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A FURIOUS SWORD FIGHT.

Marvelous Skill and Sand Displayed at the Thomeguex-Pina Duel In Paris.

On the very same day that the Corbett-Fitzsimmons match was fought at Carson City, English fashion, the Parisians enjoyed a famous fight, French fashion, in the duel between the great Italian fencing master, the Chevalier Pini, and M. Thomeguex, a renowned Parisian swordsman. A brief mention of the affair was cabled to the newspapers here, in which it was treated rather lightly. But in reality it was a desperate fight, in which marvelous phases of fencing were displayed. It was a nine bout battle and lasted more than 40 minutes. Its semi-international character gave it considerable additional interest. It was witnessed by a host of sightseers, all gathered near the stand of the Saint-Ouen race course. In the crowd were many photographers taking snap shots, and one of them had a kinetoscope, which took in the combat from start to finish, just as in the case of Corbett and Fitzsimmons. The cause of the duel was trivial, and it is now admitted that it was a case of mistaken identity.

At about 2 p. m. the principals, with their seconds and surgeons, arrived. Pini was first upon the ground. He appeared to be delighted and warmly shook the hands of many friends, while the photographers opened fire upon him, taking him in front, in the rear and on the flank. Immediately afterward Thomeguex appeared. He was smiling, and, like Pini, greeted his friends, while the snap shooters aimed at him.

The grave responsibility of directing the combat, or, in other words, acting as referee, fell upon M. Georges Breittmayer. When the swords were crossed and the usual "Go, gentlemen!" was pronounced, the fight began. M. Thomeguex, in a threatening style, held his weapon well in line, and, advancing, made several feints for an opening. M. Pini remained on the defensive, evidently watching for a chance for a deadly riposte, but fortune did not favor him. Nevertheless, in this bout he disarmed his adversary. He saluted, his salute was returned and the battle was renewed with vigor. Evidently the men were evenly matched. The second bout was without incident, beyond giving an exhibition of splendid swordsmanship.

In the third bout Thomeguex, fancying that he had wounded Pini in the arm, lowered his weapon. The surgeons rushed in and found that Pini was not touched.

The fourth bout was furious. With lightning rapidity Pini drove his weapon at Thomeguex's chest, but a vigorous parry sent it to the ground. The point landed on a stone. The sword was bent like a reed and rendered worthless. Another sword was handed to the Italian professor, and the fifth bout was without incident. The combatants were winded.

In the sixth bout the fight was stopped by the seconds, who believed that M. Pini was wounded in the arm. He was unhurt.

The duelists now faced each other for the seventh bout. They bounded at each other, lunging with wonderful force and parrying with equal skill until the point of Pini's weapon reached the guard of Thomeguex's, and for the second time the former's weapon was bent.

After a little time it was repaired, and the eighth bout was begun with furious attacks on the part of Thomeguex. Pini gave ground, watching for a riposte. Apparently his chance presented itself, and he sent in a terrific thrust at Thomeguex's breast. Some of the spectators shuddered, and many of them thought that the man had been run through, or at least badly wounded, but a parry that is described as "something marvelous" by the experts who saw it saved him, and when the seconds and surgeons rushed in they found him unhurt and smiling.

In the ninth bout M. Thomeguex was wounded in the right cheek. He declared that it was merely a scratch and insisted upon going on, but the surgeons declared that the internal hemorrhage interfered with his breathing to such a degree that he was in a condition of inferiority. M. Breittmayer then stopped the combat.

The Chevalier Pini advanced toward M. Thomeguex and offered him his hand. The latter grasped it, muttered some complimentary remarks, and the two men left the dueling ground fast friends.—New York Sun.

A simple and efficacious remedy for a sprained wrist is to let cold water run upon it every morning for some minutes, holding the wrist as low beneath the mouth of the tap as possible, so that the water may have a good fall. After this has been done bandage it tightly, letting the bandage remain until the next ablution The sprain will be reduced in a few days.

YOUTH IS OUT OF DATE.

Middle Age Is Now In Fashion—Now Brag of Being Forty.

