Halifax, the second officer, and a seaman got badly burnt setting fire to a steamer, and so Cochrane and I had to keep watch all the time, and by the time the twenty-four days were up we were absolutely done up. What Halifax went through down below, suffering agonies for three weeks with his burnt feet, I don't know. It must have been hell."

"Poor fellow, we had no trouble going up, but when we came down we had a awful time, as the Turks had rigged up all sorts of nets and things to catch us, and we got mixed up in them, and also got foul of mines three times."

"The reception we got when we steamed into harbor, where the French and English fleets and the troops were lying, was great. I was so affected that I nearly shed tears. Everyone manned the rails and cheered us madly. I have never heard anything so fine. Just imagine us with bullet-holes all over it, and the conning-tower all dented from bullets and rusty, steaming through the lines and thousands of men cheering like mad."

Battleships, cruisers, torpedo-boats and transports—everyone along the rails, with the captains leading the cheers. Oh, it was great. Poor old Cochrane's eyes were full of tears as he saluted in reply. Then the wild howls of "Are we downhearted?" and "We're done, ET!" it was wonderful. I have always said that if we only got the chance we would do something—and we did."

Why an Alias? One afternoon when the Duke of Edinburgh and Sir Arthur Sullivan, having finished a duet, were sitting down to a homely "dish of tea" provided by Mrs. Sullivan, the composer suddenly occurred to her to start the subject of family names and titles, which puzzled the good lady considerably.

"Sir," she said, "your family name is Guelph." "My dear mother!" began Arthur. "But it isn't!" she persisted. "Certainly," replied the duke, much amused. "What's the matter with it, Mrs. Sullivan?"

"Oh, nothing," returned the excellent old lady, musingly. "Only I can't understand why you don't call yourself by your proper name." Arthur wanted to explain to her, but the duke would not allow him to. "There's nothing to be ashamed of in the name of Guelph, Mrs. Sullivan," he said gravely. "That's exactly what I say," persisted Arthur's mother; "nothing whatever as far as I know, and that being so, why you should not call yourself by it I can't understand." F. C. Burnand's "Records and Reminiscences."

Work for 200,000 Refugees. More than 200,000 Belgian refugees have found shelter in England since the invasion of their country by the Germans and have settled down. Many of them have been absorbed in British industries.

While the business of taking care of this great number of refugees proved a great puzzle to the authorities at the beginning of the war, it is now being dealt with in the most complete manner and the special homes which had been opened in various parts of the country for the fugitives from Belgium are being rapidly closed down.

Most difficult bit into the scheme of things are the professional men—lawyers, artists, architects, etc. A certain proportion of these, however, have adapted themselves to the situation, and are occupied in cutting out soldiers' clothes and in various unskilled branches of manual work. So great is the demand for labor that day in Great Britain that only those who really have not the capacity to "do their bit" are idle.

And many a man has lost his thousands through pursuing another hundred. When a man is down his enemies stop kicking him and his friends begin.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Du Pont Profits Have Been Very Great

New York, March 31.—It has been many a day since Wall Street has gazed upon anything so picturesque as the profits of the du Pont Co. for 1915. It is only necessary to state that the du Pont de Nemours Co. earned \$5,603,153 net in 1914, against \$57,840,768 in the fiscal 12 months to December 31st last, to appreciate how extraordinary has become the nature of this company's business.

Du Pont had been a prosperous enough concern up to the advent of war, but it was not especially in the public eye, and its management was not regarded in financial circles as possessed of much more than a mediocre ability. Du Pont earned 94.3 per cent. on its \$58,854,200 common in the late fiscal year, against 6.8 per cent. on the same amount of stock for the previous year, although the amount actually outstanding then was but \$29,428,708.

Maple Leaf Dividend. Toronto, March 31.—The Maple Leaf Milling Company has declared an 8 per cent. dividend and 3 per cent. bonus on common stock. This is the company's initial dividend.

