

# PAPERS BY THE PEOPLE

## MAN'S FRIEND—THE DOG.



Man loves the dog, but how much more would he love him if he considered in the inflexible ensemble of the laws of nature the unique exception of the love of a being which, in order to approach us, succeeds in passing through the partitions, impermeable to everything else, that separate us from their species.

We are alone, absolutely alone, on this planet of chance, and among all the forms of life which surround us not one except the dog has made an alliance with us. Some beings fear us, the majority do not know us, and none love us. In the world of plants we have mute and immobile slaves, but they serve us in spite of themselves. They submit simply to our laws and our yoke. They are powerless prisoners, victims incapable of flight, but silently rebel, and as soon as we lose sight of them they hasten to play us false, and return to their savage and malevolent liberty of former times. Had they wings, the rose and the grain would flee at our approach, as the birds fly from us.

The dog is an animal truly privileged. In this world he occupies a situation unique and enviable of all others. He is the only living being that has found and recognized an indubitable, tangible, undeniable and definite god. He knows to whom to devote the best of himself. He need not search a perfect power, superior and infinite in shadows, successive duties, hypotheses, and dreams. It is there before him. He knows the supreme duties of which we are all ignorant. He has a morality that surpasses all that he discovers within himself, and which he can practice without scruple and without fear. He possesses the truth in its fullness. He has an infinite and certain ideal.

## THE MUSIC OF THE STARS.



The closing years of the nineteenth century marked an epoch of discovery both in heaven above and earth beneath. The opening years of the twentieth century have not falsified the promise the dying century gave. Some remarkable discoveries have already been made, and that we shall communicate with Mars is not so visionary a dream as was once considered. The latest discovery has a significant bearing upon that point. Prof. Albertson has just announced that he has invented an apparatus by which he can detect sounds from the far-off stars and listen to the music of the spheres. The quantity and quality of the sounds which appear, are dependent upon the kind of light that impinges upon the tympanum, or focusing disk, of his apparatus.

We read that when God had finished his creation of the world, "the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy." Commentators and others have been at a loss how to interpret the phrase, "the morning stars sang together," or in harmony. Some said it was metaphorical language, others that it was poetic license, and all agreed it could not be taken literally. But now Prof. Albertson comes forward with his receiving machine and tells us it is a demonstrable fact that the nearest

## THE NELSON OF RUSSIA.

Admiral Robert Wiren Idolized by His Followers.

Admiral Robert Wiren, to whom the command of the remnant of the Russian fleet at Port Arthur has been entrusted, is one of the most remarkable men of his own or any other navy; for hundreds of Russian blue-jackets believe that he is Nelson born again as a Russian. And thousands of others who draw the line at this are convinced that he is a man with a destiny.

In person he is short and spare of build, with a slight wiry mustache,



ADMIRAL WIREN.

and light curly hair now turning gray. His eyes are perhaps his most remarkable feature, quizzical blue eyes that laugh gently, but which upon occasion can cow the most mutinous sailor into childlike faith and obedience. Personal magnetism is his to an extraordinary degree—the gift of making men believe and trust in him. If any man can extricate the Russian fleet from its plight and peril, Admiral Wiren, till lately junior captain in the Russian navy, is the man to do it.

Anecdotes of Admiral Wiren are innumerable in the Russian navy. He was in early life a cadet on the Peter Veliky, and went away in a boat. Three miles from the ship the boat upset in a squall. It was night, and the boat was not expected back for some hours, so that rescue was practically out of the question. On board the Peter Veliky, however, a brother officer was suddenly seized with the idea that Wiren was in danger, and on his own responsibility he lowered

By Maurice Marterlinck.

planets and farthest stars each gives forth a sound producing angelic harmony or diabolical discord to human ears. But how are these different notes and sounds produced? In two ways; first, by the motion of the stars through space, and, second, by their inherent or reflected light. The spheres by their motion through space communicate motion to the ether which is propagated in waves to the earth. The light as a mode of energy also sets the ether in motion, and undulating through infinite space impinges upon the earth and so falls upon the ear. Both produce by vibration of the auricular tympanum harmonious sounds in sweetest strains of melody—the music of the stars!

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?



