

# THE OREGON SCOUT.

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UNION. - - - OREGON.

## Hand Over the \$10,000.

The quickest trial on record for breach of promise was begun and ended at Columbus, Ohio, on the 19th. Anna Webster, of Morgan county, visited that place in 1884 and met George Williams, a wealthy farmer of Lockburne. They were engaged and kept up a very loving correspondence until the spring of 1885, when she heard of his marriage to another just as she was making her own wedding dress. She didn't swoon, but sued for \$10,000, using his letters for evidence. The case was concluded in the morning, and the jury gave a verdict for \$3,400 by sunset. As George made no answer he cannot appeal, but only took over.

## Down With Postal Telegraph.

The house committee on postoffices and post-roads unanimously agreed to report adversely all bills before it for the purchase or construction of telegraph lines by the government. March 2 and 4 the committee will hear arguments from all persons who desire to address the committee on the subject of government contracts with telegraph companies.

## THE FORTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

A Record of Proceedings in Both Branches of the Same.

SENATE, Feb. 15.—Senator Van Wyck submitted an amendment to the house bill to increase pensions of widows and dependent relatives of deceased soldiers and sailors, providing that minor children shall receive \$5 per month when one parent is deceased, and \$10 when both parents are deceased; that the pensionable age be extended to 18 years; and that fathers and mothers shall only be required to prove dependence at the time of the application for pension. Senator Van Wyck, from the committee on public lands, reported favorably the bill to establish two additional land districts in the state of Nebraska, and authorizing the secretary of the interior to grant and receive therefor. Senator Conner, from the committee on postoffices and post-roads, reported favorably the bill granting to Mrs. Julia D. Grant the franking privilege. Passed. A resolution offered by Senator Henderson was agreed to, directing the secretary of the interior to inform the senate what had been granted to land grant railroads and the number paid for. On motion of Senator Daves the senate took up and passed the bill reported from the committee on Indian affairs for the relief of the Indian Indians in California. A message from the president was laid before the senate transmitting a letter of the secretary of the interior with the draft of a bill providing for the sale of the Sac and Fox Indian reservations in Nebraska and Kansas.

HOUSE, Feb. 15.—Mr. Hanback introduced a bill for a most sweeping inquiry concerning the charges made reflecting on the integrity and official action of certain officers of the government in connection with the Pan-Electric Telephone company. Under the call of the following bills, etc., were introduced and referred: By Mr. Morrison, to reduce tariff taxes; by Mr. Hanback, a resolution calling for the appointment of a special committee consisting of eleven members of this house to make inquiry into any expenditure on the part of the government incurred relative to the rights of the Bell and Pan Electric Telephone companies to priority of patents; said inquiry to include all organizations or companies that have sprung out of the Pan-Electric Telephone company, or for any other purpose; and also to make inquiry into the issuance of stock known as the Pan-Electric Telephone stock, or any other company, companies or organization springing out of the Pan-Electric Telephone company, to any person or persons connected with either the legislative, judicial or executive department of the government of the United States, to whom, when, where, and in what amount, and for what consideration in money, or influence, said stock was delivered.

SENATE, Feb. 16.—The credentials of the re-election of Senator A. P. Gorman were presented by Wilson and were read and filed. A memorial was presented by Plumb from the legislature of Kansas praying congress to provide for the right of way for railroads through Indian Territory. Morrill, from the committee on finance, reported favorably the house bill providing that the treasurer of the United States may, with the consent of the treasury, authorize the assistant treasurer to act in his place, and that in the necessary absence of either, the treasurer, with like consent, may designate a clerk of the treasury department to be acting assistant treasurer. The bill was called forth by an existing emergency in the treasury department. An amendment was adopted providing that the power contained in the bill should expire in sixty days. The educational bill took place, after consideration of pension bills.

HOUSE, Feb. 16.—Mr. James, from the committee on coinage, weights and measures, reported adversely on Bland's bill for the free coinage of silver and it was placed on the calendar. Mr. Bland obtained leave to file a minority report, and stated the house would be asked to consider the bill at the earliest opportunity. Mr. Laird, from the committee on military affairs, reported the bill authorizing the president to raise a regiment of volunteer cavalry in New Mexico and Arizona to suppress Indian hostilities. Mr. Riggs reported back the bill compelling all vessels of the United States to carry mail to and from foreign ports when offered to them by officers of the United States. Mr. J. M. Taylor reported adversely the bill granting pensions to employees of the postal service who have been in service for twenty years.

