

COMETARY INFLUENCES OF PRESENT INTEREST

The death of King Edward while Halley's comet is visible in the eastern sky has called attention again to the superstition of the Middle Ages, that the appearance of one of these unusual heavenly visitors presaged the death of a ruler or a personage of great importance.

appearance of a comet two years later was followed by the death of Charles the Bold. When the Emperor of Constantine Porphyrogenitus lay breathing his last, 359 A. D. "a gloomy and obscure star" shone for some time in the heavens. The death of Casimir, King of Poland, in 1058, was "announced" by a comet, and a similar sign was given in 1125 before the death of Wladislas, King of Bohemia.

ANGLO-SAXON AWKWARD IN RIVIERA CARNIVALS

Visitors to the Riviera this season report that they have not been allowed to forget the use of umbrellas, and the damage to dainty sunshades that have had to be used sometimes as a substitute has momentarily clouded many a merry face.

wreathed trone surveys the laughing, romping throng with the prettiest of smiles. But it is almost pathetic to observe the difficulty with which the average American or Britisher tries to adapt himself to the spirit of the carnival, lacking as he does the ebullient unconsciousness of the Gallic reveler.

er day a little scene at the railroad depot, which although outside the gay picture, was one of the most human episodes of the season. Dressed all in black, even to the great spectacles behind her crape veil a little old woman alighted from the train, accompanied by a woman companion. Only a concubine and a footman waited for the traveller, and although there were several people on the platform, scarcely one of them recognized the woman in black as she walked from the train to the roadway.

HOW THE CAMORRISTS TERRIFY THE PEOPLE

The Camorra of Naples is a secret criminal society like the Mafia of Sicily. The Camorristi have terrified Naples for years. They have laid people out on the wealthy. They terrorize judges and witnesses. The government finds it hard to extirpate the society.

ology, in a lecture delivered at Naples on April 24th, 1901, thus refers to the Camorra. "You have lately had in Naples a very fortunate struggle, which seems to have overcome one of the representatives of the high Camorra. But can we believe that the courageous wits and discipline of employees had touched the roots of the Camorra in this city? It would be self-deception to think so.

UNHAPPINESS IN MARRIED LIFE.

A great deal of the unhappiness in marriage comes from the fact that the average girl does not understand her own disposition and does not study more carefully that of the man she intends to marry.

GETTING READY FOR KILLING.

Stories of Rear-admiral E. H. C. Leutze, formerly commander of the navy yard at Washington, come in now and then from the New York yard, of which he is at present in charge.

JOHN REDMOND.

Like his immediate predecessor, Parnell, and Parnell's forerunner, Isaac Butt, Redmond is a man of mystery. Few even of his immediate followers are on intimate terms with him, and only a very few are admitted to his councils.

IN A SCHOOL FOR WAITERS.

In London there are three schools for waiters which attempt to teach the rudiments of what is on the whole a difficult and not unremunerative art. To one of these academies a writer in the Strand recently paid a visit.

BIRTHDAYS IN GERMANY.

To Americans who cease to recognize the frequent occurrence of birthdays after the age of discretion has been passed it may seem strange that the German navy publishes a book in which the birthdays not only of its officers but of their wives as well are recorded.

SOCIALISTS EXPECT GREAT VICTORIES IN COMING GERMAN ELECTIONS.

Though there are eight months before the announced date of the general election for the Reichstag, all parties are ready for the fray. The intervening time between now and November 27 will be spent in stoppage in meetings, in meetings, in meetings and exciting public interest.

SOME DAY.

"Some day!" We're all going to do a lot of things some day. We're going to systemize our work and get it all right down to a scientific basis, where we can develop the maximum of our efficiency.

NEW SWIMMING APPARATUS.

A swimming apparatus which can be carried in the pocket is described in the May number of the Popular Mechanics Magazine. It consists of two oblong air cushions, each subdivided into compartments which are connected together by transverse straps.

THE SEEDLESS ORANGE.

