

JOHN BULL CUTS HIS NAVAL BUDGET BY TWELVE MILLION DOLLARS

THE ENGLISH GOVERNMENT recently made the announcement that the naval expense budget for this year had been cut twelve million dollars. Nevertheless John Bull's naval expense for this year will be over \$290,000,000.

Although the total cost of the navy this year is to be reduced as an economy measure, the estimate provides for increasing the cost of new construction from \$35,000,000 to \$45,000,000.

The new construction includes the immediate building of three cruisers, six submarines and a number of auxiliary ships. Included also is the building of a new floating dock at Singapore.

The British admiralty makes the statement that the \$12,000,000 reduction is made possible by extending the new construction over a period of five years and the "favorable aspect of the political horizon."

John Bull is not having a very favorable outlook just at the present time. His troubles with the colonies have now been augmented by plenty of trouble at home.

THE THEATER COUGH

Theaters managers in London are waging a battle against the "theater cough." One manager is giving out cough drops to the assembled "guests" in an effort to remove the static sufficiently for the other members of the audience to enjoy the performance.

London however has nothing on Philadelphia in this respect. The Philadelphia Forum season ticket bears the following pertinent suggestion: "Out of consideration to the health and enjoyment of others, it is courteously suggested that, during the continuance of a cold or cough, the owner of this ticket may deem it wise to refrain from attendance at all events of the Philadelphia Forum."

The effort of the Forum bore fruit for the first few performances, but after that, all caution was thrown to the winds, and during the lectures of the recent week or so, the chorus of barking has quite drowned the efforts of the men on the platform. One would imagine half the audience to be in the last stages of consumption.

The nuisance of the "theater cough" may be laid to colds only in part. Any psychologist will assure the timid member of the audience that the great majority of apparent sufferers have not the slightest affection of the throat, but simply cough in unconscious imitation of the few who have come to the entertainment in defiance of good form. They cough for the same reason one yawns when one sees another yawn.

The removal of cough static in the modern theater is not so much a matter for the distribution of cough drops as it is for a continuing education of entertainment patrons in the truth that nine times out of 10 a cough like a sneeze may be averted.

—Philadelphia Bulletin.

THE THINGS WE LOVE THE BEST

By George Eliot.

WE COULD never have loved the earth so well if we had had no childhood in it, if it were not the earth where the same flowers come up again every spring that we used to gather with our tiny fingers as we sat lipping to ourselves on the grass; the same hips and haws on the autumn hedgerows; the same redbreasts that we used to call God's birds because they did no harm to the precious crops.

What novelty is worth that sweet monotony where everything is known, and loved because it is known?

HE WHO LIVES MOST

To live is to know, to hope, to love, to admire, to do good. He has lived most whom in his mind, in his heart, and in his works has loved most.

—Renan.

LOVE ALL

Love all, trust few,
Do wrong to none; be able for thine enemy
Rather in power than use; and keep thy tongue
Under thine own life's key; be checked for silence.
But never taxed for speech.

—Shakespeare.

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LOVE

By Vera E. Adama

How wonderful is Love!

Yes, Love is wonderful. But what is Love?

It is not anything that men call love:

Love is impartial, universal good.

It giveth all, yet asks naught in return.

Love never envies—nay, for Love has all;

And though it gives all, still has all to give;

Love is the wisdom that doth understand

All that men need, the substance that supplies.

Love never fails: it is th' untiring Mind

That vigil keeps above a sleeping world

And waits for it to wake—and still is Love;

And when it wakes, is Love forevermore.

And Love is Truth—that Truth which makes men free;

And Love is Life—that Life which knows no death.

Love knows no evil, but is only good;

For God is good,

And Love is God.

HIGH COST OF BRIDES

TWO HUNDRED Russian youths, wishing to marry, petitioned the government to abolish the present system of "selling marriageable girls like cattle." The cost of living is high, the swains say they cannot pay the parents the prevailing compensation for young brides, which consists of \$100 in cash, 100 pounds of sugar, thirty-five pounds of butter, four pounds of Chinese tea, thirty-five pounds of honey and two pairs of shoes. In addition to this the bride receives from her spouse a dowry comprising ten yards of material for a coat, nine yards of satin, three woolen shawls, two pairs of shoes, a woolen neckerchief, and a set of necklaces and a bracelet made of old silver coins.

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