SENATE, Feb. 17.—Among the bills introduced was one by Senator Morrill in aid of education in the states. Morrill said he intended at an early opportunity to address the senate on the bill, and at his request it was laid on the table for the present. Senator Morrill introduced a bill providing for the erection of a suitable monument at Washington to Gen. Grant. The bill appropriates \$150,000 for the purpose indicated, and provides for a commission of the three senators and three members of the house of representatives to contract for the monument. A resolution offered by Senator Frye was agreed to, calling on the secretary of state for a copy of the report made by Frederick Rains, United States consul at Berlin, on the shipping interests of Germany. The bill providing for the allotment of lands in severally to Indians was taken up, but at 2 o'clock it went over and the consideration of the educational bill was resumed. Without much debate the senate agreed to the amendment proposed by the education committee striking out the special appropriation for school buildings. An amendment proposed by Senator Teller was also agreed to without debate, providing that none of the money appropriated by the bill should be paid to a state until its legislature should accept the provision of the bill. After further discussion but without definite action the senate adjourned.

HOUSE, Feb. 17.—Mr. Jones, from the committee on postoffices and post-roads, reported the bill granting the franking privilege to Julia D. Grant. Mr. McKee, from the committee on public lands, called up and the house passed the bill to protect homesteaders within railway limits. It provides that all such settlers, restricted to less than 160 acres, who make additional entry under the acts of March and July, 1879, shall be entitled to have lands covered by the additional entry without any further cost or proof of settlement or cultivation. The house then went into committee of the whole on the Fitz John Porter bill. Mr. Laird delivered a carefully prepared argument in support of the bill, maintaining that Porter was innocent of any disloyalty either to Pop or to the country, and declaring that Porter's enemies had created mountains of disinformation out of mole hills of discretion, and that the trial and conviction of Porter had been a farce.

SENATE, Feb. 18.—Among the bills introduced was one by Senator Bowen to provide for a new basis for the circulation of national banks. Senator Van Wyck entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which the senate passed the bill granting the right of way for a railroad through the lands of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians. The education bill was taken up and Senator Everts took the floor. He remarked that he was heartily in favor of the bill, but would not speak on it if the senate desired to come to a vote. Senator Blair said that if Everts was going to make a speech somebody would be sure to move an adjournment. This remark was greeted with loud laughter, in which Senator Everts himself heartily joined, and the senate went into executive session and adjourned.

HOUSE, Feb. 18.—Mr. Crisp, from the committee on Pacific railroads, reported a bill amending the Pacific railroad acts so as to compel railroads to pay to the United States the amount paid by it for surveying lands to which they are entitled. In the morning hour the house resumed consideration of the bill for the Atlantic & Pacific land grant. The bill was discussed without any result being reached until the expiration of the morning hour, and then the house went into committee of the whole. Mr. Springer in the chair, on the Fitz John Porter bill. Mr. Brazz closed the debate in support of the bill. Mr. Everhart moved to recommit the bill with instructions to strike out the words, "prior to his appointment under this act," so as to make the proviso read "said Fitz John Porter shall receive no pay, compensation, or allowance whatsoever," suggesting that this gave an opportunity for vindictive action from any question of money, and that the bill was a gross insult. The motion to recommit was lost—yeas 112, nays 173. The bill then passed—yeas 171, nays 113.

SENATE, Feb. 19.—Manderson offered a resolution directing the secretaries of state and war to inquire and report to the senate the facts surrounding the killing of Capt. Crawford, said to have been slain on or about January 10, 1886, by Mexican troops in the state of Sonora. The resolution was taken up and the senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill for the relief of the Indian Indians in California. A message from the president was laid before the senate transmitting a letter of the secretary of the interior with the draft of a bill providing for the sale of the Sac and Fox Indian reservations in Nebraska and Kansas.

