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PROMINENT PEOPLE

Men Who Have Made the World Famous by Their Works.

HAVE ACHIEVED GREATNESS

Brief History of Some of the Notable Men of the Country and What They Are Doing to Benefit Human Race and in the Line of Invention.



THOMAS A. EDISON.

At a dinner given by the Magnetic club in New York recently in honor of Thomas A. Edison it developed that Mr. Edison was the first man to use "Hello" as the opening word of a telephonic conversation. In the early days of the speech carrying wire those who employed it greeted each other with the awkward phrase, "Are you there?" One day Edison had occasion to step to a telephone instrument for his first actual use of it outside the laboratory. As in reply to his own ring the signal came back from the other line he called out "Hello!" and in a marvelously brief time the new word had been accepted all over the civilized world. At the same dinner Fourth Assistant Postmaster General F. V. De Graw, who as a Western Union telegrapher years ago was one of eight men picked by Mr. Edison to help him in certain experiments, the object of which was, in telegraphic parlance, "to get the bugs out of the wires," told how he attended Mr. Edison's first experiment in public with the just invented phonograph, two of those present being Sam Cox and the late Senator Beck. As the instrument reeled off a popular tune Senator Beck was heard to lean over to Cox and ask him what he thought, and the latter was heard to reply: "Oh, begorra, man, he's throwin' his voice, the fellow is!"

A strenuous life has been the lot of the Rev. Dr. Cyrus Townsend Brady, who was recently called to a prominent Episcopal church in Toledo, O., and whose recent story, "Sir Henry Morgan, Buccaneer," has been much praised. Although clergymen often engage in literary work, it is the exception when a minister is a success as a writer of romance and also in his sacred calling. Dr. Brady is recognized as both a successful writer of fiction and a brilliant preacher. His addresses from the pulpit possess an earnestness akin to the dramatic force of his romances of war and colonial and mediaeval history. Dr. Brady comes naturally by a love for writing of war, for three of the author's forefathers fought in the Revolution, the younger at the battle of Germantown fighting over the body of his father until he himself was wounded. Another ancestor was a major general under Scott, and Captain Sam Brady of border warfare fame is still remembered in western Pennsylvania. Dr. Brady, who was born in the Keystone State forty-four

years ago, was a cadet at the United States Naval academy at Annapolis, where he learned naval tactics. Later in his career he was chaplain of a regiment in the Spanish war. As a missionary in the west he rode bucking bronchos, swam rivers to keep missionary appointments, fraternized with cowboys, was caught in blizzards and experienced other vicissitudes. Yet the author says, "My life has been rather uneventful, though full of bustling poverty—and fun."

Eugene E. Schmitz, the labor mayor of San Francisco, has pronounced views on the subject of the "yellow peril," which have recently brought his name into print. Mayor Schmitz thinks the immigration of Japanese into the United States ought to be prevented by even more stringent laws than have been adopted in the case of the Chinese. He bases this opinion on the effect a large influx of the Japanese might have on the condition of the American workman. "We may say that the Japanese is enlightened," says Mayor Schmitz, "and, this being true, his education prompts him to adopt American ways and thus, with his cheap labor, dig at the foundation upon which rests the welfare of our people. Where a Chinese will work upon a farm at starvation wages a Japanese has the ability to acquire the property itself."

Mr. Schmitz was elected mayor of San Francisco as the candidate of union labor. He is forty years of age and has had a unique career. As a youth he began the study of medicine, but after two years gave it up because of ill health. Being of musical tastes he entered a theater orchestra. For some years he was musical director of the Columbia theater, San Francisco, and president of the musicians' union. He became connected with a gas engine company and went to the Klondike in its interests, where he made considerable money. Mayor Schmitz likes to tell how he once performed at an entertainment in Dawson, which was the grandest event of the mining season, with seats at \$20 each. He had put on a disguise and was introduced by an old miner named Billy Bard as follows: "Ladies and gentlemen, the next thing on the programme will be a fiddle solo by a miner who has worked for me all winter; at least he says he has. He's a sour dough stiff by the name of Smith. If he can't play better than he can mine I'm sorry for the audience."