There is no mistake about it—to be young, to be in the first faint flush of premiere jeunesse, is no longer either admirable or enviable. The fashionable age for a successful society woman in London now is between 30 and 40. A man to be thoroughly appreciated in that charmed circle known as "the best set" can range in years from 35 to 50. Just at present the doctrine of middle age is being preached, and from the inmost centers of Mayfair exclusiveness to the outer circles of rank Bohemianism the men and women who are the most popular are those who have "live "

I don't know why or wherefore this strange inversion of fancy has occurred. Somebody says because the young men and girls of the present day are older and more world worn than the men and women who have passed the first stages of real youth. Certain it is that the conditions of life at this end of the century are not calculated to keep the springtime fresh in the hearts of its girls and boys. The doctrine of middle age is being preached with exceeding vehemence at two of the most fashionable theaters in town—at the St. James, Mr. Pinero's "Princess and the Butterfly;" or, "The Fantastics" is pursuing its erratic career with immense success, while Charles Wyndham at the Criterion is personifying "The Physician," by Henry Arthur Jones, with his unfailing cleverness. In both these plays (studies of social life each of them) the chief interest centers about men and women who have left the "white muslin" stage and crept out to the once dreaded precipice of maturity.

And it is in fashionable real life as it is within the artificial glamour of the stage. The women of whom we hear the most in London have certainly no longer any claim to be considered young. They are frankly middle aged, and they seem to glory in it. There is the Countess of Warwick—passee we would have dubbed her in other times. She is still beautiful, but he who runs may read her age in Debrett's "Peerage." Then there is that still lovely dowager the Countess of Dudley, a grandmother, but with as many moths fluttering about the light of her blue eyes as would satisfy many a debutante's heart. She is going to marry again, so they say, and she is still a beauty. Lady de Grey is another instance of the apotheosis of middle age. The most talked about woman of her time is this tall countess, and one of the most envied. She holds the future as well as the past of Italian opera in London in the hollow of her slender, aristocratic hands. What she says or suggests at Covent Garden Opera House "goes," and when she is displeased the very gods tremble.—London Letter in Chicago Chronicle.

To Rival the Ferris Wheel.

The department of concessions of the Omaha exposition has received an application for space for the erection of a mechanical device which will equal if not surpass the great Ferris wheel in novelty and engineering ingenuity. It resembles the framework of a gigantic umbrella more than anything else which might be mentioned. The part corresponding to the stick of the umbrella is an immense cyclinder, 30 feet in diameter, constructed of steel plates, firmly riveted, making a "standpipe," which rears its head 250 feet ab ve the level of the ground. At the extreme top of this cylinder are fastened 12 long arms resembling the ribs of an umbrella. These are steel trusses, reaching almost to the ground. At the lower end of each of these ribs is suspended a car for carrying passengers, each car having a capacity for 20 persons.

These monster ribs are raised by hydraulic power, acting by means of steel cables operating through the cylinder, aided by a mechanism greatly resembling that portion of an umbrella which comes into action when the umbrella is opened. By means of this mechanism the gigantic arms are raised until they are horizontal, the cars in the meantime being carried outward and upward until they reach a point 250 feet above the ground, the diameter of the huge circle formed by the suspended cars being also 250 feet. When the highest point has been reached, another mechanism comes into play, and the suspended cars are swung slowly around in a circle, after which they are lowered to the ground. The sides of the cars are formed of windows, from which a view of the surrounding country for miles may be obtained.—Omaha Bee.

Bicycles In Austria.

The strict regulations for bicyclists hitherto enforced in Austria have recently been greatly relaxed by an order of Count Kielmansegg, the official having this matter in charge. The requirements of an examination by the police of all bicyclists have been dispensed with, and henceforth riders can decide for themselves whether they are sufficiently skillful to ride in the public streets or not. With this has also been abolished the annual license fee of 5 florins (about $2). Bicyclists also receive much greater liberty as to the streets and roads they may travel on, and the speed they may adopt is more definitely fixed. In respect to the rules of the road, bicycles are put on the same footing as light vehicles of all sorts. The Vienna Cycling association is preparing a great demonstration in honor of Count Kielmansegg to express the thanks of the wheelmen. He is a member of one of the local clubs.—New York Tribune.

He Worked.

"You are one of those gentlemen who think the world owes them a living, I take it," said the sociological student.

"Nary time," said Kelly, the con king. "I work fer every cent I get—brain work. When I git the notion the world owes me a livin, I'll let you know. I don't like to have that said about me when I never was in politics in my life."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

EDISON'S NEW CRYSTAL.