HOUSE, Feb. 19.—Kelly renewed his request to have printed in the Record the review of the testimony in the Fitz John Porter case prepared by Judge Advocate Holt. Brazz, who previously objected, said that as the battle was over, he was in favor of general amnesty and would make no objection. The request was granted. Hewitt called up the joint resolution tendering the thanks of congress to Joseph Francis for his life-long services to humanity and his country in the construction and perfection of life-saving appliances, and authorizing the president to have prepared a gold medal to be presented to Mrs. Francis. Passed. Discussion of the silver coinage bill took place, followed by recess until 7:30, the evening session being for consideration of pension bills.

## A GENUINE WILD MAN.

Who is Roaming Abroad in the Forests of Ohio.

Bellefontaine (O.) dispatch: As James Yoder was riding through the woods in Union township, six miles southwest of Bellefontaine, he discovered what he took for a bear crouched near a fire. He fled for assistance to the farm of Warren Alexander. Reinforced by this gentleman and John Harmon they returned, when the apparition proved to be a genuine wild man. The creature was completely naked, but had some resemblance of rags and papers which it was drying at the fire. On closer examination the poor wretch's hair was found to reach to his waist, being plaited in front and hanging below his chin. He was encased with the dirt of ages, and his hair and beard had certainly not been combed for years. He was toasting the entrails of some birds before the fire. He spoke melodiously when addressed, and read from a newspaper that was handed him. He did not appear ferocious, but when one of the party fired off a revolver, he ran away as though greatly frightened. Who he is or where he came from is a mystery. A party will be organized to hunt him and take him into custody.

## Funeral of Ex-Gov. Seymour.

The funeral of ex-Gov. Seymour took place from the old Trinity church, Utica, N. Y., at 2 o'clock on the 16th. Rev. Dr. Goodrich, of Calvary church, offered a prayer at Roscoe Conkling's residence with the family and relatives of the deceased at 1:30 p. m. After the funeral services in the church the remains were taken to Forest Hill cemetery and placed in a chapel of roses, where the sculptor, David Richard, of New York, took a cast of the face preparatory to making a marble bust of the ex-governor. The weather was cold and disagreeable. At 9 o'clock the doors of the Conkling mansion were thrown open for the public to view the remains of the illustrious dead. For three hours crowds of people from Utica and surrounding towns filed into the house and past the casket, taking a last look at the features of the dead statesman. The body reposed in a casket of red cedar, covered with black broadcloth, with oxidized trimmings similarly covered. The lining of the casket was of cut colored satin and the cover for the entire length was glass. An oxidized plate on the cover bore the following inscription: "Horatio Seymour. Born May 31, 1810; died Feb. 12, 1886." A number of very beautiful floral tributes received from Washington, New York, Albany and other places were placed on and about the casket.

## GENERAL NEWS AND NOTES.

The German government has given an order for the manufacture of 30,000 swords for the army.

At the meeting of the Kentucky Distillers' association at Lexington, Ky., it was decided that the production of distilleries should not be decreased, but under no circumstances should it be increased over this year's production.

At Concord, N. H., Bow street is all flooded so that the children have to be transported in boats to school. The water has not been so high at Concord for sixty-three years.

In response to a demand by the street car drivers and conductors of the Newark, N. J., lines, the company agreed to reduce their hours from fifteen to twelve per day.

Following the dissolution of the Transcontinental association, the Union Pacific Railroad, on the 18th, promptly reduced passenger rates from the Missouri river to the Pacific coast one-third to one-half the tariff rates, making the schedule as follows: First class, Omaha to San Francisco, \$50; old rate, \$84. First class, limited, \$50; old rate, \$75; second class, \$25; old rate, \$45. The B. & M., for the Denver & Rio Grande, and the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe for itself, at once met the cut, but no move has yet been made by the Northern Pacific. Freight rates in a demoralized condition, and 20 to 25 per cent. off.

Representatives of twenty-two butterine and oleomargarine manufacturing establishments of the United States met at Pittsburgh for the purpose of protection. It is the intention to test the legality of the law recently passed in New York, Pennsylvania and other states, prohibiting the manufacture of their product.

Senator Morrill, from the committee on finance, reported favorably on the bill which passed the house a few days ago to enable national banking associations to increase the capital stock and to change their names, with the approval of the comptroller of the currency, by a vote of shareholders owning two-thirds of the stock.

