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OUR KELTIC STOCK.

INFLUENCE OF WESTERN EUROPEANS ON AMERICAN NATION.

Proportion in the Make-Up of Our Nationality Probably One-Half—Some Racial Estimates.

It would be interesting if the amount of the Keltic or Celtic stock that enters into the composition of the American people could be determined, approximately at least, says the Boston Herald. What is Keltic? Of the two spellings of the word the former conveys the right pronunciation, which, of course, is the fundamental quality. The name originates with the Greeks, who called a western people "Keltai." The substitution of "c" for "k" appears to be due to the circumstance that the Greek letter corresponding to our "c" has the sound of "k." As in "ceramics," our use of the "c" has led to a false pronunciation radically other than the normal.

If a fair estimate of the Keltic element in the English people could be made, together with what is due to Scotch, Welsh and Cornish blood, as well as to Irish immigration—not to mention the Keltic element that enters into many peoples of continental Europe—perhaps it might be found that the Keltic proportion in the American make-up would be at least 50 per cent., if not very considerably more. The Kelts or Gauls constituted a very large element in Europe. This is attested by the name of the Spanish province of Galicia, and by the kingdom of Austrian Poland which bears the same name. The basic element of the French people is commonly regarded as Gaelic, and the same evidently strongly enters into the composition of the Swiss, the Italians and a considerable part of the Germans. Brittany, in France, is regarded as almost purely Keltic.

Ethnic analysis, however, is something exceedingly difficult. The lingual test, so commonly applied, is misleading. Keltic or Gaelic tongues are common to peoples who racially are radically different. Ireland, for instance, is today the most typically Keltic country. Yet in the Irish people several strongly contrasting racial types are represented so markedly that it might be difficult to tell which predominates. It might be said that one type characterizes one county or district, another another. Outside the elements known as distinctively Keltic there is the English immigration of Cromwell's time and later, which in certain districts has blended with the native races. Again there is the Scotch blood, known as "Scotch-Irish," so strong in the north of Ireland; this, of course, includes a deal of the Scotch Keltic. The Irish Keltic element, as we know it, is marked by several separate types. One is tall, slender and dark, another is tall and light, a third is short and dark, a fourth short and light, and a fifth is regarded by various anthropologists as derived from what appears to have been the autocthonous race of the island, a race long preceding the Keltic people and held to be akin to the Finns and to Asiatic peoples. These various elements have induced a great number of variants and blendings.

The racial or rather national temperament is another quality that differs very materially. The Irish nature is proverbially light-hearted, volatile, quick-witted and deliciously humorous. These traits in great part ally it to the French, although what in the French we know as Gaelic wit is quite other than the Irish. Possibly it may be an expression of the same native impulses under a different environment. The Polish people have similarly sensitive and volatile traits. The Russians, however, are likewise volatile; it might therefore be difficult to say whether in the Poles it is a Keltic or a Slavonic quality. Possibly it may come from an ancestry commonly expressed in both Kelt and Slav. On the other hand, the tall and dark Keltic type is characteristically grave, non-humorous, often poetically imaginative and tending to melancholy. The Irish type of this sort appears to have much in common with the Highland Scotch. It is notable that the Spanish Galacians, or Gallegos, a patient, hard-working people, are also prone to melancholy. Some anthropologists hold that the Iebrians, the basic stock of the Spanish people, were Keltic. This might account for the gravity and the idealism of the Spaniard. Possibly some day anthropology may find means to determine with exactness the racial ingredients of any given individual, with the corresponding mental, physical and temperamental qualities. Until then all estimates of racial proportions will doubtless remain largely guesswork. It should be sufficient to know that we are all human beings, and consequently brothers—whatever our race or complexion may be.

Shimose Powder.

According to Capt. Thacker, a Canadian officer, the new shimose powder used in the Japanese army is two degrees more destructive than dynamite. Guncotton, on which lyddite and other high explosives are based, comes directly below the Japanese compound, while the cost of manufacture is one-half that of guncotton. Unlike ordinary explosives, which explode after they have pierced an iron plate, with shimose powder the piercing and the detonation are practically simultaneous. Thousands of fragments are scattered in all directions, which means the most fearful carnage when the explosion occurs on a ship's deck.

Newly Defined.

Tom—And how is Jack looking now that he has married for love?

James—Not unlike a cat that is owned by a vegetarian.—Cassell's.

SPECIAL RAZOR FOR THEM.

Barbers Sometimes Keep Certain Tools for Customers Who Are Unpopular.

"Here, Charlie," said the barber at the third chair from the door, "use this razor on that chap. If it don't pull his whiskers out by the roots try a pair of tweezers."

The barber at the second chair took the proffered weapon and smiled. A long, lean individual who had just entered the shop sat down in the secand chair, says the Washington Star.

"That's the meanest man in Washington," continued the barber at the third chair, as he splashed some soapsuds on the face of another customer. "He came in here three or four times and made himself so disagreeable that I finally had to fix his business. I took an old razor—the same one I just gave Charlie—put a couple of nicks in it and dulled the edge on a piece of brick. Then I daubed his face up a bit and began to pull. The old fellow ripped and snorted and complained, while I pulled out every other whisker, roots and all. When I got through my right arm was tired out, and he was sore, mentally and physically. He growled some more, paid his 15 cents, and as a compliment to me declared he never would sit in my chair again. He never has, and I have the joke on the rest of the boys in the shop. Charlie don't like him, either, and so I let him have the razor."