Claims That It Will Make Organs In the Body Transparent.

Thomas A. Edison announces a discovery that goes far beyond the limitations of the wonderful fluoroscope.

He has at last found a crystal that will transform the strange rays discovered by Roentgen into a light that will make every organ of the human body transparent and every delicate tissue distinctly visible.

In the fluoroscope the wizard discovered a practical utility for the X rays. Long before he perfected this invention he realized that its possibilities would be confined to a revelation of the bony structure of the human body. Tungstate of calcium, which he used in this instrument, though more powerful than the original crystals of platinocyanide of barium, discovered by Roentgen, was yet not sensitive enough to show more than a mere outline of such solid organs as the heart and lungs.

Mr. Edison determined, if possible, to find a crystal so powerful as to penetrate the innermost recesses of the body. For months he has been experimenting on this line, and has at last discovered a substance with the requisite quality. He will not reveal its name until he has exhausted its possibilities.

It is probable that when he does perfect this newest discovery it will enable physicians to detect the slightest derangement of the system.

These crystals are so sensitive that when they are placed in front of a man whose eyes are tightly bandaged he is able to see. And this suggests a boon to the blind. Indeed it is possible there will be no more blindness.

Mr. Edison says of his work:

"For the last six months I have been experimenting for the production of chemical crystals which should have the peculiar property of giving out light when subjected to the action of that strange force called, provisionally, the Roentgen X ray. I purchased in this country and in Europe all the known chemicals which I did not already have in my own laboratory. These were all tried in the fluoroscope, but only one was found equal in sensitiveness to tungstate of calcium. Chemical combinations not procurable elsewhere were produced and subjected to the instrument.

"My chemists have been averaging 30 new chemical substances a day, and every one of these has been measured to determine its fluorescing power, if any.

"At last I found one chemical combination more sensitive to the X ray than any known substance. But I am not through as long as there is hope of finding something still better.

"The chances of such discovery will practically never be exhausted. The number of possible combinations with chemicals runs into hundreds of millions.

"There is no doubt that the fluoroscope will become an instrument of great value to the surgeon. It will enable him to make accurate diagnoses of the internal organs."

The recent discovery of a French chemist may have an important bearing upon Mr. Edison's experiments. Becquerel has found that certain crystals of the salts of the metal uranium, when subjected to the action of sunlight and then exposed in a dark room, will give off a new and hitherto unknown light, possessing the characteristic property of the X ray to penetrate opaque substances.

"I am very much interested in Becquerel's work," said the wizard. "The rays from these salts of uranium penetrate opaque objects and give photographic impressions. Other chemists have discovered that other crystals, among them white sugar, have the same property. The strange and curious results of these experiments may add materially to our knowledge of the unseen world about us.

"To know that by the action of the light which streams in upon our dining table some wonderful change is wrought by the sugar in the bowl, and that an unknown ray radiates therefrom through our bodies and out into space, producing who knows what changes, at least indicates that science is entering into a new and wonderful field, full of the possibilities of great and beneficent discovery."—New York Journal.

A Free and Easy Jail.

The Nantucket jail stories which have been current courtroom topics for the last century have been entirely eclipsed by recent stories concerning the convicts of the Barnstable jail. Mr. E. C. Knapp, who is supposed to be serving a five years' sentence for stealing national bank funds, was recently seen in the streets in prison garb, giving the wife of the jailer, Mrs. G. H. Cash, bicycle lessons. Mrs. Cash is 38 years old and has a daughter aged 18, and the convict is said to occupy a place of congenial companionship in the jailer's family. Another convict, named Lewis Rogers, was recently allowed to take a cow to Yarmouth and back while the sun was bright and the air invigorating for a pleasant walk.

There is another prisoner, a Portuguese named Joe, who is there on a complaint of a Portuguese girl named Rosa, and her story is that Joe promised to marry her while he was serving out a previous sentence in the jail, and that she often met Joe outside the jail. It is a pitiful story because when Joe got out of jail he married another girl, after borrowing $30 from Rosa. And all this in Barnstable town, where the jail is. The stories of Nantucket's easy going jail pale into insignificance in comparison with our continental neighbor.—Nantucket Inquirer and Mirror.

Jubilee.

Jubilee, according to the Jewish definition, denotes every fiftieth year, being that following the revolution of seven weeks of years, at which time all the slaves were made free, and all lands reverted to their ancient owners. The jubilees were not observed after the Babylonish captivity.