A delegation representing ex-union soldiers who had been prisoners of war, addressed the house committee on invalid pensions in advocacy of the bills granting pensions to all who were imprisoned more than sixty days. Gen. Black, commissioner of pensions, addressed the committee in favor of the repeal of the law of 1836, providing for pensions to all widows of soldiers who had served in wars prior to that date.

Postmasters have been appointed thus: In Dakota—At Broadland, L. F. Page, vice Loomis, removed; at Canby, W. S. Knapp, vice Mathison, removed; at Helmeck, E. J. Helmeck, vice J. H. Helmeck, declined. In Iowa—At Rising Sun, E. Porter, vice Roberts, declined. In Nebraska—At Atkinson, M. Kenney, vice Wheeler, removed. Robert Life was shot and fatally wounded by his father, John Life, the noted Green county desperado, near Liletown, Ky. The son upbraided his father for getting drunk and mistreating his family, and the father, in a fit of rage, fired the fatal shot into the back while ringing the bell for dinner.

Gardiner Pepper, of Loest Gap, Pa., was assaulted by two men, who struck him on the head, inflicting fatal injuries. Pepper was a prominent candidate at the recent election, and the assault is supposed to have been the result of political quarrels. His assailants escaped.

Business failures throughout the country during the past seven days numbered for the United States 251; Canada, 35; total, 286, compared with 275 last week, 287 the week previous. The business casualties in the southern states and in Canada are still above the average.

The tow boat Joseph L. Walton, from Pittsburgh to Louisville, struck a piece of the Newport bridge and sunk three barges. Total loss, \$3,000; no insurance.

At McLansboro, Ill., John Mann, a wealthy farmer, was ambushed on the road near his home by two unknown assassins, and shot dead from his horse. The motive for the deed is a mystery.

The annual report of the Chicago & Alton railroad gives the gross earnings in 1885 as \$7,993,169, against \$8,790,225 the previous year. Operating expenses in 1885 were \$4,912,847, and the year before \$5,133,790.

H. H. Russell, of Wooster, will represent Ohio at the inter-state collegiate contest at Lawrence, Kas.

Rev. T. V. Quinn, of Ocoosa, Wis., was found drunk on Broadway, New York, the other day. His nose was bleeding. His watch, worth \$150, was stolen, as well as \$130 in money. He told Justice Wood that he was on his way to Europe and could not account for his humiliating condition. He was temporarily committed.

Hog cholera is prevalent in Middlesex county, Ontario, and a large number of hogs have died. The farmers kept the fact a secret until the disease has spread over a large area. It is reported that a large number of hogs are dying in Oxford county.

## FOREIGN MATTERS IN BRIEF.

It is stated that Morley, chief secretary for Ireland, has so instructed the police and military authorities as to render it virtually impossible to effect evictions.

Count Non Hatzfeldt, German ambassador, has notified Lord Rosebery of the establishment of a German protectorate over Marshall, Providence and Brown islands.

A London dispatch says the court has refused to grant a summons for the editor and publishers of Punch, whom the socialist leaders desire to have committed for contempt of court.

The Greek ministers of war and marine to England threaten to resign unless war against Turkey is declared. The people of Greece, who are anxious for hostilities to begin, are much excited.

Mr. Parnell has prepared a scheme to apply the Irish church surplus not yet exhausted to relieving distress in Ireland. Thirty thousand persons have applied to the mansion house for relief.

It is reported that a plot exists to unite Spain and Portugal under the Duke of Brozanna, and to overthrow the present regime in Spain. The Duke of Montpensier is said to head the intrigue.

Archbishop Walsh of Dublin, has written to Gladstone that the Irish bishops consider that home rule would not effect the union or supremacy of the crown, and urge the suspension of evictions until the head question has been settled.

Count Rottman, minister of foreign affairs, in a speech in the Italian chamber of deputies, in which he said that if peaceable means failed the government would have recourse to forcible measures in order to protect Italian citizens in South America, announced that Italy accepted the mediation of Spain with the United States of Colombia in this matter, on condition that the necessary negotiations be conducted at Madrid instead of Bogota, and that the decision be given within six months.

