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THE GOLDEN KEY.
 Startling Proof That It Will Unlock the Gate to English Society.
 It is now pretty generally understood both in England and America that a golden key will unlock any gate in the society of this country. Perhaps the most striking demonstration yet made was given last week by some one who responded to an advertisement offering to introduce a lady into the "smartest society in London" at terms of £1,000 a year. An answer to this card was made in behalf of a supposed American young lady whose parents desired to secure for her a court presentation, etc. The writer said: "Though not averse to these ambitious prospects, she does not enter into them with the zeal necessary to their accomplishment. She is fully aware of the disadvantages caused by her defective education and lack of knowledge of the usages of that society of which it is desired she should become a member. It is to overcome this that a chaperon is needed. This lady must be of irreproachable character, high birth and capable of introducing the debutante into the society of the English upper classes as an equal, for the young lady referred to is high spirited."
 "Considered from the American point of view of feminine beauty, she is very pretty. I feel it my duty to inform you that there is one fearful drawback—that is, illegitimacy. Of course this is known only to a few, and there is no reason on earth why the fact should be circulated."
 In reply to this came a letter from a lady of title whose name is known throughout the world and of the highest social position outside of actual royalty. Furthermore, it was ascertained that there was no doubt of the genuineness of her offer. This, among other things, she wrote to a perfect stranger:
 "First of all, I prefer an American. Lady Randolph Churchill is a friend of mine, but I am very fond of Americans. Either I will not undertake it at all, or your friend will go to court and be in the smartest society. I know you will not think me vulgar if I say that we are in the best society. For instance, the Duke of Cambridge dined with us last night. My husband holds a high official position in London. Nothing but want of means prevents my being a leader in society more or less."
 "But first I must see the young lady and form my own opinion, and, secondly, I confess that the drawback of birth would make me more exacting about money, as more would have to be done to overcome this difficulty than otherwise. The fact of illegitimate birth would not affect my power of introducing her into the best society, but there are a hundred things to be considered, and to receive a large sum would not induce me to undertake anything I could not carry out. I shall be at home from 8 to 8:30 p. m. tomorrow if you would make it convenient to call."
 Not having received a reply to this letter, the lady wrote again, saying that her correspondent must decide quickly, as two other ladies wished her services.—London Cor. New York Sun.

FEARS OF RADICALISM.
 The Magnates of London Stirred Up Over the Coming County Council Election.
 The elections for the London county council, the body which governs the whole of this vast metropolis except the tiny area known as the city, will take place in March, and it is now evident that they will be fought on strictly political lines. The magnates who own the greater part of the land upon which London stands, including men like Lord Salisbury, the Duke of Bedford and the Duke of Westminster, are so frightened by the increasingly radical, not to say socialist, character of the present council that their purse strings, usually kept tightly tied indeed, have been unloosed, and they are prepared to spend \$500,000 to help the Tories obtain a majority.
 Several noblemen even consider the emergency so great that they are willing to sacrifice themselves to the extent of becoming candidates and sitting in the council with quite common people, even with their own tradesmen, if they can find constituents to elect them. The music hall people have also thrown in their lot with the Tories, and one of them, Mr. George Edwards, manager of the Empire, has sacrificed his feelings like the noble sufferers just referred to and is contesting the division against Mr. McDougall, one of the leaders of the so-called purity crusade.—London Letter.

Gold Weather Chicken.
 A Louisville (Ky.) man who says he never drinks tells of a farmer who has produced a breed of fat bearing chickens, which sport in low water and are able to live in the midst of almost eternal snow. This was accomplished by skin grafting a selected cock and hen with rabbit skin half an inch at a time. The process was painful, but succeeded admirably. Eggs of the new breed are regularly set at \$1.75 a dozen and are hatched out by the ordinary house, who invariably die of fright upon perceiving the strange appearance of their offspring.

