

FAMOUS LONDON CLUBS.

THEIR ORIGINS AND THE OBJECTS FOR WHICH THEY EXIST.

Leading Features of the Most Notable One—Headquarters of Rival Political Parties—Bits of Club History for Generations—How Things are Arranged.

LONDON, June 12.—Of the very old clubs of London still existing, like Arthur's, Brook's, White's, and the Cocoa-tree, all located in St. James street, White's is by far the most noteworthy and aristocratic. It is older than the Bank of England. It was really the first of the great English clubs as they are known to-day. But it was never the resort of literary men and wits. It is purely a social club and its members were chiefly noblemen and those leaders of aristocratic government, including all of England's prime ministers from Walpole to Peel and their powerful colleagues, who shaped national measures and controlled natural acquisition.

White's is still undoubtedly the most exclusive and aristocratic club in the world. Its windows look out upon the Corinthian facade of the almost as aristocratic and architecturally more stately Conservative Club, opposite on St. James' street. Its dinners are the most ceremonious known. All of the old-time English formality is here sacredly preserved. And undoubtedly more blue-blooded Englishmen have ogled fair ladies from its famous bow window than from any other single place in Britain. Perhaps it has not been the scene of the most dangerous gaming in England, but there is no other purely social resort in all the world where betting has been so constant, universal and provoked on so slight pretext. Its betting book—which could be sold for thousands of pounds for its noble and famous signatures—has been preserved and is still in use. Thousands of these registered bets are of the most whimsical character, comprising every conceivable difference of judgment on affairs of love, marriage, intrigue and politics.

The political division of London clubs is most notable with and between the Carlton and the Reform Clubs, the palatial headquarters and homes of the two great political parties of England. They are both located in Pall Mall, the windows of the one almost looking into those of the other; and entirely aside from the irreconcilable disparity of their political teachings and efforts, they are equally as famous in their rivalry as to what might be termed the extravagance of modern club life.

The Duke of Wellington was founder of the Carlton, a little over fifty years ago. It gradually became the headquarters of the landed aristocracy. Then those great corporate institutions of Britain, manufacturing and monetary, whose interests were identical with those of the hereditary aristocracy came to have representation in it. It is a notorious fact that more money has always been instantly available through the Carlton club for political purposes than through any other single party influence in Europe. Whether in or out of power it is the actual fighting headquarters of the entire conservative or Tory party of Britain.

The Reform Club is about sixty years old. Its origin was through the influence of Cobden and Bright, and was a direct national response to a pressing need for a Reform headquarters during the intense interest awakened by the famous bill of 1830-32. Its members comprise more London and provincial editors and political writers than perhaps belong to all other clubs in London. But it has tremendous wealth and many titles in its membership. Carte blanche was given for the construction of its building, which is at one side of the entrance to Carlton House Terrace, the Carlton standing on the opposite corner, and for its interior decoration and appointments. No other London club possesses so diversified a membership in station, vocation and views; but as it represents the concentration of all opposition to Toryism, though it comprises at times almost countless factional elements, its wealth, strength and permanency have been remarkable.

The building is in the pure Italian style, massive, rich and simple. The central hall, open from floor to dome, and surrounded by massively colonnaded galleries, is one of the richest and most stately interiors in England. A splendid staircase leads to the upper gallery, which opens to the principal apartments of the club. The coffee-room occupies the beautiful garden front on Carlton House Terrace; and the drawing-room which runs the entire length of the building is just above. One of the galleries of the central hall is filled with full-length portraits of the heroes of Reform; and the other possesses magnificent frescoes illustrating the Fine Arts; while the statuary, the richest and most frequent in any London club-house, immortalizes the great leaders like Cobden, Bright, Palmerston, Russell and Gladstone. There is only one justly appellation to use when speaking of every feature of this great club. That is magnificent. Both the Carlton and the Reform are famous for their cuisines and chefs, and the Reform is said to have the most famous public wine cellar in Europe.