NEW SILVER TABLEWARE.

Ingenious Devices That Are Useful Besides Being Highly Ornamental.

The unusually attractive and original novelties in sterling and plated silverware now shown in the shops make the buying of useful wedding gifts, birthday remembrances and prizes no longer a task. Dainty table accessories are particularly tempting and every young housewife is much more pleased to receive something useful to beautify her dining table than she is to have her dressing table or secretary receive all the attention, and so many really new and pretty things are now being devised that the matron who has passed her silver wedding day may also find an abundance of articles that fill a long felt want.

The new bread baskets are oblong in shape, shallow, and have four tiny little claw feet to rest upon. The sides of the basket are of a very open pattern to represent wheat ears and grass. Stalks of the same grain form a graceful handle at each end of the dish. Silver jelly tumblers and marmalade jar holders are in openwork scroll patterns, are fastened firmly to a silver plate and have a solid cover. The glass or jar is placed inside, and the jam spoon rests upon the plate. Both worcestershire and tabasco sauce are thought by epicures not to have the same flavor if not taken from the original bottles. Some quick witted person has devised a holder of filigree silver in which to stand the bottle, thus making the unsightly bottle an ornament.

Hot sauces are indispensable for many dishes, and a clever Englishman has invented something to take the place of the unsatisfactory gravy boats so long in use. It is a vessel of silver, shaped like a low shallow pitcher with a long pointed nose and a burnt ivory or ebony handle. A hinged cover fits closely over the top of this vessel, with an ivory knob for a handle. This pitcher rests upon a slender standard fastened securely to an oblong silver plate holding a tiny alcohol lamp, so that the sauce can be kept steaming and the guest unfortunate enough to be served last at a long table need not decline his much desired sauce because the gravy is already becoming set.

Eight dollars for a nutmeg grater? And why not? These graters are of silver and exceedingly ornamental as well as useful. The flavor of nutmeg is disliked by many, but for others a dish is not complete without a dash of this condiment. With this handy device, each guest may suit his own taste, and one almost wishes to like nutmeg for the pleasure of having a closer look at the little silver ornaments.

Silver mutton bone holders are a boon to every carver. They are of plain silver, with a chased rim, and made to fit over the bone. They are held securely in place by a small thumbscrew.

The tall and slender silver bound, cut glass pitchers for claret cup or fancy drinks have finally had a spoon made for them. It has a deep, egg shaped bowl and an ornamented twisted handle, which is amply long enough to come above the top of the largest size pitcher.

What is prettier for a little gift to an invalid than a lemonade spoon? The bowl of the spoon is a gold shaped shell. A long, round, slim handle starts from under the shell and is finished at the top with a tiny ball. This handle is hollow and makes a silver straw through which to draw the lemonade.

The newest chocolate spoons have the same rounded bowls as formerly, but have decorated Dresden handles.

The chafing dish is not neglected. One set has three pieces—a large spoon and two forks, one fork four tined and the other with two large tines. The handles are of ornamental silver, and also of beautifully polished burnt ivory.

The white porcelain pie plate can now have a silver frame resting upon four little balls for feet. The plate fits perfectly in this openwork silver case. A long and slender openwork pie knife comes with the frame.—New York Sun.

Men's and Women's Theater Hats.

Even the worm will turn. The question of women's hats at theaters has entered upon an acute phase. During the performance of "Mme. Putiphar," at the Athenee Comique, a gentleman seated in the orchestra stalls coolly retained his headgear, and, when protests and cries were raised around him, he took no notice of them. An official having walked up to him with a polite remonstrance, he quietly pointed to two ladies seated in front of him with hats much higher than his own, and remarked that so long as that was allowed he would continue to act as he had done. Allusion was then made to the police commissary, whereupon the gentleman left his place and requested that his money might be returned. As this was refused he took his departure, but he has lost no time in summoning the manager to appear before the justice of the peace, by whom the question will be thrashed out. The document with which the manager has been presented sets forth that there is no rule compelling men to remove their hats at theaters, and that, moreover, it is idle to pretend that their headgear prevents the other spectators from witnessing the performance, inasmuch as women's hats, which are now of ridiculously exaggerated proportions, are tolerated. Nor, it is added, does the difference of sex suffice to explain this unfair treatment, seeing that men are often in more need of a head covering than women. Accordingly, the gentleman asks that the price of his stall shall be returned to him and that 50 francs shall also be paid as compensation for his having been deprived of the pleasure of witnessing the performance.—London Telegraph.

