

MEN AND WOMEN TALKED ABOUT.

The Prince of Wales' life is insured for \$800,000.

Christine Nilsson went all the way from Madrid to sing at Sims Reeves' benefit in London.

Justice Stephen, who has just retired from the English bench, will receive a pension of \$25,000 a year.

Bill Nye and James Whitcomb Riley have reconciled their differences after an estrangement of a year or so.

No less than 516 original poems, it is said, were sent to Von Moltke on the occasion of his birthday celebration last October.

Dom Pedro, the ex-emperor of Brazil, has planned to spend the summer at Bushey park, England, the residence of the Duke de Nemours.

Sir Charles Dilke is very fond of fencing, and in one of the rooms of his London house he has a choice collection of old swords and handsome rapiers.

General Butler is said to be ambitious to have his memoirs enjoy a greater sale than have General Grant's. The old man is 72, and has had 56 years of public life.

Lord Tennyson does a large dairy business in the Isle of Wight, where many of the milk carts bear his name. He produces better cream than poetry of late years.

Mrs. Roscoe Conkling, after a long period of retirement, is occasionally seen upon the streets of New York again, clad in simple black. Mrs. Conkling is about 60 years of age.

Lady Sidney Waterlow, wife of the distinguished baronet who was once Lord mayor of London and is the senior partner in the great paper firm, is a Napa, Cal., girl, whose maiden name was Margaret Hamilton.

Mr. Gladstone has three hats—three hats only. One is black and very old. The second is white and is used only in summer. The third is a soft felt and his constant travelling companion. Its age is unknown, but certainly it was not new in 1860.

The duke of Fife has about a dozen suits in constant use, and he never wears the same clothes twice the same week. His trousers are on shelves, marked Monday, Tuesday and so on to the end of the week, and they are carefully pressed by his valet before being put on, so as to get rid of the creases.

Longfellow's will, in the Probate court in East Cambridge, is written in a bold and firm hand on the four pages of a quarto sheet of grayish letter paper. The seal is plain, being simply covered with a network of fine lozenge-shaped indentations. The executor, Richard H. Dana, jr., died a year before Longfellow, i. e., in 1881.

Miss Frances Willard found time during her duties at the late National Council of Women, in Washington, to draw up a pledge whose signers bound themselves not to wear the bodies or feathers of birds in trimming. Mrs. Ole Bull was among the women who circulated the pledge between the sessions of the council, but the bird protectors succeeded in getting altogether less than two hundred names.

The children of the czar are obliged to study painting assiduously by their father, who is a great lover of art. The fortunate artist instructor of these royal pupils manifested a little diffidence at the first lesson in the presence of the Princess Zenia, who is a most reserved and stately young woman. But the future ruler of all the Russias, the czarowitz, reassured the master and rebuked the haughty maiden at once by saying, smilingly: "Never mind, monsieur, she means nothing; she is only playing the princess."

Czar Alexander's celebrated present of a troika, six horses, and silver harness to Emperor William II. has caused trouble in the imperial stables at St. Petersburg. The harness cost \$15,000. While polishing it recently in the Berlin stables, the imported Russian coachmen and two Germans discovered numerous yellow flecks which indicated that the silver plate was wearing off. The coachmen made a great hullabaloo over the discovery of the fraud, wept and cursed, and finally gossiped so much about it that the Russian embassy heard of the matter. A report on it was despatched to St. Petersburg, and two days later Major-Gen. Martinoff, master of the Czar's stables, and several of his assistants, who had secured the harness for the Czar were dismissed. Gen. Martinoff has since committed suicide, in consequence, it is believed, of the exposure.

Li Hung Chang is Viceroy of China during the minority of the emperor (and it is quite remarkable that the emperors of China hardly ever live to become of age and rule in their own names) on account of his victories against the rebels in the preceding emperor's reign. The boy emperors are secreted from view, live in the greatest pomp and inglorious ease, worshipped by their satellite and pampered with every kind of indulgence, and encouraged in every sensual gratification, until their systems succumb and they die natural deaths at an unusually early period. The preceding ruler de facto of China was Prince Kung, and he was viceroy under very similar circumstances to those under which Li Hung Chang is now viceroy, so far as the concealment and pampering of those who were emperors during his reign.

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PROGRESS PICKINGS.

He—"I think you love me. Am I right?" She—"No; you are left."—[Brooklyn Eagle.]

When a woman wants to drive anything out of the house she "shoes" it. A man usually boots it.—Yonkers Statesman.

"I don't like a fellow who is inclined to fancy everything he sees," said Tom. "I dislike still more the fellow who is inclined to seize everything he fancies," said John.

May—"We never could marry without papa's consent, Frank." Frank—"I'm afraid not, darling, unless (brightening) the minister would take a thirty-days' note."—[N. Y. Herald.]

