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GREAT ENGLISH HOMES.

It is a pathetic fact that there are several men in the United Kingdom who would consider themselves on the brink of bankruptcy if they were reduced, by any evil stroke of fate, to a mere pittance of £1000 a week—who would find it simply impossible to rub along anyhow on the income of a simple millionaire, which would be barely sufficient in some cases to pay the expenses of the lordly pleasure houses which they have inherited from their ancestors.

The Duke of Devonshire, for example, has no fewer than seven of these stately homes—six in England and one in Ireland—each of them fit for the reception of a king, and in not one of which, as he confessed the other day, has he lived long enough to explore thoroughly. Probably he himself does not know within £1000 how much these palatial homes cost yearly to maintain, but the annual cost has been said to make a very big hole in £100,000.

In Wentworth, Woodhouse, which is only one of his four palaces, Lord Fitzwilliams owns the largest private house in England. It has a frontage of 800 feet, its hall is so enormous that four suburban villas could be built inside it, and its owner could live in a different room every day for six weeks and still leave several rooms unseem.

At Walbeck he has more than 30 acres of kitchen gardens alone; in the glass houses and garden proper he employs about 70 men and boys, and his horticultural bill for this one house is said to exceed £6000 a year. Blenheim palace, the Duke of Marlborough's Oxford seat, is so colossal that the late duke used to declare he spent £800 a year on putty alone for his window panes.

The Duke of Northumberland owns five stately seats, at one of which—Syon House, Bentford—a staff of 30 or 40 men is kept busy, largely in the magnificent kitchen garden and fruit houses. And yet the duke spends only a small portion of the year in this princely home, the rental value of which probably exceeds the Lord Chancellor's official home.

The Marquis of Bute has five seats in England, Scotland and Wales, and one of them, Mountstuart, Rothesay, covers an acre of ground, has 150 rooms and has actually cost over £2,000,000, representing even at a moderate four per cent, a value of £80,000 a year. One can easily understand that his lordship's income is £230,000 pounds a year is not a penny too much for the demands on it.

RESULTS OF THE RATE LAW.

The effects of the new railroad rate law are explained in a report of congress just made by the interstate commerce commission. It is pleasant to note that the commission says: "By railway managers, almost without exception, the amended law has

been accepted in good faith, and they exhibit for the most part a sincere and earnest disposition to conform their methods to its requirements. To a gratifying extent there has been readjustment of rates and correction of abuses by the carriers themselves, and it is not too much to say that there is now a freedom from forbidden discrimination which is actual and general to a degree never before approached."

The commission expresses special gratification at "the general and marked improvement in transportation conditions," saying: "The amended law with its enforceable remedies, the wider recognition of its fundamental justice, the quickened sense of public obligation on the part of railway managers, the clearer perception by shippers of all classes that any individual advantage is morally, as well as legally, indefensible, and the augmented influence of the commission resulting from its increased authority, have combined to materially diminish offensive practices of every sort, and to signally promote the purposes for which the law was enacted."

PECULIAR AND PERTINENT.

In 1769 a body of volunteers, consisting entirely of Jews, was formed in Charleston, S. C., and fought under General Moultrie.

The Nobel prizes were suggested by the eighth earl of Bridgewater, son of the bishop of Durham. He left \$40,000 to be paid to the author of the best treatise on "The Power, Wisdom and Goodness of God as Manifested in the Creation." The judges divided the money among eight persons.

The American electric street railway at Seoul, Korea, carried 13,174 passengers daily in 1906; the car mileage was 398,516; the equipment is 3, passengers and 18 freight cars, with 12 miles of track with overhead trolley. One injury occurred in 1906. Net earnings were \$25,324, 48 per cent over 1905.

A strange military body is a troop of cavalry at St. de Moorway, a province on the east coast of Africa, which is under the rule of the French governor general at Madagascar. These soldiers go about their military operations on oxen. The animals are lean creatures and they move with surprising rapidity.

The coming campaign for United States senator promises to be one of the liveliest in our history under the primary system. Senator Fulton states that he will soon be home to answer the charges made by Francis J. Heney. Heney states that he will probably return to the state before the primary election. We all know that Heney is a fighter and those who personally know Senator Fulton, are well aware that he is no quitter and there will be something doing upon his arrival. Governor Chamberlain may be forced to make a few additional remarks when the fireworks begin to illuminate the political horizon.