Preventing Scurvy at Sea.

Nansen asserts that scurvy can easily be avoided in arctic expeditions by the use of properly preserved meat and fish, supporting the theory of Professor Torup of Christiania, that the disease is due to poisoning from bad meat. Scurvy was not so long ago the usual attendant of long sea voyages.

COLONIZING NATIONS.

No Country So Successful as Great Britain In Establishing Colonies.

A Japanese paper, the Yorodzu Choho, asks: "What, pray, have the Anglo-Saxons done when colonizing? Where are the Tasmanians? How many 'black fellows' and Maoris are alive today? Where are the wretched inhabitants of the islands along the eastern littoral of British North America? Where are the Hurons, Iroquois, Mengwes, Chippewas? Gone from the face of the globe. Yes, the Anglo Saxons have been successful colonizers. Their simple custom is to sweep away the aboriginal inhabitants of any desirable site and then ensconce themselves in well earned content on the soil."

Such is the opinion of a journal of Japan. However this may be, England is today the only European government, except Holland, which has a larger colonial than a home population. The total population of the British empire, including British protectorates in Asia and Africa, was 382,000,000 by the last census, while the total population of Great Britain by the same census was only 38,000,000, or 10 per cent. In other words, the colonial possessions of Great Britain were nine times larger than the home country in respect to population. Russia has extended to the east and south its imperial boundaries. France, in concert with England, has acquired new colonies in Asia and Africa. Portugal, Denmark and Holland have retained big colonies abroad, though the extent of the colonies of the first have been declining of late years, while the proportion of colonists to home inhabitants in Holland has declined during the last two centuries. But England keeps steadily increasing, and of late there has been an addition to the number of English colonies, while, on the other hand, the Spanish colonies, in respect of area and population, have been declining.

Curiously enough, Italy, which has an overflowing population and has contributed to the United States, to the Argentine Republic and to other American states thousands of hardy immigrants, has, in fact, no colonies of her own, and the effort to establish a protectorate in Abyssinia has ended disastrously. Still another European country which would seem to have many facilities for colonization is Austria, but there are no Austrian colonies and no serious expansion of the empire in any direction. There is no accounting for the existence of a "colonizing spirit" among nations. One extends its powers and authority; an adjacent country doesn't. Sweden, for instance, has for many years maintained colonies in various parts of the world. Norway, which adjoins it, never has, though the Norwegians are, perhaps, better sailors even than the Swedes. Holland has always been a colonizing country, and attestation of this is to be found in the city of New York. Belgium was not a colonizing country until recently, and when the two were associated together the Belgium provinces of Holland contributed but few colonizers. There have been many immigrants from Switzerland; there have been no Swiss colonies. The Mohammedan Arabs have extended their rule; the Mohammedan Turks never have. There have been Greek settlements, but no Greek colonies. The Anglo-Saxons, however, outrank all others in respect of colonization, the English and Scotch especially.—New York Sun.

Some New Stamps.

Stamp collectors will be interested to know that Korea has issued a new stamp bearing a curious combination of hieroglyphics which are interpreted to be symbolical of life and death, night and day. General Pierola celebrated his accession to the presidency of Peru by issuing a new stamp with a valiant looking, bearded warrior. Uruguay has a new one that is similar, but a little more gay. Portugal celebrated the seventh centenary of St. Anthony with a new stamp bearing a picture of that quaint monastic saint. France has recently issued a new series for Madagascar. Perak has a new one carrying a tiger with a very large, open mouth.

The Grand Duke of Luxemburg has published his portrait in the shape of a stamp. Prince Boris of Bulgaria has followed his example. Mauritius has a new series which, instead of the portrait of her majesty which ornamented the old one, presents its own coat of arms, consisting of a key, a ship and something that looks like a lighthouse. The finest works of art in the stamp line are those issued last summer by Greece to celebrate the Olympic games. They are embellished with pictures of the Acropolis, the Mercury of Praxiteles and other interesting subjects.—Chicago Record.

Only 11 days are required to send a letter from New York to Brindisi, in Italy.

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