

something to eat.—'Ah, well, I don't care if you do get me a glass of wine and a mouthful of sandwich, but don't let me give any trouble. I brought up a basket of 'Christmases' with me—just a turkey of my own rearing, and a pork pie and one or two little things. I left it down in the hall. Some carriage company came to the door, and the old lady walked away so sharply that I had no time to tell her what it was. But,' continued she, as Gertrude was leaving the room, 'why should you go? Can you not ring the bell? I thought that was one of the comforts of living in private houses. I don't like to see you run up and down to wait on me. I can do without anything quite well till dinner time.' Her mother's patience and self-forgetfulness struck Gertrude with more remorse than any reproaches could have done. 'Oh, mother! Don't speak so kindly to me, I cannot bear it.—'Bless thee, child! How wouldst thou have me speak? I never felt so happy in my life.' Gertrude went in search of some refreshment for her mother. It was a more than usually barren search; for, on the strength of an evening party at the Hon. Mrs. Carnegie's, Mrs. Donnelly had refrained from ordering a regular dinner, and there was little in the larder. However, by the aid of some of the good things in the hamper, she succeeded in making up a tolerable luncheon, though it was a very meagre substitute for the 'Christmas dinner,' which Mrs. Morley was in the habit of considering as much a test of orthodox Christianity as salt fish and eggs on Good Friday.

Gertrude's pride was humbled. She had experienced the bitterness of genteel poverty, and joyfully returned to the abode of her youth. Gertrude's husband pursued a career of fashionable folly, until, ruined in health and substance, he was compelled to fall back upon his wife's once despised relations for the means of subsistence.

From The United States:—Their Constitution and Power; by C. Browne.

THE AMERICAN NAVY.

We will watch the growth of this interesting service since the year 1841. In this year the fleet of the United States consisted of sixty-eight vessels including those on the stocks, of which three were in actual service—namely, one ship of the line, five frigates, thirteen sloops, four brigs, seven schooners, two coast steamers, and one store ship. Two war steamers were launched during the twelvemonth, which attracted considerable attention; they were the Mississippi and Missouri. They were built of oak, and entirely copper fastened; were double-decked and armed with 42-pounders, and two bombs capable of throwing the latter 243 feet. Their engines, the first tried on the incline principle, were of 600-horse power. The Porpoise, a vessel of only 270 tons, was registered as mounting ten guns, but in reality it carried fourteen; twelve 24-pounder cannonades, and two long nines. Again, the Pennsylvania, rated at 120 guns on four decks, carries 140 guns. This practice of under-rating the number of guns a vessel mounts is not unfrequent in the American navy, and renders it a difficult task to get at the real number of cannons it carries. In 1848 the total number of vessels of war connected with the American navy amounted to eighty-seven, of which eleven were ships of the line, fourteen frigates, twenty-two sloops of war, ten schooners, and fourteen steamers. Since that time the American navy has undergone some change. According to the most recent statistical returns, it consists of only seventy-five vessels of war, of which eleven are ships of the line, thirteen frigates, and nineteen sloops of war. However, to make up for this apparent deficiency of strength, there are seven first-class steamers, either built, being equipped, or on the stocks, and fourteen other steamers, three brigs and one schooner; the rest are store-ships. Of this navy one ship of the line mounts 120 guns, one 80 guns, and nine 84 guns. Of the thirteen frigates one mounts 56 guns, the rest only 50 guns, whilst of the sloops of war seven carry 22 guns, eight 20 guns, and four 16 guns. The entire number of guns mounted by the whole navy is 2,092.

HOW QUEEN ELIZABETH'S DINNER WAS SERVED UP.