With the extraordinary prestige, wealth and influence of both these clubs, and a limited membership—for instance, the Carlton is limited to 1,000 members and the Reform to 1,400—"over-flow clubs" were a natural sequence. With the Carlton, which contains the blue blood in England, death vacancies are the only means of securing entrance. Men wait from twenty to thirty years for admission, save in cases where some great leader of the Tories dies, when his heir is usually elected to fill the vacancy. The Junior Carlton was consequently established as "chapel of ease" for the Carlton, and the national Liberal, with the same relation to the Reform. The former has a membership of 2,100, and the latter, with its splendid establishment over-

looking the Thames, has accommodations for 7,000 members. There are also, with Conservative or Tory affiliations the Conservative, City Carlton, National, City Conservative, St. Stephen's, Beaconsfield and the Constitutional; while among those taking the Reform as their leader and model and possessing various phases of Liberal sympathies, are Brook's, National Liberal, Cobden, City Liberal and Devonshire.

The Athenaeum Club is the chief literary club, it is not the resort, of London. Its huge, time-worn walls and stately portico have a sombre look in the splendid Pall Mall region where it stands at the Park entrance of Waterloo Place, just opposite the far Sunnier looking home of the United Service Club. It occupies part of the courtyard of the old Carlton House. The architecture is of the Grecian order, and of severe Grecian order at that. The frieze is copied from the Parthenon. Over the Doric portico is a colossal figure of Minerva. The only cheerful things in the whole place are two huge fireplaces in the main hall or exchange. Over these are the "Diana Robing" and "Venus Victrix," in marble. The entire atmosphere of the place suggests marble and ice. It is a resort for venerable professors, philosophers, scientists, antiquarians and authors out of whom the life cheer is already well filtered. The club has the finest library of any club in the metropolis.

There is a large number of thoroughly enjoyable clubs in London, some of them really famous, which have brought socially together strictly professional people, or men of means who are liberal patrons of the arts. In the main their frequenters are persons who have really accomplished something: men who as authors, journalists, actors, artists, singers, and even in law and physics, are progressive, ambitious, independent; in fact, the genuinely cultivated gentleman of London. These clubs do not always possess palatial establishments; entrance fees annual subscriptions are not equal to ordinary incomes; and their exclusiveness does not comprise questions of blood, title, political opinion or wealth. In these I believe, exist in a greater degree those true and laudable principles which are the life and preservation of genuine club association than in all other great clubs of London combined.

I refer to such clubs as the Garrick, Green room, Savage, Arundel, Lyric and Beethoven. The latter unique little club, which has its home over Toole's theatre, sprang out of the Honorable society of Beethsteaks, in the old beefsteak room of the Lyceum theatre, which still exists, and is used by Irving for his exquisite private dinner parties. The Beethoven over Toole's is distinctive in being a "one-room" club, and admitting no guests whatever.

The Arundel has 350 to 400 members. It was once exclusively literary and artistic. Ambitious solicitors amateurs of all sorts are now admitted, and while its promiscuousness is a bar to especial influence, it serves as a sort of necessary training school to high club honors, while affording many a deserving fellow a foothold and beginning at professional recognition which would be difficult in conservative London to otherwise secure.

The Lyric has a magnificent club house in Piccadilly, and with its entire appointments, including a large theatre and concert hall, is among the finest buildings for this purpose in the world. It also has an annex called the Lyric Club at Barnes-on-Thames, from which boat-racing and other river fetes can be witnessed. The Lyric is a dramatic and musical club with nearly 3,000 members. Perhaps ten per cent. of these are actors. Lord Londesborough, Fred Cowen and Sir Arthur Sullivan are members.

The well known Savage Club, literary and artistic, which interchanges privileges with the Lotos Club of New York, has about 700 members, about 500 of whom are leading London actors who are also members of the Green Room Club. It had its origin twenty-four years ago in a public house near Drury Lane Theatre. Since then it has wandered to Haxel's Hotel, thence to the Savoy, and finally to the Adelphi Terrace, overlooking the Thames.

