

GOVERNOR OF VICTORIA.

Sketch of the Life and Career of Sir George Sydenham Clarke—A Versatile Intellect.

Sir George Sydenham Clarke, the recently-appointed Governor of the State of Victoria, in the Commonwealth of Australia, has already had a distinguished career, says The Daily Graphic. At the age of twenty he entered the Royal Engineers and served on the staff at Coopers Hill for some years. He was in Egypt in 1882, in the Soudan in 1885, and then had a long spell of service in the War Office. He has traveled on special military duty in most of the countries in Europe, and has filled up the interstices of his time by writing upon matters connected with his profession. Among the many subjects included in that phrase is the theory of fortifications, and Sir George Clarke's work on "Fortifications: Past, Present and Future," is rightly regarded as one of the most interesting and suggestive of modern works upon this subject. His general view, however, of the defensive needs of the empire allows little place for fortifications in the sense in which the word is usually understood. Sir George Clarke is in a word a "blue water man." He holds most strongly, and has insisted on every possible occasion, so far as official etiquette would permit, that the British Empire can only be effectively defended upon the high seas. Again and again, whenever opportunity has offered, he has protested against the squandering of the money of the nation upon earthworks and other fixed defences. He belongs to that little group of distinguished sailors and soldiers who realized the value of "sea power" long before Captain Mahan made the phrase popular. His views upon this question of crucial importance to the empire have been more than once expressed in The Daily Graphic in the form of interviews or articles. Sir George was one of the gentlemen appointed by Mr. Brodrick to the recent commission to consider how the administration of the War Office could be improved. In Australia Sir G. Clarke will have an entirely different sphere of activity, but it may safely be prophesied that his versatile intellect and his personal charm of manner will win for him success in a new and not altogether easy post.

The Agent-General of Victoria in London, coming to the Premier, says: "You could not have secured a better man, and I thoroughly endorse the nomination. Sir George Sydenham Clarke is an able, capable and accomplished man of affairs, of sound judgment, tactful, and of good social qualities."

Still Honeymooning.

It is amusing to hear the remarks of those who saw the Czar and Czarina at the camp lunches they attended while in France. They behaved like a newly-married couple at a table d'hôte, with neither eyes nor ears except for one another. She spoke so much to the Czar at the Betheny lunch that M. Loubet, who was at her left hand, imagined an old graybeard like himself was de trop and chatted continuously with his other next neighbor, Mme. Casimir-Perier.

Nicholas was aux petits soins. He filled himself the empress' glasses when champagne or other wines were handed around. Mme. Loubet sat next him, but she showed, by conversing with her next neighbor, that she did not wish to bore him. When he and the empress chatted, the latter looked animated and as if she enjoyed herself. As soon as he spoke to Mme. Loubet the expression on the imperial lady changed, and she gazed without the slightest animation as if absentminded.—London Truth.

A Singular Dutch Law.

The accouchement of the Queen of the Netherlands is expected to take place in January, says London Truth. If five years had passed without Queen Wilhelmina giving birth to a child her marriage would have been dissolved by the Dutch Parliament. The constitution of Holland also provides that if the Queen has a son she is to abdicate in his favor when he reaches the age of eighteen.

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The burning of a sulphur candle in a room infested with pests of any kind will relieve you of them in a short time.

Glasses which have been used for Lill should be washed first in cold water and then in hot soapsuds. This will make them clear and shining.

Wilted or drooping flowers may be revived by giving them a quick plunge into moderately hot water in which a few drops of ammonia have been poured.

Never put soda in the water in which you wash china that has any gilding on it. Soda injures the gilding. Instead use soap, which answers just as well and has no ill effects.

In washing cut glass only moderately hot water should be used on account of the glass being of varying thickness, which causes the dishes to expand unevenly if subjected to excessive changes of temperature.

Scarecrows.

The term is almost a misnomer, now-a-days. For the "century-living crow" has been schooled by experience. The scarecrow doesn't scare him. Investigating ornithologists say that he can tell a gun from a stick and can count up to seven. Evidently the crow has progressed from the ignorance of his ancestry.

The crow is in some things in advance of the human family. There are scarecrows which scared our grandfathers, and which are just as fearsome to us. In spite of the fact that some scientific investigators say, "There's nothing to be afraid of. A scarecrow can't hurt you," the bulk of men and women still believe the scarecrow is a powerful and destroying fetish.

This attitude is most marked in relation to certain forms of disease. In diseases of the lungs and respiratory organs, for instance, it is the custom to assume that there is no cure for the cough, no help for the hemorrhage, no healing for the lungs. The scarecrow, Consumption, is set up, often taking the form of some inexperienced and unskillful practitioner who denies hope or help to the victim of disease.

Yet the records go to show that stubborn coughs have been cured, that persistent hemorrhages have been stopped, and that weak lungs have been made strong by the use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery.

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