## THE OLD MOTHER HUBBARD.

When old Mother Hubbard  
Went to the cupboard  
Her costume was modest, though queer.  
As the ham-bone she sought  
Twas little she thought  
How the future would deal with her gear.

When first her old fashion  
Became a strong passion,  
They truthfully copied her gown—  
Of fancies the oddest,  
Short-waisted and modest,  
Long-sleeved, narrow-skirted, and brown.

But the late innovation  
That's shocking the nation  
Leaves her arms, like the cupboard, all bare.  
Of the puffy high neck  
There is left not a speck,  
And too much is revealed of the fair.

The gauzy confusion  
Of lace and illusion  
Would shock Mother Hubbard outright  
She'd never indorse it,  
Nor own to the corset—  
Mayhap she would die of the fright.

—New York Morning Journal.

## THE BRAVEST ARE NOBLEST.

"Lena, you will surely not disappoint me in this; you will not dance with Captain Lemore again?"

"But I will, Clarence; I have promised him the very next waltz, and he's a splendid dancer! And why should I not be as civil to him as to others? He is a gentleman."

"If he was, he would never have made you the subject of an unmanly boast, Lena; refuse him all dances to night, if for no other reason, because I ask it; because you are the one love of my life, Lena!"

The brown eyes of the girl softened, and she laid one white hand on his; the light fell gently upon the two young faces, one so fair and proud, the other dark and wondrous lovely, as Clarence Amherst lifted the white hand to his lips; and then, before Lena Dale could give the promise that trembled on her tongue, a light foot fell scounded on the marble of the conservatory floor, and a tall, military figure advanced toward them.

"Miss Dale, our waltz," he spoke in clear tones that told of habit of command; and the girl, with a sudden movement, drew her hand from the clasp of her lover and, with a warm color on her dark cheek, laid it upon his arm—the newcomer's.

The act was prompted by a sudden, uncontrollable shyness, as she met the captain's cool, half-surprised glance; she had no intention of dancing with him, and yet, how could she now decline when her hand was on his arm and he was leading her away?

A moment later and Clarence, who had followed to the door of the ball room, saw her gliding through the waltz with the man who was his rival, and paled to his very lips.

"You wish your engagement broken? You hold my conduct as blame-worthy? Sir, it is unfortunate that you allow me to see now—before too late—how tyrannical you can be! Consider the words unsaid that bound us. Here is your ring."

Tall and beautiful, with flashing, dusky eyes, and swiftly-pulsing bosom, she stood before Clarence; and, drawing off the gleaming circlet that adorned her head, offered it to him.

"Lena, beloved, you do not understand! I but wish to spare you future mortification! Let me explain!"

"Captain Lemore is waiting. I am to dance with him. You will excuse me from the boredom of intertempore speeches at present. Ah, Captain Lemore!"

Clarence took no notice of the tall, handsome captain who gave him a careless nod as, drawing Lena's hand through his arm, he led her away—that peculiar, foreign gaze was anything but beautiful in his sight just then.

## RUINED PALACES.

The Ruins of the Incas—The Native Population of Central America.

From the Pittsburg Dispatch.

A full bearded gentleman, whose face was slightly bronzed by exposure, was standing on the steps of the postoffice, on Fifth avenue, yesterday, with a packet of foreign letters in his hand, when a Dispatch reporter accosted him.

"The person was Mr. Francis R. Fast, formerly of this city, but now Secretary of the Central American Syndicate Company, with headquarters in New York. Mr. Fast is in the city on a brief business visit, but is fresh from a five months' tour in the States of Central America, having arrived in New York only last week. A keen observer and thorough linguist, Mr. Fast has a wealth of experience stored away regarding those odd little Republics down in the tropics.

"Most, or I might say all, of my traveling was done on the back of a mule with only a servant. I would travel all day and at night, after swinging my hammock under a tree in the public square of the little village where I intended to rest, a crowd of the principal men of the village would gather around and ask innumerable questions about my country in a queer, innocent fashion. After I had told them all, they in turn would relate the traditions of their ancestors; of the fabulous mines of gold and silver; of the Spanish conquest, and the glory of their departed greatness. I traveled from the British Colony of Belize to the Incas' ruins in the Province of Copan, in the Republic of Honduras."