The Garrick, in Garrick Street, Covent Garden, venerable, rich, stately, mellow and grand, has no membership limitations as to profession. Perhaps no more than twenty-five actors are at present among its members, although all London managers of any prominence are upon the rolls. It undoubtedly possesses the most valuable collection of souvenirs and paintings relating to the stage and its most famous representatives of any association or institution in the world.

"Saturday Nights," and Saturday House Dinners," the latter, splendidly served at but three shillings and six-pence, are the kindest, brightest, mellowest and most genial occasions of our time among men of heart and brains. Gathered here will be found such men as Pinero, Sant Matthews, Irving, John Hare, Royce Carleton, Kendall, Paul Merritt, Wyndham, Charles Hatbury, Bancroft, Fernandez, Beerbohn Tree, Ted Gardiner and Henry Howe, the oldest actor on the English stage.

Besides these are hosts more clubs upon each of which an entertaining article could be written. Americans are principally found at the St. George. The Travellers, near the Reform, tells its purpose in its name. Diplomats toast their hosts at the St. James. Military folk are housed at the Senior United Service, the Junior United Service the Army and Navy, the Guard Club and the Military and Navy; while the East India United Service Club is the home of the nabobs of the East India service, and is fitted up in Oriental luxury.

London clubs are substantial and splendid in the main rather than "smart" and dazzling. Truly their hospitality to well-accredited persons from other lands is less effusive than that common in American clubs; but once extended it is genuine and worth something to the recipient. The English club is more the home of its member. He is more particular whom he entertains. But all else aside, London clubman or stranger never finds more true enjoyment and snug, genial, all-enveloping comfort than within the almost cathedral quiet and the home-like warmth of the average London club.

EUGAR L. WAKEMAN.

The town in England best provided with places of worship is the ancient one of Rochdale, where there are 145 churches and chapels. Fifty belong to the Church of England and ninety-five to the Nonconformists.

The insurance upon St. Paul's Cathedral is said to be about £25,000.

CANADIAN PLUCK.

A SUCCESSFUL CANADIAN BUSINESS EXTENDED TO ENGLAND.

Although but a Short Time in that Country the Press Pronounces the Success Phenomenal.

We have much pleasure in reproducing the following article from the Montreal Witness, relative to the success in Great Britain of a well known Canadian firm. We have done business with the firm in question for a number of years and can heartily endorse what the Witness says concerning their honorable business methods, and the care exercised in the publication of the articles appearing in the press relative to their preparation. These cases are always written up by influential newspapers in the localities in which they occur, after a full and thorough investigation that leaves no doubt of their impartiality and truthful character. We are quite certain that the confidence reposed in the firm and their preparation is not misplaced:—

The phrase "British pluck" has become an adage, but not without good reason, for wherever enterprise, courage, or "bull-dog tenacity" is required to sweep away or surmount opposing obstacles in order that the pinnacle of success may be reached, your true Britain never flinches, and facing all obstacles, works until success has been achieved. This same "British pluck" is a characteristic of the native born Canadian, and there are very few walks in life in which it does not bring success as the reward. This much by way of prelude to what bears every indication of being a successful venture on the part of a well-known Canadian house. When it was announced a few months ago that the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., of Brockville, intended establishing a branch of their business in the motherland, there were not a few who were inclined to be skeptical as to the success of the venture, while some boldly predicted failure. "There would be an objection," they urged, "to taking up a colonial remedy," "their business methods differed from those prevailing in Canada," "the field was already crowded with proprietary remedies long established, and well advertised." These and many other objections were urged as reasons why the venture was a doubtful one. But the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co. was not to be deterred by any objections that might be raised. They had unbounded confidence in the merit of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and the pluck to back up their confidence with their cash. This latter is well known to Canadian newspaper men, who know that less than three years ago the company first put upon the market in the form of Pink Pills a prescription which had previously only been used in private practice, and with a skill and audacity that has not been surpassed in the annals of Canadian advertising, pushed it in the van of all competitors. Of course, the remedy had to have merit, or this could not have been done, and it was the company's sincere belief in the merit of their remedy that endowed them with the pluck to place their capital behind it. It was this same conviction that merit, skilfully advocated, will command success that induced them to venture into competition with the long-established remedies of the motherland. And we are glad to know—indeed we believe that all Canadians will be glad to learn—that short as is the time the Dr. Williams' Company has been in that field, their success has been rapid and ever increasing. As an instance of this success the "Chemist and Druggist," the leading drug journal of the world—and probably the most conservative—in a recent issue states that the success of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills in Great Britain has been unprecedented and phenomenal. While, no doubt, it is the advertising that has brought this remedy into such rapid prominence in England, it is the merit of the preparation that keeps it there and makes it popular with the people. There are few newspaper readers in Canada who have not read of the cures, that is to say the least, border on the marvellous, brought about by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and already we see by the English papers that the same results are being achieved there. Is it any wonder then that Pink Pills are popular wherever introduced? We have done business with this firm for a number of years. We have found them honorable and reliable, and worthy of credence in all that they claim for their remedy.