A gentleman entered the room bearing a rod, and along with him another, who had a table cloth, which after they had both kneeled three times with the utmost veneration, he spread upon the table, and after kneeling again they both retired. Then came two others, one with the rod again, and the other with a salt-cellar, a plate and bread; when they had kneeled as the others had done, and placed what was brought upon the table, they too retired with the same ceremony performed by the first. At last came an unmarried lady, (we were told she was a countess), and along with her a married one, bearing a tasting knife; the former was dressed in white silk, who, when she had prostrated herself three times in the most graceful manner, approached the table, and rubbed the plates with bread and salt with as much awe as if the Queen had been present. When they had waited there a little while the yeoman of the guard entered bare-headed, clothed in scarlet, with a golden rose upon their backs, bringing in at each turn a course of twenty-four dishes,

served in plate, most of it gilt; these dishes were received by a gentleman in the same order they were brought, and placed upon the table, while the lady taster gave to each of the guard a mouthful to eat of the particular dish he had brought, for fear of any poison. During the time that the guard, which consisted of the tallest and stoutest men that can be found in all England, being carefully selected for this service, were bringing dinner, twelve trumpets and two kettle-drums made the hall ring for half-an-hour together; at the end of all this ceremonial a number of unmarried ladies appeared, who, with peculiar solemnity, lifted the meat off the table and conveyed it into the Queen's inner and more private chamber, where after she had chosen for herself, the rest goes to the ladies of the court. The Queen dines and sups along with very few attendants, and it is seldom that any body, foreigner or native, is admitted at that time, and then only at the intercession of somebody in power.—Shakspeare's England, by G. W. Thornbury.

HINTS ON MATRIMONY.

No woman will be likely to dispute with us when we assert that marriage is her destiny.—A man may possibly fill up some sort of an existence without nothing to love, cherish or care for, and minister to, is an anomaly in the universe—an existence without an object. It is as natural for a woman to have some one to look to for protection, some one to look to for advice and assistance, as to breathe. Without it, no woman was or ever can be happy. It is the want of her nature; and nothing can satisfy her heart with such a void unfilled. Now, with the exception of some occasional irregularities in the relative proportions of the sexes, produced by circumstances such as the settlement of new countries, there is no reason why every man should not have a wife, and every woman a husband, and this would easily be brought about, by the exercise of common sense, and less ambition. Each sex is looking up for something above its sphere. The son of an industrious and successful mechanic must be a professional man, or a merchant, instead of following his father footsteps; and this is folly the first. When he looks for a wife, the neat, industrious daughter of a mechanic like his father is not good enough for him; he must make love to some fine lady, who is one age in advance—that is, her grandfather was a mechanic instead of her father, a very aristocratic distinction. On the other hand the girl who works for her living, earning it by her honest labours, would not deign to encourage the addresses of a laboring man; she would set her cap for a gentleman, forsooth. The mechanic's daughter, educated on her father's earnings to be a fine lady, encourages the attention of a set of fops and dandies, who drive honest men away from her in disgust, and she becomes the victim of some sorry sharper and shallow fool. Now, this is all wrong—deplorably wretchedly wrong. Girls should know that men superior to themselves in education and position do not always associate with them for good.—Men should know that by marrying girls, educated in habits of life above their fortunes they are not likely to have good wives.—A little sound sense will enable any man to see that it is better to have a wife grateful for more than she expected, than grumbling at less.—It is delightful going up the hill of fortune, but horrible, jolting, aggravating to come down.

PERU UNDER THE INCAS.

Under the rule of the Inca kings, all the land of the empire was divided into three portions. One was set apart for the sun, another for the Inca, and the third was reserved for the people. The tribute exacted from the people by the Incas consisted simply of a personal service, which seems to have been cheerfully rendered. They cultivated the ground, wove cloth, and manufactured vases or instruments of war for their priest-princes, and when this allotted portion of their work was finished, they occupied themselves for the remainder of the week in tending to their own wants and those of their families.—As, therefore, there were no taxes, and the soil fertile, and the crops abundant, we may believe that the burden of this exaction was light. Agriculture, however, was a science amongst the Peruvians, for they made use of manures to improve the soil, and extensive crops of maize, guinea, cocoa, and cotton, were raised upon it. Over the broad *andeneria*, or verdant terraces of the Andes, innumerable flocks of llamas, alpacas and vicunas grazed, and the wool of these animals was converted by the skill of the natives into fine and comfortable cloths. Gold was collected from the washings of the rivers; and silver from the veins of the metal which lay near the surface of the ground. The Indians, in the pursuit of the simple wants of a primitive life, were happy and contented under the care of a paternal government.—They experienced the blessings of domestic life, and revelled in the amusements and holidays provided for them by the Incas; while they could not fail to be moved by the glorious scenery and the blue sky, which appeared on every side, to their sense of the sublime and the beautiful. Their lot was, indeed, enviable, if we may believe their legendary history. For centuries had they thus lived in the enjoyment and the tranquility of a patriarchal despotism, when a cruel torrent of invaders poured down upon their hearths, dragged them away from

their peaceful occupations, to die by thousands in dark subterranean mines; desecrated their altars, and took possession of their palaces and their homes.