A Lucky Menace.
 During the heavy rain and hail storm which prevailed here at midnight Monday night a two story farmhouse three miles east of town was blown 50 feet from its foundation. The building, having made two complete revolutions, landed on its side intact. The family, consisting of Mont Mattie, his wife and three children, were in bed at the time of the accident, and all escaped injury except Miss Mattie, whose arm was dislocated.—Brookings (Mo.) Dispatch.

White House Bites.
 A Wallingford (Conn.) silver manufacturing firm has received an order for sterling silverware to be added to the service at the White House. The number of the firm declines to give a description of the piece, but say the same will be a costly job.

THE FUTURE OF EUROPE.
 Le Bon, the French Historian, Predicts an Oriental Influx.
 The French historian Le Bon in a recent article predicts that Europe will become the seat for despotism and later for barbarism and incur the same fate as the Byzantine and the Persian empires. Next the Slavs will destroy the old culture, and then Europe will be overrun with the orientals, particularly the Chinese and the Hindus.
 According to Professor Le Bon's views, a general European war will be succeeded by terrible economic conditions. The orient is already commencing to be the producer for Europe instead of being the consumer, and Europe, in spite of its tariff protection, will find it impossible to check the flood. India is now exporting its produce, which, in spite of transportation expenses, is sold at a lower figure than the European, and India, provided with machinery, is now competing with Europe in the manufacturing market. China, when its war with Japan is over, will follow India's example.
 When India and China, with their enormous deposits of coal, have a mass of factories in operation, they will overwhelm the European markets with their products and place the European workman in the position where he must either starve to death from lack of work or starve on absolutely insufficient wages. The oriental workman will not, as experience has shown, desert their cheap food—to and rice—for our more expensive food or European luxuries.
 Professor Le Bon's views, says Le Temps, may be drawn in dark colors, but every one familiar with political economy must to a certain extent endorse them. The European markets in certain of their branches are now and have for some time felt the killing influence of economical competition from the oriental countries, and when such conditions exist how what will they be when these countries will be equipped with European machinery and producing its articles with the same facility as is now done in Europe? It may not come in our time, but a future generation will have a difficult problem to solve.

TELEGRAPHIC TYPEWRITER.
 Novel Method of News Distribution Followed in Paris.
 L'Agence Havas, the great distributor of news at Paris, has introduced recently a system of telegraphic typewriters which for rapid spreading of information exceeds anything known. The machine was invented as well as perfected by an American, Mr. Wright, and, after some adaptation necessary for the peculiar purpose it had to serve, presents now the perfection of an apparatus for the news bureau. A typewriter in the central station works the machine, and all the subscribers receive the identical information in less than one-third the time required by ordinary telegraphic transmission. Absolute accuracy is guaranteed, the operator sees what he is writing, and mutilation or dropping of words is impossible.
 The system of news distribution is very complicated, and great pains have been taken to secure it against any likely interruption of the service. All the wiring is through underground cables, one cable being allowed for a group of 15 subscribers, but there are 20 wires in each cable, allowing a reserve of five wires for each circuit. The machine is quite different from the old American tickers, in that the paper used is not a strip three-quarters of an inch wide, but a roll of paper 6 1/2 inches in width. The principle is that of a typewriter, each key of which is connected with a special commutator, allowing an electric current to pass through the line, upon which are disposed a given number of receivers with typewriting attachments, but without any clockwork. A type reel guided by the current from the central station prints upon a roll of paper as in a typewriter. The commutator mentioned above is set going by a small electric motor receiving its energy from a battery of 60 Tudor accumulators.—Natura.

WOMEN'S FACES.
 Mrs. Sowers, wife of a prominent physician, has written a book on the subject of women's faces, which is a valuable contribution to the knowledge of the human face. The book is a practical guide to the treatment of the face, and is a must for every woman who wishes to preserve the beauty of her face. The book is written in a simple and easy-to-understand style, and is a valuable addition to any woman's library.

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