Daniel Purcell, the famous punster, was desired to make a pun extempore. "Upon what subject?" said Daniel. "The king," answered the other. "Oh! sir," said he, "the king is no subject."—Ex.

He—I say, Hilda, I should so like to give you a kiss! She (who will pick up such strange expressions from the boys)—Would you, indeed? "I like your cheek!" He—"I'm sure I should like yours!"—Punch.

"My dear," said Dr. Bradley's wife, "while sitting in our church, last week, Judge Brown is dozing in a draught—He'll be so ill he cannot speak."

"Oh! never mind, my dear," said he, "I'll catch the 'draft' some time next week." "You seem to be having a nice time of it here," said the irate parent to the young man whom he caught kissing his daughter in the hall. "Nice?" said the young man, smacking his lips, "why, sir, that's no name for it."—New York Press.

Caraway—"But even if you are poor now there is still a chance of your being rich in heaven, you know." Depleted Duke (sadly)—"I guess not. In that place there is no marrying or giving in marriage."—[N. Y. Herald.]

Miss F. (whose parents refuse to recognize her fiancé)—If you had a daughter, Mr. Hardy, who ran away from home and married a young man, what would you do to the young man? Mr. Hardy—Write him a letter of condolence.—Life.

"Five cents is all I am paying for a job of this kind," remarked the cautious old man, sitting down in the chair. "That's all I'm chargin', boss," answered the boot-black, sadly. "The McKinley bill hasn't helped my business a blamed bit."—Ex.

Landlady—"That new boarder needn't try to make me think he is a bachelor. He's either married or is a widower." Millings—"How can you tell?" Landlady—"He always turns his back to me when he opens his pocket-book to pay his board."—Ex.

Just as the train was leaving the Grand Central depot for the west, a boy accosted one of the passengers and asked: "Have an extra Sun?" "Great Scott, no!" said the man. "Got a telegram in my pocket that there are twin boys at home."—[Press.]

"Mary," said the lady of the house as the cook was leaving, "I think you are treating me shamefully, leaving without a day's notice." "Indeed, I'm sorry, mumm, an' if a reference will be of any use to you, mumm, I'll give you one cheerfully."—[New York Recorder.]

A smart reproof was once addressed by Archbishop Whately to the Bishop of Cork. Dr. Gregg was not a bon-vivant, and when the cloth was removed forgot, as teetotallers are apt to do, to pass the decanter. "Cork," said the host, "don't stop the bottle."—Ex.

The squire—It's no use for you to deny your guilt, Johnson. The chickens were actually found in your coat tail pockets. Br'er Johnsing (stoutly)—I kain't help dat, sah. Hain't it poaty tough to hold a poo' niggah responsible fo' what's going on behind his back.—Texas Sittings.

A young woman tried to be aristocratic, and did not look at the money she gave to the conductor of the car; but he meekly gave her back the lozenge, on which was written, "I'll never cease to love thee," and said he was an orphan, with five little brothers to support, and must be excused.—Ex.

"I gather," said the Boston lady, "from the conversation of my nephew, that firemen are in the habit of using rubber hose at their labors." "Yes." "That, I presume, is so that they won't get their feet wet?" and the Boston lady returned to her book with an air of entire satisfaction over having solved a difficult problem.—Washington Post.

We sat beside the glowing fire, The hour was getting late, I turned, and to my heart's desire Said, "How you fascinate!" And then she said, with smile benign, "With flattery have done, I cannot fascinate—or nine—But I can fasten one."—Ex.

When the two sons of the Prince of Wales were visiting South America, at a ball in Rio, Prince George was having a right good time, dancing with any of the pretty girls who took his fancy, irrespective of their social position, and neglecting the local big-wigs. His elder brother remonstrated with him. "You go and sit down and whistle 'God Save your Grandmother,' and let me alone," said Prince George, and went on enjoying himself after his own fashion.—Life.

It was about 12.30 at night when he drifted into the newspaper office. A warm smile lit up his face when he discovered that there was some place open after midnight. He sat down near the editor's desk. "Take out and kill 'A Famous Woman,'" said the editor. The visitor started. "Our Little Ones," must be boiled down, and you can put a head on John L. Sullivan." He was standing by the door. "And then you can cut 'society' altogether and have the whole business locked up." The man went away with a pained expression that showed plainly how likely people are to be misunderstood.—Washington Post.

Zealous young clergyman (to lady whom he has known but five minutes, and whose name he did not catch)—Where do you attend divine service, madam? She—I generally go from place to place with my husband. We are seldom at the same church two Sundays in succession. Z. Y. clergyman—Ah, my dear lady, let me urge upon you the necessity of having some settled place of worship. Believe me, there is nothing so indispensable to your soul's health. She (with dignity)—Are you aware, sir, that you are addressing the wife of your bishop?—Life.

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