"What do you know of the reported discovery by a priest of a key to the Mexican and Central American hieroglyphics?"

"I know nothing beyond what I have read since my return to New York. I heard nothing of it down there. In fact there is very little in it. I don't see how any key can be obtained that would unlock the Incas' mysteries. There is no vestige of the old language left, and there was no contemporary language that was reduced to writing that I know or ever heard of. But of these Incas' ruins, they are wonderful. You come upon them in the midst of morass and swamp. Miles of magnificent columns, the wreck of the palaces of emperors who ruled before Cortez came. Next to the beauty of their ruins comes the beauty of their pottery, remains of which are to be found within the walls of every temple and palace."

"What was the most striking thing in the way of ruins that you encountered?"

"A wonderful road. The Applan way has been the boast of antiquarians for ages, but what do you think of a road sixty miles long in the heart of Central America, constructed over mountain and through morass and jungle, and exquisitely paved with square blocks of stone as compactly set as our Belgian blocks of to-day? One of the Inca Emperors had that road built expressly for his bride, so that when she came on her bridal trip to his palace her mule train would have a fit road upon which to travel. The tradition says that this ruler, whose name has been forgotten, had 1,000 men for nearly a year working on this enterprise. The ruins are there to show for the work yet, and I have traveled on that strange thoroughfare over whose stones, still firmly set, the tangled vines and branches of the giant trees formed a canopy that almost excluded the sunshine."

"And the people lazy and dishonest, I presume?" suggested the reporter.

"Lazy? Yes," replied the gentleman, "but not dishonest. On the other hand, they are strictly honest. Once a month a peon is sent from the mines down to the colony for coin to pay the hands. He has no guard and receives 60 cents a day for his services. He returns regularly with from \$1,000 to \$5,000 in gold in the net on the mule's back. The village is sixty miles from the mine. The native women are the prettiest on the continent, but they are the most slovenly, too, I may add. Mr. Fast will return to Central America, the coming fall in all probability."

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## Earthquake Weather.

Thomas B. Lewis, of California.—I should not be surprised if this coast were treated to another earthquake this week. It is just the weather for them. A yellowish, lazy atmosphere and the continued presence of low hanging clouds. In California the biggest shocks have occurred in the month of October. I have seen a wooden house completely turned around on its foundations, so that you had to climb into the back yard to pull the front door bell. Earthquakes, in my opinion, are due either to electrical disturbances or the expansive power of steam on the earth's crust. How is this steam generated? By subterranean streams of water pouring upon the earth's central fires. In Yucatan there are miles and miles of these hidden streams which, so far as they have been sounded have proved unfathomable. No one who has once experienced a "sure enough" earthquake can ever attribute a similar experience to any other cause. The first impulse when you are used to them, is to time the recurrence and duration of the shocks.

"Leave me here a moment. Captain Lemore, if you please; and I wish you would bring me an ice."

"I will be back in a moment. Are you comfortable there? I have been selfish in urging you to dance so often, but I shall ask now only the last waltz. I may have that, may I not?"

Lena smiled indifferently, as she leaned back in her curtained corner and gave a languid assent. The tall captain pressed the hand he had been holding and vanished, leaving her behind the falling curtain, completely hidden from sight.

"Captain Lemore will win his wager," said a voice just without her hiding place; "he made a bet to-day with Gray and Vane that he would dance five waltzes with Miss Dale, and he has danced four already. Half of the men present know of the wager and all look for him to fail."

"But matters look as if he was going to win," said another voice. "I wonder what Amherst will say when he hears; I learned to-day that he is engaged to Miss Dale."

"If he is he ought to call the captain out; I would in his place!"

A low laugh reached Lena for reply as the two friends moved away; and she crushed the spray of crimson flowers in her white hand till they were a mass of shapeless leaves; the red of indignation pride surging to her dark cheek.

But Captain Lemore was instantly at her side, holding a tiny salver with the ice he had been sent for.

"Captain Lemore," the girl's voice was low but clear as a silver bell. She moved slightly, so that her great midnight eyes rested fairly on his face. "Captain Lemore, I have always looked among the bravest for the noblest. Was I right?"

The captain smiled as he drew a tiny table to her side and placed the salver on it. Then stood before her towering high in his handsome strength.