Winnipeg Electric Dividend Passed. Winnipeg, March 31.—The Winnipeg Electric Railway Co. announced that the Board of Directors had decided to pass the April quarterly dividend. This came as a surprise, as it was expected the dividend rate of six per cent. per annum would be declared.

Things Look Good. Montreal, March 31.—To the accompaniment of reports that the company will have net earnings of approximately a million to its credit by the time navigation on the lakes opens, Steamships common sold at 18 1/2 to 19, and closed strong at the best price while the proffered advanced a half from the opening of 78, and closed at 78 1/2, making the net gain three-quarters. These earnings will be so much "cream" to the company, being from the boats on the Atlantic, a comparatively new source of revenue. The general impression in the Street is that shareholders will receive at least ten per cent. in dividends during the year.

To Increase Dividends? New York, March 31.—There are good reasons for believing that Westinghouse Electric stock is again being picked up for account of important financial interests close to members of the directorate, who are favorable to the payment of a higher dividend rate.

Commercial Notes. At the annual meeting of the United States Rubber company, Edgar B. Davis was added to the board of directors. Gross profits of \$169,905 are shown in the report of Hollinger Gold Mines for the four weeks ending February 25th.

The E. I. du Pont de Nemours Co. has acquired 3,000 acres of land on York River, near Yorktown, Va., on which a dynamite plant will be built. Gross earnings of United States railroads making weekly returns to Dun's Review continue to reflect considerable business activity in all parts of the country.

Montreal Power dividend was increased to 6 per cent. in August, 1907, to 7 per cent. in August, 1908, to 8 per cent. in 1911, to 9 per cent. in May, 1912, and to 10 per cent. in 1913.

Directors of the National Steel Car Company have decided to pay the dividend of 7 per cent. on the preferred stock for the current year and to leave the matter of the deferred dividends in abeyance for the time.

Earnings of the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Company for the month of February make one of the best showings for the present fiscal year. The gross earnings totalled \$620,594, compared with \$588,311 for the corresponding month a year ago, an increase of \$32,283, or about 5.5 per cent.

War Bracelets a Paris Fad. Frenchwomen prize highly these days heavy bracelets made from the rings of shells fired by the French "G.I."s. Mlle. Sorel, a favorite of the Paris stage, wears constantly one of these bracelets, which is large enough to slip up the arm above the elbow. Rings made up of metal which once formed part of menacing shells are also in favor and are worn outside of the glove.

Copper and aluminum jewelry is fancied more than ornaments of gold and precious stones just now, for all Paris is going in for economy and economical effects, and any ostentatious display is discountenanced. But the war jewelry—the massive bracelets and the ungainly rings—regarded as treasures indeed, for they may not be bought, but come as gifts from the very trenches themselves, where the soldiers occupy their leisure hours in fashioning these rude but valued gifts for sweethearts at home.

Cooking Pork Chops. This is a very nice way of cooking pork chops: Use six or more chops. Bone them, fry until brown and nearly cooked enough to serve. Remove the pan from the fire and add boiling water to cover the meat, three tablespoons of vinegar, teaspoonful of dry ginger, salt and black pepper to taste, and a good pinch onion thyme sliced. Put back on the range and simmer slowly for half or three-quarters of an hour. Four cloves can be used if they are liked. Thicken the gravy after removing chops and pour over them and serve with baked potatoes.

Not His Lead. There seems to be quite as much difference in the character of dreams as in the character of dreamers, which at times leads to most distressing complications. The latest instance of Satan's subconscious handiwork was at Dr. Culler's church, with Deacon Cuthbert in the title role. The deacon had experienced a hard day's work for Christianity and his bank, and was dozing at the regular prayer meeting, when the pastor called out, "Deacon Cuthbert will 'now lead.' " "What! What's that?" said the deacon, starting and rubbing his eyes. "It ain't my deal; I just dealt."

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