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# THE QUEEN'S CHAMPION.

An Official Whose Duty It is to Throw Down a Glove.

A Chivalric Title Which Has Been Held by the Dymoke Family Ever Since the Days of Richard II.—Scott's Description of the Challenge.

The death of Francis Dymoke, the queen of England's champion, which occurred at Hornsea recently, has reminded the world that even in the midst of the present prosaic and utilitarian age one knightly office, at least, is in existence, to contradict the assertion of Edmund Burke that "the age of chivalry is gone." The late holder of the office was a Lincolnshire magistrate and an officer in the local militia; the two previous ones were clergymen.

The office is, as it has often been stated, hereditary to the Dymoke family, but is attached to the lord of the manor of Scirevelby, which is held by the ancient tenantry known as grand sergents—i. e., where one holds lands of the sovereign by service which he has to perform in person. The service by which Scirevelby is held is thus quoted by the New York World: "That the lord thereof shall be the king's champion."

The championship has no salary attached to it, for, though the Dymoke family hold Scirevelby on the feudal tenure of performing this duty, they have been owners of that manor for upward of five hundred years, and they obtained it, not by royal grant or out of the public purse, but by marriage with an heiress, the last of the proud line of Marmion, granddaughter of Philip de Marmion, a name which recalls memories of chivalry and of the poetry of Shakespeare and Sir Walter Scott. There is no record of the office under the Saxons, but, according to the late Sir Bernard Burke, its duties were appended by William I. as an honor to the old baronial house of Marmion, or Marmion, the ancient owners of the manor of Scirevelby.

This manor, together with the castle of Tanworth, had been conferred, soon after the Norman conquest, on one Robert de Marmion, lord of Fontenoy, in Normandy, on condition of performing the office of champion at the king's coronation.

The name of Dymoke is Welsh. The Dymokes, or Dymocks—for the name is spelled both ways—claim a traditional descent from Tudor Trevor, lord of Hereford and Whittington, and founder of the tribe of the Marches. The chief himself had three sons, the second of whom, marrying a daughter of the prince of North Wales, half a century before the Norman conquest, became the ancestor of one David ap Madoc, who, in the Welsh tongue, was styled colloquially Dai Madoc, the word Dai being the short form of David. His son and heir was David ap Dai Madoc, or David Dai Madoc, and by the usual abbreviation Dai Madoc came in the course of time to be pronounced as Dymoke or Dymock, the transition from which to Dymoke or Dymock, and again from that to Dinos or Dymoke is easy and obvious.

The first, then, of the Dymoke family who fulfilled his office as champion was Sir John Dymoke, knight, who married Margaret Ludlow in the reign of Edward III., and was present at the coronation of Richard II. His claim was disputed by Baldwin de Freville, the lord of Tamworth castle, but after deliberation it was found that the right belonged to the manor of Scirevelby, as the caput baroniae or head of the barony of the Marmion family; and, as it appeared that the late King Edward III. and his son, Edward, prince of Wales, known as the black prince, had often been heard to say that the office was held by Sir John Dymoke, the question was settled in his favor.

The Gentleman's Magazine for 1821 contains a picture of the royal champion, Henry Dymoke, in the act of riding on his white charger into Westminster hall, and throwing down the glove or gauntlet of defiance, supported on either side by the duke of Wellington and the marquis of Anglesey, also on horseback, while two heralds stood by with their tabards and plumes. The performance of the champion's duty is set forth in a letter to one of his friends:

"The champion's duty was performed, as of right, by young Dymoke, a fine looking youth, but bearing perhaps a little too much the appearance of a maiden knight to be the challenger of the world in the king's behalf. He threw down his gauntlet, however, with becoming manhood, and showed as much horsemanship as the crowd of knights and squires around him would permit to be exhibited. His armor was in good taste, but his shield was out of all propriety, being a round roundel, and, in the center, a decorative weapon which it would be impossible to use on horseback, instead of being a three-cornered or leather shield, which in the time of the tilt was suspended round the neck. Pardon this antiquarian scruple, which you may believe occurred to few but myself. On the whole, this striking part of the exhibition somewhat disappointed me, for I would have had the champion less embarrassed by his assistants and at liberty to put his horse on the gallop, and yet the young lord of Scirevelby looked and behaved extremely well."

The last time the ceremony of the challenge was carried out was at the coronation of George IV., when Henry Dymoke, the deputy of his father, a clergyman, threw down the gauntlet in Westminster hall. This Henry Dymoke, seen after Queen Victoria's accession, was created a knight as a recompense, it was said, for writing his claims to discharge the duties of his office at the queen's coronation.

Sir Henry was succeeded by his brother, Rev. John Dymoke, and by his son, Henry Dymoke, whom Francis Scarsdale, M. P., just deceased, succeeded in 1873. The present "champion" is his only son, also named Henry Dymoke.

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# CURE OF SEASICKNESS.

Many Things May Palliate the Misery But There is No Panacea.

Most of those who have experienced the miseries of seasickness, however they might differ in minor details of the symptoms, would agree in ascribing this most distressing malady to one main cause—the motion of the ship. In so far as the whole medical faculty would concur in their decision. This, then, is the central fact which confers upon the disorder its unique position. It is really not a pathological, but a physiological disturbance, concludes the London Lancet.