The man in the third chair moved uneasily at the thought of such barbarous treatment, while from the second chair came a sound not unlike the click of a typewriter.

"Say," suggested the mean man to Charlie, "hadn't you better try another razor?"

"Certainly, sir," responded the amiable Charlie. "Is this one dull?"

"It pulls like the mischief," asserted the mean man, and Charlie laid the bum razor down, put some more lather on the mean man's face, and picked up the same old razor again. There was more clicking and snapping and gnashing of teeth.

"That ain't much better," said the mean man.

"Best we've got in the house," said Charlie, and the man in the third chair laughed a hearty, whole-souled laugh. The barber at the third chair sat down behind a screen and also laughed. The other barbers craned their necks, and the customers began to sit up and take notice. The mean man growled, and everybody else laughed. Finally Charlie finished his job, the mean man put on his coat, paid his 15 cents, snorted and fumed and passed out into the weather.

"Do you treat many of your customers that way?" ventured the man in the third chair.

"No, but we keep that razor in stock for men we don't like. If you ever encounter a barber who pulls your whiskers out put it down in your notebook that he don't like you."

WITH DISTRESSING RESULT

Rival of a Comedian Invents Lachrymose Reception on His Opening Night.

Many and elaborate are the practical jokes which have been played upon helpless victims by a well-known actor, but the following is surely one of his best, relates Cassell's Journal.

A rival comedian, with whom he was on very friendly terms, was to appear in a new play, and on the opening night X——, our humorist, and 19 friends secured seats in the front of the dress circle.

Just when the comedian was in the middle of his best scene, X—— pulled out a handkerchief and burst into tears.

The effect was electrical. The man next to him also fell to weeping, and took hold of the handkerchief. The epidemic of tears thereupon extended all along the line, and, as each man gave way to his emotion, he took hold of the end of the handkerchief, until all the confederates were weeping in it.

The handkerchief was 20 yards long, and had been specially prepared for the occasion.

The comedian on the stage struggled gamely with this woe, but his witticisms were unavailing, for the funnier he became the more frequent were the sobs of the sorrowing 20.

Only when he left the footlights did the weeping cease, and the handkerchief disappear.

New Metal in Watches.

The new alloy called invar, consisting of steel mixed with about 36 per cent. of nickel, which is practically invariable in volume with ordinary changes of temperature, has recently been adopted by Swiss watchmakers for making balances in the majority of their best timepieces. The compensation for temperature thus obtained is superior to any hitherto known. For many years watchmakers have struggled with an outstanding trouble in the best compensated chronometers, known as "Dent's error," due principally to the non-linear variation of the elasticity of the steel of the hairspring. By the use of invar Dent's error may be practically eliminated.—Youth's Companion.

Fine Board.

Bacon—It is said that sawdust is now used by some Paris restaurants as a dressing for cutlets, instead of bread crumbs.

Egbert—I suppose that is as close as they can come to giving their patrons fine board.—Yonkers Statesman.

Outdone.

Mother—Nellie, why don't you practice your piano lesson, since I said I'd pay you five cents an hour for it?

Nellie—Because papa gives me ten cents an hour for whirling around on the stool without making any noise!—Detroit Free Press.

NERVES SOOTHED

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A LAXATIVE TABLET

that moves and regulates the bowels; does not cause any pain or griping; **can be discontinued at once;** boxed at 25c. for the pocket, and always effective. Combines **Laxative Result with Sedative Effect.** The tired, nervous Mother, and the hurried Business Man, derive immediate benefit from

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MAY 13TH, 1904.

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Gentlemen:
Your Night Caps were almost thrust upon me by a friend who evidently knows a thing of two. Shortly after the middle of last January I was in a state of almost complete nervous exhaustion, arising from excessive business effort, resulting in inability to sleep and mental depression. My physician for two months treated me, at a large expense, for nervous prostration, advising complete rest for an indefinite period. At that time, a vacation was impossible. Fortunately for me, I was then introduced to Night Caps. Skeptically I tried them. One-half a box seemed to brace my nerves within a week I could sleep. With sleep has come a return of normal health and I feel like myself again. I have recovered my normal weight. You may be very sure that I now keep Night Caps constantly on hand, particularly as an assistant in case of over indulgence at table. If, at any time, you should deem it wise, or to your advantage, to refer anyone to me, do so, I will be very glad to write inquirers about it. I would suggest, however, that you instruct them to enclose stamp for reply, for I have reason to believe that I might find myself financially embarrassed if inquiries come from all who need your remedy. Kindly withhold this letter from publication. Believe me,
Very truly yours,
(Signed) HARRY W. CROSS.

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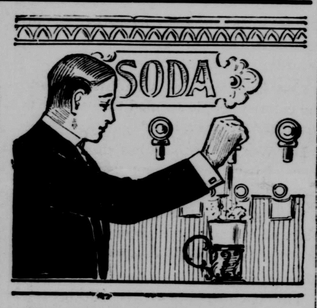
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Thedford's Black-Draught cures dyspepsia. It frees the stomach and bowels of congested matter and gives the stomach new life. The stomach is quickly invigorated and the natural stimulation results in a good appetite, with the power to thoroughly digest food.

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