The people generally took to the idea of growing asters last year and there were so many pretty yards that heretofore took little if any interest in flowers, that this year the members of the Neighborhood club feel confident that there will be more than twice as many yards in the competition for honors as there were last year. Let us all grow a prize aster bed this year. Of course, we cannot all win the prize; nevertheless, the satisfaction of adding beauty to the home and our city is sufficient to cause us to make the attempt, especially when we know so many others will.

The Roosevelt administration has made thousands upon thousands of votes for the republican party. The young men of the country are keeping abreast with the times and are not slow in recognizing that the readjustment of corporate power must come through the republican party—the party of affirmation, not of negation. The registration books throughout the country show a large percentage of the young men registering for the first time, are associating themselves with the republican party.

The civic improvement suggestions by the Neighborhood club will meet with the hearty approval of our citizens. A few garbage cans scattered throughout the business district would add greatly to the appearance of the streets. Ten or a dozen, the cost would only be a trifle, would be the means of keeping the business section quite free from a lot of trash that under present conditions must of necessity be thrown into the streets.

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ANDERSONVILLE PRISON KEEPER SUBJECT OF BITTER FIGHT

Washington, Feb. 6.—At a private meeting of the Union veterans scheduled for this evening, it is expected that means will be discussed to prevent the proposed erection by southern women of a monument to the memory of Major Henry Wirz, the confederate officer who was in charge of Andersonville prison during the civil war. Major Wirz was charged with inhuman treatment of Union soldiers taken as prisoners and was tried, convicted and hanged. The monument project has aroused the bitterest feeling among Grand Army men throughout the country, and it is likely that the meeting of protest here will be followed by similar gatherings throughout the east and north. Conservative veterans on both sides fear that the matter will result in a revival of the hatred between the people of the north and south. The fund for the monument was raised by women of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. It is proposed to unveil the memorial on Jefferson Davis' birthday.

The inscriptions for the monument have been supplied by Mrs. Gordin Young, historian of the Georgia division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, and include the following: "In memory of Maj. Henry Wirz, C. S. A. Born in Zurich, Switzerland. Tried by illegal court-martial under false charges of excessive cruelty to federal prisoners, sentenced and judicially murdered at Washington, D. C., November 10, 1865.

"That the United States government, not Maj. Wirz, is chargeable with the suffering at Andersonville, there is abundant proof furnished by friend and foe. Let the fact that he chose an ignominious death rather than bear false witness against President Davis, speak for his high qualities of honor, fortitude and self-sacrifice.

"To rescue his memory from the stigma attached to it by imbittered prejudice and ignorance, and to restore it to its rightful place among men, the Georgia Division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy has raised this shaft."

Commander Newton Ferree, of the department of the Potomac, Grand Army of the Republic, is one of the leaders in the movement for the prevention of the erection of the Wirz monument.

"The propose such a memorial to such a man is the act of a lot of silly and scatter-brained sentimentalists and of women whose sole object is to attain notoriety," declared Commander Ferree. "To build a monument to a murderer will have tendency to destroy the good feeling now existing between the veterans of the north and south and I believe all true soldiers of Dixie will resent such a proposal.

"Wirz was a cruel and heartless assassin and not a brave or gallant soldier. Hanging was too good for him. He was not a field soldier, but a prison keeper, and never performed an act of valor that would entitle him to a little white slab, much less a great and imposing monument such as those women propose to erect at Andersonville. If we are to have in

N. K. WEST AS A STAR

Do you know this gentleman?

A. O. Fisher made a business trip to Summerville today. C. R. Hibberd, Wade Brooks and James Childers are taking in a fey coyotes with hounds. While every one worries about lights in La Grande, A. Page has his own power and wears the smile that won't come off. Nice rain here last night. George L. Cleaver transacted business here yesterday. W. R. Dredge will give a dance in the Bonton hall Friday evening. J. L. McKinnis has been very sick in California. Mrs. Isaac Bingerman is on the sick list. Miss Etta Cable visited Elgin today. Lucile B. Lloyd has returned to Portland. Anderson Bros. have bought a sawmill at Elgin and have purchased timber west of Summerville, and will saw this season. This means another lumber yard for Imbler. W. A. Stringham is daily receiving large supplies of spring goods. B. Oldenburg of Fruit Lane, visited La Grande today.

IMBLER ITEMS

HELD UP IN DAYLIGHT

What is called by some to be a daring hold-up in broad daylight, and by others, to be of a much lesser importance, occurred yesterday afternoon about 4 o'clock when Mike Rees, a timberman of Perry, was knocked down and his pockets rifled by four rough-appearing individuals, who have since gone west.