News of the Week.

From English papers to the 22nd of June. EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF GENERAL WILLIAMS.

On Monday the hero of Kars, General Sir William Fenwick Williams, K. C. B., landed at Dover upon his arrival in this country. It had been anticipated for several days previously that the General would select this ancient port for his debarkation; and late on Saturday night the mayor received a positive assurance that General Williams would arrive at ten o'clock on Monday morning. His worship and one or two active members of the corporation immediately set about taking what measures the shortness of the notice permitted of, in order that the heroic defender of Kars might experience a hearty reception.

General Williams arrived by the Royal Mail and Continental Steam Packet company's packet Queen, which had been specially retained for the purpose. Immediately the steamer drew alongside the quay, the mayor, James Worsfold, Esq., and several of the authorities—among whom were a great majority of the corporation, the deputy town clerk, Mr Stilwell; the corner of the borough, Mr G. T. Thompson; the chaplain of the corporation, the Rev. J. Puckle, rural dean; the principal naval officer of the port, Captain Milwaine; the commandant of the garrison, Colonel Streetfield; the commandant of the British Swiss legion, Colonel Raines, besides a large number of the resident and visiting gentry—proceeded on board, with Colonel Lake, who served so nobly by the side of General Williams at Kars and who was in attendance to welcome him to the shores of England. Colonel Lake introduced the mayor to General Williams, who on thus being recognised by the large crowd who lined the quay, was cheered most enthusiastically. Loud hurrahs continued to rend the air while the gallant general who was looking remarkably well, proceeded up the landing-stairs and did not cease until he arrived at Barmingham's Royal Ship hotel, where he had arranged to stay for a short period before proceeding to London.

Immediately on reaching the ship the corporation presented an address. The presentation took place in one of the principal apartments of the hotel, and those present consisted of the principal authorities and the *elite* of Dover.—The address, which was read by Mr Stilwell, was as follows:—

To Major-general Sir William Fenwick Williams, of Kars, Bart., K.C.B.

Sir,—We, the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of the borough of Dover, in the county of Kent, most gladly avail ourselves of the occasion of your first landing on the shores of England, after the gallant defence of Kars, to offer our warmest congratulations on your safety; and to express our admiration of that defence, scarcely paralleled in the annals of history, not only for the energy and skill of the commander, but also for the courage and endurance, amidst the trials of famine and disease, and the horrors of the assault, of those brave soldiers whom it was your good fortune to command. We feel confident that though you will, without doubt, receive, as you so well deserve, congratulations more imposing, they cannot be more sincere than those we have the honor of hastily tendering you to-day.

General Williams replied as follows—Mr Mayor, ladies, and gentlemen.—In returning thanks for the honor you have done me, it is in terms inadequate to express my feelings that I do so. Seldom, if ever, called on to address a body of ladies and gentlemen such as I now see, I labour under difficulties of no ordinary character; but I assure you that I feel most deeply the honour you have done me. I feel it the more, perhaps, in consequence of this day being the anniversary of the day on which General Mouravieff appeared before Kars (cheers). For myself, I thank God for having preserved me through so many dangers, and that it has been my fortune to serve the Queen in such a manner. I am thankful that it has pleased her most gracious majesty to shower on me so many honours; I am thankful that I have obtained the good-will of this glorious country, and especially that I have been spared to witness the manifestation of it this day (cheers). In addressing an assemblage of my countrymen on landing upon British soil, I have more than one duty to perform; and the first is to allude to those brave men who surrounded me in the hour of extreme distress, who were indefatigable in discharging their duty under the trying circumstances in which they were placed, and who supported and cheered me under every difficulty (hear hear). They never once flagged in the performance of their duties, day nor night. By day they were at their post—at night they were in the trenches (cheers). But while I feel the greatest pleasure in adverting to their glorious conduct, I have a melancholy duty to perform, and a tribute to pay to departed heroism and worth—to the memory of one of my