We cannot close this article better than by giving in a condensed form the particulars of a striking cure in Nottingham, England, by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. The cure is vouched for by the Nottingham Daily Express, the leading journal of the Midland Counties.

The picturesque suburb of Old Basford some three miles from the market-place of Nottingham, has just been the scene of an occurrence which has excited considerable attention among the local residents, and of which rumors have reached Nottingham itself. The circumstances affect Mr. Arthur Watson, of Old Basford, formerly an employee in the bleach yard at Messrs. H. Ashwell & Co.'s hosiery factory, in New Basford, and afterwards employed at the Bestwood Coal and Iron Co.'s factory, near Nottingham. In consequence of the gossip which has been in circulation with regard to this case, a local reporter called upon Mr. Watson, at his bright little house, situated at No. 19 Mountpleasant, White-moor road, Old Basford, and made enquiries as to the curious circumstances alleged. The visitor was met by Mrs. Watson, but Mr. Watson himself immediately afterwards entered the room, looking very little like the sudden victim of paralysis. He told the story of his life's health as follows: In boyhood he was prostrated by a severe attack of rheumatic fever, which, after his slow recovery, left behind it a permanent weakness, and uncertainty of action in the heart and he had always been debilitated and more or less feeble. On giving up his work at Messrs. Ashwell's bleach factory, he sought change of employment and undertook the work of attending to furnaces at Kilns at the Bestwood Coal and Iron Co.'s Works, being at the time an out-patient at the general hospital, Nottingham, where he was treated for weakness of the heart. The circumstances of his work at the furnaces were somewhat peculiar. Exposed on one side to the extreme heat of the furnace, he was attacked on the other by the chilling winds which proved so distressing to many people last October, and one day in that month he was suddenly prostrated by a stroke which had all the appearance of

permanent paralysis, and was pronounced such by the doctors who attended him. The course of the stroke appears to have been down the entire right side. His leg was entirely powerless, and he was unable to stand. He could not lift his right arm from his side or from any position in which he was placed. His face was horribly distorted, and the organs of speech completely paralyzed, so that he was able neither to stand nor speak. His condition is described by those acquainted with him as being most pitiable. He lay in this condition for more than three months suffering intermittently considerable pain, but more afflicted by his utter helplessness than by suffering of any other kind. His wishes were indicated by signs and feeble numblings. The distortion of his face was rendered the more apparent by the ghastly pallor of his features, and lay in bed, anticipating nothing better than that death should eventually relieve him of his helplessness.

The Rev. Walter Cooper, Wesleyan Methodist minister, whose flock have their spiritual habitation in a substantial building in High street. Old Basford, took a pastor's interests in the case of this unfortunate man, and is acquainted with the circumstances from almost first to last. A week or two ago Mr. Watson began to astonish all his neighbors by the sudden improvement in his appearance and capacity. He is able to walk about, and his right arm, which was formerly perfectly incapable of motion, is now moved almost as readily as the other, though the fingers have not yet recovered their usual delicate touch. Perhaps the most striking circumstance, however, is the great improvement in the personal aspect of the man. The deformity of feature caused by the paralysis is entirely removed. His speech is restored, and the right leg, the displacement of which kept him to his bed or chair, has now recovered its function so completely that he is about to take some out-door work in Basford and Nottingham.