While attempts at a hold-up were made, there was not sufficient evidence obtainable to justify the officials in making a case of the fracas. Rees saw four men drinking on the sidewalk in front of the Roesch brewery and approached them, asking to join the toast. The party did and while Rees was putting away the firewater, one of the party picked his pockets, but only found a knife. Rees states that he was unceremoniously knocked down immediately afterwards.

The four were arrested by the city police a short time after on information filed by the victim. This morning, however, the four were allowed their freedom as the plaintiff failed to give definite charges against them. They were ushered out of the city this afternoon by Chief of Police Walden.

NEW FOOTBALL IS SCIENTIFIC



Sure you do. One could not fail to distinguish the handsome features of N. K. West. Behold the halo around his head; that is because he has not smoked a cigarette for two whole days.

There is no use talking; when a town can produce such attractions as N. K., it certainly is "going some." Watch for the great noonday parade of the "Elks Minstrels" on Tuesday, the 11th, and you will see N. K. shining in all his glory.

A rehearsal was held last evening by a number of the leading artists who will appear at the great minstrel performance.

The best male singers in town are to appear before the public on the evenings of the 11th and 12th.

Just look at this list and judge for yourself: George S. Birnie, baritone. C. E. Cochran, baritone. Geo. T. Cochran, basso. F. C. Bramwell, basso. C. P. Ferrin, tenor. W. K. Davis, tenor. H. M. Monson, baritone. A. E. Draper, baritone. Harry Miller, tenor. H. E. Coolidge, La Grande's favorite actor.

A. B. Huelat, the world's renowned monologist. W. S. Allinson, the minstrel king. J. B. Gilham, "Sweet Singer." G. M. Richey, in catchy songs. Charles Cross, song and dance artist.

Adna Rogers, world's greatest comedian. Clyde Sullivan, the rising young "star."

And a chorus of over 30 male voices in harmonizing melodies. Besides the world's greatest sourette, Miss Etta Foley.

Remember the dates—Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, February 11 and 12. Reserved seats will be on sale for both performances Saturday morning, February 8.

Something doing when Daly and Williams meet in that 15-round go Friday night.

A more peculiar, more scientific and more brilliant game of football may be expected as the result of the changes made by the football rules committee at its meeting a week ago Saturday. The alteration of the rule regarding the forward pass, while merely drawn in one form of an alteration of the penalty, will mean that the pass will assume entirely new features and that coaches will have to do a great deal of thinking to get the benefit of the pass without a chance of being penalized.

The great trouble with the forward pass was that it depended almost entirely on luck for its success. As a result many a team, not knowing any better means of advancing the ball, would throw it down the field in the blind hope of its recovery. Not only the backs and the ends, but also the linemen would rush down and to the fleetest went the ball.

Referees could not tell in the indiscriminate mixup for whom the pass was intended. They were at a loss to find just where the ball hit the ground because the players piled in and all became onside. The new rule will alter this. Only the players who can legally touch the ball on the side making the pass, are allowed to recover it, and if one of them has already touched it, only he can regain it. The result is that the penalty for a bad pass—the loss of the ball—will be applied whenever the pass is not handled by the man for whom it was intended.

Coaches must carefully study the conditions under which the play may be used, and will not be able to risk the pass as often as last season. Besides, they will be better protected in making their plays, for the rules committee took the pains to define under what circumstances anything in the nature of holding or tackling might be allowed while the ball is in the air on a pass.

Notice of First Meeting of Creditors. In the District Court of the United States for the District of Oregon. In the matter of K. Mizoguchi, a bankrupt.

In Bankruptcy. To the Creditors of K. Mizoguchi, of La Grande, in the County of Union and District Aforesaid, a Bankrupt: Notice is hereby given that on the 31st day of January, A. D. 1908, the said K. Mizoguchi was duly adjudicated bankrupt; and that the first meeting of his creditors will be held in the office of the referee in bankruptcy in La Grande, Oregon, on the 17th day of February, A. D. 1908, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, at which time the said creditors may attend, prove their claims, appoint a trustee, examine the bankrupt and transact such other business as may properly come before said meeting. February 6, 1908.

JNO. S. HODGIN, Referee in Bankruptcy.

Eastern Poultry. Three carloads of poultry from the middle west reached San Francisco one day last week and yet the demand took the supply without any reduction of prices.

Something doing when Daly and Williams meet in that 15-round go Friday night.