brave companions, Capt. Thompson. It was only the day before yesterday, while at Paris that I heard of his severe illness, and little did I then think that the scenes of this world would so soon close upon him. I had looked forward to visiting his mother's house, and cheering him as he had so frequently cheered me. Unfortunately, unhappily, it has been ordered otherwise. The only consolation that can be afforded to his widowed mother is that her lamented son died a glorious specimen of an English officer (cheers). I can assure you that he was never daunted; that when reduced to a skeleton by dire disease he was not prevented from doing his duty day or night. Poor Mrs Thompson will have the consolation which has been the only consolation experienced by many mothers during the present war—they have given their sons to the service of the country! (hear hear, and emotion). And if the day comes when the repetition of this sacrifice shall be necessary, I believe there will be thousands who will give up their offspring as readily as the mothers who are now weeping for the loss of theirs; for woe to the nation that forgets the military art! Woe to that nation—woe to that nation who heaps up riches, but who does not take the precaution to defend them. I have passed through armed Europe, and I take this the earliest opportunity of uttering a warning to those who forget the military art (cheers). I have another duty to perform, and that is, to recall the courage and discipline of those brave Turks, under Selim Pacha, their commanding officer, and the Turkish general officers, who supported me in every trying situation, and who from the first moment of entering the place to the last were friends and counsellors. I thank them from this spot, and bear testimony to their valour; for it would have been impossible for the Turkish army to have shown more endurance and true courage that they did (loud cheers). I have another duty to perform, in doing which I turn to our former enemies, now our friends—the Russians. When dire necessity obliged me to go into the camp of General Mouravieff, I went to a brave man, who received me with a kindness and a high-mindedness I shall never cease to remember. An army irritated with dreadful losses, and the other casualties of war received me when I went among them, not as an enemy, but as a comrade—received me, not with the skin-deep politeness displayed when two gentlemen meet, but with the politeness of the heart. General Mouravieff is a man of the olden time. He is a stern man; but I believe that if there is an honest man on earth, it is he. I have heard it said that a project has been debated in England having for its object the presentation of a testimonial of British esteem to General Mouravieff. I can only say that he and his brave army have my greatest esteem (hear, hear). He not only received me in so kind a manner that nothing could have exceeded it. That kindness was repeated at Berlin, where no man could have been received with greater honor. The King of Prussia, and the young prince who is at present in England, and who is soon to be allied to England by ties more close and binding than at present, met me at the head of the troops, and treated me with the greatest possible consideration. I return them my most sincere thanks from this British ground (cheers). The kindness and consideration which, as I tell you, were vouchsafed to me in Russia and in Germany, were repeated in France, when I arrived among our glorious and brave allies, the French (hear hear). God grant that that alliance may hold good for many years to come! (Loud and protracted cheering). The day before yesterday I was presented to the emperor, from whom some time since I had the distinguished honor of receiving the cross of commander of the legion of honor. I was sorry that having sent it to England, I was unable to wear it upon my breast on that occasion, and I expressed that regret to the emperor, and explained the reason, upon which his majesty immediately rose from his seat and said, I will get you another! In a moment he brought me out the star of grand master of the order with which he presented me (loud cheers). I felt that the act was towards the British nation—not towards me; it was totally unexpected and uncalled for. And now that I have arrived home amongst you, I feel that I am witnessing the happiest day of my life (cheers) Mr Mayor, ladies and gentlemen, I thank you most heartily for your kind expressions, and for the consideration with which you have listened to me.

At the conclusion of the speech, the usual etiquette observed on such occasions was thrown aside, and, notwithstanding the presence of the ladies, a hearty cheer resounded through the apartment. Cheers were also given for Colonel Lake, Major Teesdale, Mr Secretary Churchill, as well as one cheer for the Russian general. The cheer was echoed from the outside of the hotel, in front of which an immense crowd of persons had collected. Loud calls were also made for General Williams, who on presenting himself at the balcony in company with the mayor, was received with the greatest enthusiasm. The mayor also begged Colonel Lake, Mayor Teesdale, and Mr Secretary Churchill, to present themselves at the window, and the cheering at each presentation was renewed. The shipping in the harbour and the principal houses in the vicinity were gaily decorated with flags.