It has no natural connection with dyspepsia. The robust and healthy, by a strange contradiction, suffer from it for the time hardly less than the weak and ill. Its variations of intensity are felt to be counterparts of mere bodily oscillation. Some relief from it in change of posture, others in active occupation, all more or less when their storm-tossed vessel sails under the lee of land. Custom and use commonly secure immunity. These are circumstances which one and all point to mechanical causation as a source of the discomfort.

It is the unaccounted rise and fall, the jerk and relaxation of loosely attached abdominal viscera, mainly, perhaps, but not alone, of the stomach, acting upon the central connections, which must bear the brunt of accusation. It follows that successful treatment cannot be guaranteed by any one method or panacea. Nausea, pure or mixed, moderately firm bandaging of the body are all useful. Drugs have their place and their partial utility, but, as we have already suggested, there is no remedy equal to a lee shore.

Nothing can be much more depressing than seasickness, and for this reason we should strongly advise all persons not to encounter, if possible, the risk of its occurrence. It is astonishing how soon and how completely those who are favored with a fair measure of constitutional elasticity recover from its depression. In their case the benefits of a sea trip may thus, with compensations of air, diet and appetite, be even enhanced by a few hours of mechanical nausea. It is, in truth, for such persons only that tours of this kind are advisable.

LESSER OF TWO EVILS.

Why Chinese Pirates Welcome the Introduction of the Guillotine.

It is said that the guillotine has recently been introduced by the French into their colony of Tonquin. The French, as all the world is aware, have had, and still have, plenty of work to do in the way of exterminating piracy in that vast and as yet unremunerative possession. And the method by which they endeavor to exterminate the pirate (when they catch him, which, as a rule, they do not) is that of decapitation. That ceremony, according to the London Globe, has hitherto been performed in the primitive and rather barbarous native way. The culprit, being placed in a convenient position, used to light a cigarette and wait for the executioner to take a shot at his neck with a big sword. Sometimes the headsman aimed straight and sometimes he did not, and a feeling had long existed among the gentlemen of the practical profession that an execution thus executed was distinctly an unpleasant process for the patient. Consequently the introduction of the "wood of justice" has by no means produced the effect which the French authorities desired and expected. Instead of being impressed with the horror of this mode of execution, the natives of Tonquin are said to be highly delighted with it. In fact, they regard the guillotine as a most ingenious article of Paris, and they have already witnessed one execution with every demonstration of enthusiasm. Dying, they say, is made so delightfully easy by this admirable invention of the superior European intelligence. The result is that considerable satisfaction is expressed in piratical circles, and it is confidently anticipated that piracy will shortly increase very considerably, as nobody in Tonquin would mind being abbreviated. Instantaneously by the guillotine. Death, in short, has lost much of its terror because the process of dying has been rendered so simple.

Story About the Pansy.

A pretty fable about a pansy is current among French and German children. The flower has five petals and five sepals. In most varieties, especially of the earlier and less highly developed varieties, two of the petals are plain in color and three are gay. The two plain petals have a single sepal each, and the third, which is the largest of all, has two sepals. The fable is that the pansy represents a family, consisting of husband, wife and four daughters, two of the latter being stepdaughters of the wife. The plain petals are the stepdaughters, with only one claimer for the two small gay petals, and the large gay petal is the wife with two children. To find the father one must strip away the petals until the stamens and pistils are bare. They have a fanciful resemblance to an old man with a flannel wrap about his neck, his shoulders upraised and his feet in a bathtub. The story is probably of French origin because the French call the pansy the stepmother.

Just What Mares Want.

All who are, or expect to be, interested in mines will be glad to know that Henry N. Copp, the Washington, D. C., land lawyer, has revised Copp's Prospector's Manual. The mineralogical part of the work has been almost entirely rewritten by a Colorado mining engineer who has had years of experience as a prospector, assayer and superintendent of mines and United States surveyor.

The book is a popular treatise on assaying and mineralogy, and will be found useful to all who wish to discover mines. The first part of the work gives the United States mining laws and regulations, how to locate and survey a mining claim, various forms and much valuable information. The price is 50 cents at the principal book stores, or of the author.

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# STARVELING COLLEGES.

Early Struggles for Existence of Our Schools and Universities.

The American college of the middle of this century, like its English original, existed for the work of the church. If the college dies the church dies and the basis of its appeal for money and influence. Its duty, says David Starr Jordan in the Popular Science Monthly, was to form a class of educated men in whose hands should be the preservation of the creed. In the months of ignorant men the truths of the church would be clouded. Each wise church would see that its wisdom be not marred by human folly.

The needs of one church indicated the needs of others. So it came about that each of the many organizations called churches in America established its colleges here and there about the country, all based on the same general plan.

And as the little towns on the rivers and prairies grew with the progress of the country into large cities, so it was thought, by some mysterious virtue of inward expansion, these little schools in time would grow to be great universities. And in this optimistic spirit the future was forestalled and the schools were called universities from the beginning. As time went on it appeared that a university could not be made without money, and the source of money must be outside the schools. And so has ensued a long struggle between the American college and the wolf at the door—a tedious, belittling conflict, which has done much to lower the name and dignity of higher education.

To this educational planting, without watering, repeated again and again, east and west, north and south, must be ascribed the unnaturally severe struggle for existence through which our colleges have been forced to pass, the poor work, low salaries and humiliating economies of the American college professor, the natural end of whom, according to Dr. Holmes, "is starvation."

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