According to the Spanish historian, Herrera, a name alone decided two French ambassadors in their choice of a queen for Louis VIII. The choice lay between two Spanish princesses, one with a pretty face but an ugly name, the other with a plain face but a pretty name. The plain princess, having the good fortune to be named "Blanche," was chosen, because, contended the ambassadors, the name of the pretty princess, "Urraca," was impossible! The Spaniards themselves are the most sensitive people in Europe to the sound of names. Fuller says that in the reign of Elizabeth the Spanish ambassador was mortally affronted when he learned that the queen had deputed a wealthy London citizen, named John Cuts, to receive him! The whole offense lay in the undignified curtness of "John Cuts"—not certainly an imposing name.

Apropos of political nicknames, it is curious to think that the name of a worthy French minister of state should be immortalized as the name of a special kind of portrait. Silhouette was an honest but narrow French finance minister, who in 1759 tried to fill a depleted treasury by new economies instead of by new taxes. His suggested economies, however, were so niggling and fantastic that the wits of Paris burlesqued them by cutting the tails and sleeves off their coats, and by having their portraits drawn in profile by a black pencil on the shadow cast on the paper by a candle! And this shadow picture they christened after the minister who suggested so odd an economy of feature.

## DIVORCE LEADS TO POLYGAMY.



Polygamy is practiced to-day, where men have several wives, without the inconvenience and expense of keeping them together. We are going back to polygamy, and we are going back to where we were before Christianity corrected the evil. The condition of woman in pagan times made her the slave of man; she was degraded by polygamy, degraded by divorce. If Christianity loses its hold woman will sink by divorce to the level from whence she was raised, sink by polygamy and the brutality of unchristian men.

## RUSSIA'S UNDERGROUND QUARTERS AT HARBIN.



Harbin, northeast of Mukden, on the line of the Transiberian Railway, has been made "a shelter in the time of storm" by the Russian army. Deeming the city safe from the Japanese for some time, the Russians have established well protected winter quarters there and have even gone so far as to build, or, better, dig, many underground dwellings. These serve a double purpose. They afford protection against cold and snow and also against the bullets and shells with which the Japs are certain to bombard them if the Mikado's doughty little fighters penetrate that far north. The practice of building underground quarters is an old one. During the sieges of practically all the cities in the various European wars soldiers and citizens lived at times in cellars and caves. In Paris hundreds of terrified people fled to the sewers on some occasions. In the Civil War here in America underground habitations were sometimes resorted to. During the bombardments of Atlanta and Charleston the women and children were in many cases placed in cellars and cave-like "bomb proofs."

a boat and started to look for him. By providence or chance he, working blindly in the darkness, came upon the capsized plunace, with Wiren, the sole survivor, clinging to it in the last stages of exhaustion. Little wonder that, in the hour of defeat, Russians remember this incident and see in it some destiny at work.

Later on Wiren quelled a mutiny single-handed, and during the last few years has been the right-hand man of the Grand Duke Alexander in the fight for efficiency.

## Pin Prick Led to Victory.

Nelson gained his great victory of the Nile through a pin prick. It came about in this way: Sir John Acton, then commander in chief of the land and sea forces of Naples, happened to be in his wife's dressing room at the moment she was preparing for dinner.

Lady Acton's French maid was also in the room, and was so startled at receiving a letter from her brother, a sailor in the French navy, whom she believed to be dead, that she ran a pin into her mistress' flesh.

Apologizing for her carelessness, the maid stated the cause of her surprise. With carefully suppressed eagerness Sir John offered to read the letter while the maid continued her duties. The maid gladly consented.

Having read the letter, the commander in chief left the house in search of Lord Nelson, who had in vain been seeking the French fleet. He found him and imparted to him the contents of the letter.

It gave all the information the admiral had so long endeavored to obtain.

Setting sail immediately, Nelson came up with the French, and the victory of the Nile was the result.—Stray Stories.

## Man Against Man.

When Senator Hanna, as chairman of the National Republican Committee, was conducting the campaign in 1900 he was annoyed by a man who applied for the position of messenger at the national headquarters. The man called to see the Senator four days in succession to present his application and urge his claims.

After his fourth visit Senator Hanna sent for the man who was serving as messenger. "You saw that man who was here just now?" inquired Hanna.

"Yes, sir," said the messenger. "Do you know what he wants?"

"No, sir." "Well, he wants your place, and if I see him again he will get it." Senator Hanna never saw the persistent applicant again.

## Mean Many Things.

There are words in the Chinese language which have as many as forty different meanings.

Dr. Watanabe, the Japanese mining expert, estimates that the one-fourth of the new Invaite gold fields he examined will yield \$500,000,000. The other three-fourths is being explored by the Japanese government.

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