But the violin solo made such a hit that Schmitz was recalled again and again, and one auditor was heard to remark, "That cove had never ought to be in the mining business."

Judge Edward F. Dunne, who was recently chosen mayor of Chicago, occupies a unique position in that he was elected on a platform declaring in the most positive terms for municipal ownership of public utilities. Party lines were lost sight of in the contest, and the sentiment in Chicago against all compromise with the traction companies resulted in a majority of nearly 25,000 for Judge Dunne.

The new mayor was born in Waterville, Conn., in 1853, but most of his life has been passed in the state of Illinois. His parents removed to Peoria, Ill., when he was an infant. He was sent to Trinity college, Dublin, and on returning to America studied law. He began its practice in Chicago in 1878, was elected judge of the circuit court of Chicago in 1892 and re-elected in 1897 and in 1903. In 1881 he married Miss Elizabeth J. Kelly,

and the happy couple have had thirteen children, ten of whom are now living. When Judge Dunne went to the polls to vote some one asked him what he would do if he were not elected mayor. He replied: "Go back on the bench. If I am elected I get the same salary I am now receiving for two years. If I am defeated I will get my salary as judge for four years and three months."

The American public naturally takes an interest in any one who is descended from the great Maine statesman, the late James G. Blaine. A young man now prominent in the younger social circles in New York and Newport is James G. Blaine III. He is the grandson of the statesman who so narrowly missed the presidency and a son of James G. Blaine, Jr. A separation took place between the latter and his first wife, and she afterward married Dr. William Tillinghast Bull. James G. Blaine III. lives with his mother in New York city and is now at school. He is an expert tennis player and when Mrs. Bull is at Newport spends much time on the casino courts or on the lawn of his mother's country residence.

Brigadier General Peter C. Hains, U. S. A., retired, who has been appointed on the reorganized Isthmian canal commission by President Roosevelt, has been connected with many extensive engineering undertakings in the course of his career. He did important work as a member of the commission which, during the initial stages of the enterprise, had charge of the project of a waterway to connect the oceans. General Hains was born in Philadelphia in 1840 and graduated from the United States Military academy at West Point in 1861. He served as an engineer officer during the civil war and received three brevets for gallant service. During the Spanish war he was a brigadier general of volunteers, and in 1903 he became a brigadier general of the regular army, going on the retired list in July of that year. One of the important engineering achievements with which he was connected was the reclamation of the Potomac flats at Washington. President McKinley appointed him a member of the Nicaragua canal commission in 1897, and again in 1899 named him as a member of the Isthmian canal commission. He was engaged for several years in surveys and other calculations to determine the best route for a waterway between the Atlantic and Pacific and now will participate in the execution of the project.

M. Kokovsoff, the Russian minister of finance, recently challenged any one to prove the inaccuracy of his statement about the condition of the gold reserve of his government. He declared he would give an opportunity to duly authorized representatives of certain journals which had criticized the Russian finances to take a look into the strong rooms of the Bank of Russia and see for themselves that the reserve was there. In these apartments is kept the gold constituting the treasury by which the credit of the government is sustained. According to Russian law, only a small part of the reserve may be diverted for war purposes.

COUNTESS OF ROSSLYN.

American Actress Who Has Married Into English Aristocracy.

A new "international alliance" is that between the Earl of Rosslyn and Miss Anna Robinson, an American actress. The earl is a peer of Scotland. His most noted achievement, however, is a method for breaking the bank at Monte Carlo. So far it has not made



THE COUNTESS OF ROSSLYN.

the earl rich. With his title he inherited a fortune of \$1,500,000, but squandered it and became a bankrupt. Then he worked as a clerk for \$10 a week, was a correspondent in South Africa during the Boer war and at various times tried acting as a means of subsistence. A few seasons ago he appeared on the stage in New York. His marriage to Miss Robinson took place in London a short time ago.

The Countess of Rosslyn, as Miss Robinson is now known, was born in Minneapolis, Minn., where her mother kept a boarding house. She became an artist's model and later went on the stage. Her best known role was that of Ruth in "A Temperance Town." Of recent years she has lived in London and Paris, winning money on the turf and entertaining the gay set.

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