Questioned as to the cause of this remarkable improvement in a case universally regarded as incurable by the medical profession, Mrs. Watson, wife of the patient unhesitatingly attributed her husband's miraculous recovery to the use of a medicine called Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and brought into considerable prominence by the publication of some remarkable cures effected by their means in Canada and elsewhere. "Since I have taken Dr. Williams' Pink Pills," said Mr. Watson, "I have unquestionably been better not only than I was before the stroke of paralysis seized me, but than I have been at any time since my boyhood." A statement confirmed by Mrs. Watson, who said the appearance of her husband now was proof of the enormous improvement in his health. "The pills," she said, "seem not only to have cured the paralysis of the face and leg, but to have effected a most remarkable change in his general health."

Mr. Watson was always remarkably pallid and of a sickly appearance, but the ruddy glow of the patient's face confirmed Mrs. Watson's words. "I assure you," said she, "we can speak in the highest possible terms of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Nothing either at the General Hospital or from the doctors, who have attended my husband at different times, has done any thing like the good which the few boxes of Dr. Williams' Pills he has taken have effected, and, under Providence, we feel he owes his life and his restoration to work and usefulness to this wonderful medicine."

Mr. Charles Leayesly, Insurance agent, at Cowley street, Old Basford, has among other neighbors been deeply moved by the sufferings of Mr. Watson, and profoundly impressed by his miraculous restoration to health. The case has, in fact, been a topic of conversation in the entire neighborhood.

Attention is drawn to the circumstance that every fact in the above remarkable history is vouched for by independent evidence, which it would be morally impossible to doubt. It is shown by conclusively attested evidence that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are not a patent medicine in the ordinary sense, but a scientific preparation from a formula long used in regular practice. They are shown to positively and unfailingly cure all diseases arising from impoverished blood, such as pale and sallow complexion, general muscular weakness, loss of appetite, depression of spirits, anemia, green sickness, palpitation of the heart, shortness of breath, pain in the back, nervous headache, dizziness, loss of memory, early decay, all forms of female weakness, hysteria, paralysis, locomotor ataxia, rheumatism, sciatica, all diseases depending on vitiated humors in the blood, causing scrofula, rickets, hip joint diseases, chronic erysipelas, catarrh, consumption of the bowels and lungs, and also invigorates the blood and system when broken down by overwork, worry, diseases. These pills are not a purgative medicine. They contain nothing that could injure the most delicate system. They act directly on the blood, supplying to the blood its life-giving qualities, by assisting it to absorb oxygen, that great supporter of all organic life. In this way the blood becoming "built up" and being supplied with its lacking constituents, becomes rich and red, nourishes the various organs, stimulates them to activity in the performance of their functions, and thus to eliminate disease from the system.

These Pills are manufactured by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, of 46 Holborn Viaduct London, England, (and of Brockville, Ont., and Schenectady, N. Y.) and are sold only in boxes bearing the firm's trade mark and wrappers at 2s 9d a box, or six boxes for 13s 9d. Pamphlet free by post on application. Bear in mind that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are never sold in bulk, or by the dozen or hundred, and any dealer who offers substitutes in this form is trying to defraud you and should be avoided.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills may be had of all chemists or direct by post from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., from the above address. The price at which these pills are sold makes a course of treatment comparatively inexpensive as compared with other remedies or medical treatment.

The Bishop of London is credited with the assertion that he cannot save money for his wife and children. He has only £10,000 a year, but when he was Bishop of Exeter, with £4,000 a year, he was a much richer man. London is, to translate a German phrase, a dear pavement.

Owls cannot move their eyes round; but to obviate this difficulty, they are able to turn their heads round in almost a complete circle, without a motion of the body.

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