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Coming of the Wild Ducks.

With these shortening, lowering October days comes the call to the sportsman to hie him away to the frost-tinged woods or the drab marsh, there to flush the nervous partridge, or from rush hide await the coming of the early feeding wild duck. Early in September the ducks start drifting in, in wisp-like flocks to Ontario's inland waters. First of all come the Teal, swiftest flyers of all wild duck, whistling their irregular flight above the grey marshes midway between the darkness and the daylight. Next come the Ruddy Duck and the B'uebill, and close in their track the northern Greys and Blacks. In the wake of the Blacks come the Red Head, sweeping down in V-shaped flocks, their great wings fanning in unison, their long necks stretched, and their quick eyes alert for danger signs. And in the deeper waters of the rush locked bays these peerless ducks at ease settle, there to feed upon the wild celery plants, sweetest of morsels to the man-hunted, fear-hunted, water fowl. Following close upon the Red Head the kingly Canvas Back comes, his white crested back and wings flashing out against the sombre, low hanging clouds. These great ducks are amongst the last to arrive, and do not leave the feeding beds in the bays until the early winter snows fall and the ice coats the surface of the waters.—Toronto World.

Julia Ward Howe.

The death of this eminent woman in her ninety-second year cannot be cause for surprise. It is quite clear that her great natural store of vitality was well nigh exhausted when she was attacked by pneumonia less than a week ago. It soon became evident that she could not recover, and yesterday she sank steadily but calmly into her last sleep. Popularly Mrs. Howe is best known by her "Battle Hymn of the Republic," which stirring lyric, written quite early in the war, exercised a potent influence on the result by arousing and perpetuating abolitionist enthusiasm throughout the northern States. But it would be a misleading view of her unweariedly and variedly active life to regard the battle hymn as a correct indication of the main trend of her thought and work. It shows that her interest in the war was due chiefly in her belief that it was a war for the abolition of slavery when it was really one to prevent the disruption of the Union. Julia Ward Howe was one of the foremost of a band of able, courageous and public spirited women who were abolitionists because they were humanitarians. They advocated the emancipation of women under the reign of law and the sanction of religion. The next most eminent of the band as writer and lecturer was Mrs. Livermore, who was Mrs. Howe's junior by two years. Their fitting successor was the late Frances Willard whose active life was devoted chiefly to the Women's Christian Temperance propaganda. They did pioneer work under storm and stress of a kind which high minded and sensitive women like them naturally shrink, but by their self-sacrifice they made it easier for their numerous successors to achieve more conspicuous results with less of the martyrdom of notoriety.—Toronto Globe.

JAPAN'S NEW DREADNOUGHT

Tokio, Oct 10.—Something of a record for rapid naval construction has been established in the case of Japan's newest and most formidable battleship, the Kawachi, which was launched at the government yards at Yokosuku today, less than six months after the keel was laid down. The Kawachi has a displacement of 20,800 tons, and will carry a battery of ten 10 inch, ten 6 inch, twelve 4 inch guns and five torpedo tubes.

The Mystery of Abdul Hamid.

The mystery of Abdul Hamid is beginning to get on the nerves of Europe. Is he still confined in the Villa Allatini at Salonika, to which he was removed as a prisoner after the revolution, or has he escaped? Recent despatches from Turkey indicating the growth of the reactionary sentiment among the Moslem population would become very serious news indeed if it were certain that Abdul Hamid, free from his prison and beyond the power of the Young Turks, is once more the spider of politics, spinning his webs of intrigue and only waiting a favorable opportunity to launch a counter revolution and destroy the constitutional regime. The question, where is Abdul Hamid? is therefore a vital one in the near East, and upon its answer the peaceful progress of Turkey and of the vast Mohammedan system of government of which she is the center depends.

A correspondent of The London Graphic resident in Salonika gives the facts so far as they are known. They are quite meagre, however, owing to the actions of the late Sultan's guards, who for over two years have never permitted a western European to look upon Abdul Hamid's face. After the revolution the officers of the Third Army Corps—with headquarters at Salonika—who had been chiefly responsible for the Sultan's dethronement, decided that their own lives and the success of the movement for a constitutional government depended upon the care with which the ex Sultan should be guarded. They knew that Abdul Hamid was not broken in spirit or changed in heart, that he was still a human tiger whose lust for blood would be all the fiercer after a long period of abstinence. Why they did not kill him is one of the strangest features of the whole affair. Perhaps they wanted to make a sharp contrast between Abdul's methods of rule and their own: They decided to send him to Salonika, where he would be under their own control, and they guarded him so carefully that tourists who ventured to halt for but a few moments near the Villa Allatini were promptly moved on by armed sentinels. Even children flying kites within sight of the Villa were ordered to take them in, lest in some way they should be made a means of communication between Abdul Hamid and his friends outside.

That some warrant had been found for this remarkable vigilance became apparent when The Graphic correspondent, after an absence of some months, returned to Salonika last spring and discovered that the garden walls around the Villa had been greatly increased in height, and the main entrance had been walled up. Only an unsuccessful attempt to escape could explain these additional precautions. Some time ago at 6 o'clock in the morning there was a great exodus from the Villa Allatini, and women, children, and servants were taken to the station and sent off to Constantinople. This gave rise to the suspicion that a second attempt on the part of Abdul Hamid to escape had been successful. Since that

time the Villa has been very poorly lit up at night, and only ten loaves of bread and two lambs daily are provided for its inhabitants. If Abdul Hamid is still one of them he is living in something a good deal like solitary confinement. There are three possibilities; the ex Sultan may be free and safe among his friends in the mountains of Albania, he may still be a prisoner in the hands of the Young Turks at Salonika or elsewhere or he may be dead. The Government of Turkey permits Europe to continue guessing at the mystery of Abdul Hamid when a word would end all conjecture.—Why is that word not spoken?—The Toronto Globe.

To wait patiently, men must work cheerfully. Cheerfulness is an excellent working quality, imparting great elasticity to the character. As a bishop has said 'Temper is nine tenths of Christianity,' so are cheerfulness and diligence nine tenths of practical wisdom. They are the life and soul of success, as well as of happiness, perhaps the very highest pleasure of life consisting in clear, brisk, conscious working; energy, confidence and every other good quality mainly depending upon it.—Samuel Smiles.



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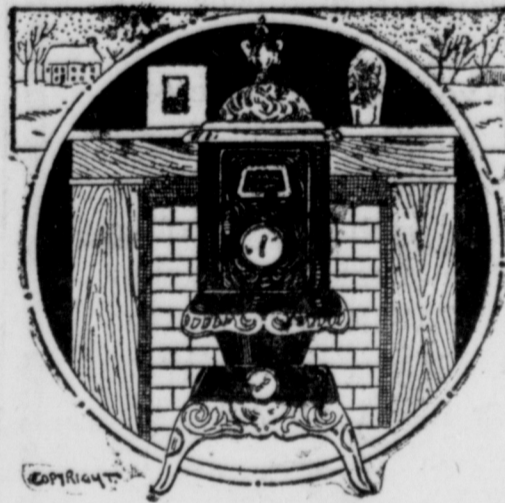
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Builder's Man; 'Hi gov'ner, that new row of 'ouses in Maple Grove are all fallen down like a pack o' cards.'

Builder: 'Idiot! Didn't I tell you not to take the scaffolding down until you'd put the wall paper up?'—London 'Opinion.'



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