"The bravest should be noblest," he said, still smiling. Always think them so, Miss Dale."

"And yet men call you brave, Captain Lemore!"

A sudden wave of color swept his cheek at her words.

## THE IRON WALLS OF FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

From the German Military Gazette.

Great Britain still holds first place with her armored fleet; France, second; Germany, third; Italy, fourth; Russia, fifth, and Austria sixth. But at the present moment France is building fourteen vessels of the most powerful model and eight armored vessels for coast defense. Therefore, in four years France will have thirty war vessels, twelve of which will be first-class, and England thirty-two, only one of which will be of the same strength as any one of the twelve French ships. Italy is now building five first-class war vessels; Russia three and three iron-clad cruisers; Germany one iron-clad cruiser and two gun-boats; Austria one war vessel, and Denmark one iron-clad for coast defense.

Consequently the maritime pre-eminence of Great Britain is decidedly menaced by France. England being obliged to employ a great portion of her fleet in the Mediterranean and at different distant points, it is fair to presume that in 1887 or 1888 France would be able to oppose a fleet of 42 armored vessels against an English one of 30 at the most, including even the vessels for coast defense.

A remarkable private act, the Earl of Devon's estate bill, was recently introduced in the House of Commons. It empowers Lord D. and his son Lord Courtenay, to sell every acre of the vast family estates, preserving no other house but Powderham, and deals with mortgage debts amounting to \$1,250,000. The bill has become a necessity through the conduct of Lord Courtenay, who a few years ago passed through the Bankruptcy Court with debts amounting to \$3,500,000. The Courtenays, who are of royal descent, owned in time past no inconsiderable portion of Devonshire, besides holding one of the largest properties in Ireland. Much of their Irish property has been sold.

"I would not have won!" he cried eagerly, lifting his head for a moment; "I would have released you from your promise, would have managed in some way to have been true to what is within me, after all! I had forgotten the wager; had forgotten everything but that you were kind to me and I was happy near you. Do not think me more unworthy than I am!"

Lena Dale stood up, a softness in her eyes, and laid her gloved hand on his arm.

"There's another nobility in you," she said, gently; "when another temptation comes, because of the pardon I now grant you, be noble ever, as you are ever brave!"

"You pardon me?" he cried, taking the hand from his arm and holding it to his bosom. "I ask more of your womanhood! I ask pardon for the love which I have given you, solely against my will, knowing you would not return it—knowing you pledged to another! I ask you to remember me kindly in the future, and with pardon for my presumption."

"Pardon!" she echoed, a tremor stirring her heart at his earnest words. "Oh, my hero! if I could accept your heart—with its few weaknesses, perhaps, its sterling worth I know—how royal I would count the gift! I can not. And now, although I dance no more to-night nor ever again with you, lead me back to the dancers."

He did so; and when others had gathered about them, he silently drew apart watching her with gloomy, yearning eyes; and Lena wondered why there was so dull an ache at her heart, when Clarence would come to her on the morrow.

And Clarence did seek her on the morrow; but, somehow, the betrothal was not renewed; the young man waited months, and then sought her again; but Lena told him, kindly, gently, that she had never loved him with the love which a wife should give him—she knew it now.

Five years, drifted by after that night at the ball when Lena Dale had broken her troth, and Clarence Amherst led a fair young bride to the altar, while she still went her calm, womanly way unweaved.

Since that night she had not seen Captain Lemore, but she heard often of the gallant soldier whose chivalry toward her sex placed him above his own, whose nobility matched his bravery, and whose face had never been turned from a foe!

Was it because he still remembered? she would sometimes wonder, and then, when she had almost taught herself to hope no more for sight of his handsome face, they met! The man with a scar, for which men honored him, across his beard; the cheek of the woman who had outlived her girlhood.

Is it not hard to comprehend a human heart? They had been wildly parted, but love had bridged the distance between them; and Captain Lemore says his wife has made him what he is, and to her the world must give his laurels.—Philadelphia Call.

"I will be back in a moment. Are you comfortable there? I have been selfish in urging you to dance so often, but I shall ask now only the last waltz. I may have that, may I not?"

Lena smiled indifferently, as she leaned back in her curtained corner and gave a languid ass