It is a little more than forty years since the seedless orange was first heard of. The late William Saunders, of the United States Department of Agriculture, brought it from Brazil in 1870. From Washington it was distributed to the orange sections of the United States.

INFORMATION CENSUS SEERKS.

The census, of gathering of statistics with respect to the internal affairs of the Dominion of Canada, will take place on the first of June, 1911, and all information gathered shall have reference to the same date, unless otherwise specified in the schedules, or determined by the minister of agriculture.

NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN.

Cleopatra wore no rat. Nero wore no congress gaiters. Nero never cursed the 'phone. Noah saw no aviators.

TO CLEAN OLD BRASS.

For the amateur collector of antiquities it is often difficult to distinguish between a good piece of brass and a modern imitation of the old metal, and if one is so fortunate as to make the correct distinction then one is often confronted with the difficulty of rubbing off the tarnish when it is ingrained with stains of old standing.

CONDITIONS AT PEZ.

TANGIER, April 22—A despatch from Pez, dated April 15, says that the situation growing out of the revolt of the tribesmen was then unchanged, but the Europeans there were slightly less anxious than they had been. The despatch also says that the prices of food stuffs had been reduced.

STAMPS.

If stamps have become glued together, do not soak them in water, but lay a thin paper over them and run a hot iron over it. They will then come apart easily and the mucilage will remain instead of being soaked off.

N.Y. AUTO TEST PRESAGES PASSING OF FIRE HORSE.

As a result of the recent successful test of a new type of self-propelled fire engine by the New York City Fire Department, it has been officially predicted that in five or six years there will not be a single horse-drawn fire engine, tender, truck or water tower in that city.

PILGRIMAGE OF CATHOLICS TO FOLLOW CHAUCER'S ROUTE.

One hundred and fifty Britishers are planning a pilgrimage walk from London to Canterbury, following as nearly as possible in the footsteps of the pilgrims immortalized by Chaucer in "The Canterbury Tales." These wayfarers will form part of the annual Roman Catholic pilgrimage from Britain to Bruges.

PIRATES IN THE SEA.

The Londoners enthused with literary traditions, will meet at the famous Tabard Inn, and in the first day accomplish the eighteen mile walk to Gravesend, and so on by daily stages to Canterbury. There will be no fainting of banners or flags, but in passing every pilgrim's pocket will be a "Canterbury Tales." These wayfarers will form part of the annual Roman Catholic pilgrimage from Britain to Bruges.

GREATNESS OF WOLFE

were found in his coat pocket after his death. But few have given Wolfe the full credit that is due to him for his passionate enthusiasm for education. A good many officers besides Wolfe in the eighteenth century may have read Montesquieu, Thucydides and the Iliad; but did any besides Wolfe think that these things were a necessary part of the soldier's education? He was an early champion of a scientific spirit in war.

QUEEN AND PRINCE

The glory of Queen Mary, who was married to King George in 1892, is that she is an English Princess born and bred. Her father was the Duke of Teck, and she and her husband are cousins. Both the future Queen and King George were described in 1868, when but two years old, as "as sweet and engaging a child as you could wish to see, full of life and fun and as playful as a kitten." She and the then Prince of Wales' children were intimate in childhood, and it has been said that her affections were at one time set on King George's elder brother, the late Duke of Clarence. At any rate, her marriage to the younger brother has been a singularly happy one.

QUEEN AND PRINCE

is a keen conversationalist, as those who met her in Canada in 1901 will remember; she has an active and well-informed mind, and is fond of outdoor sport. In appearance she is above medium, of good figure, and possesses a height, of good figure, and is the eldest of King George's six children, having been born June 23, 1894. He and his brothers and sisters have been brought up in a strict, but firm, discipline. Prince Edward entered the Royal Naval College at Cowes in 1907, and his younger brother, Albert, became a cadet last year. It is said of both that they are enthusiastic and diligent students, and exceptionally promising mathematicians. They are also fond of field sports, and are keen and bold riders. Although Prince Edward is, by importance than Prince Albert, their father has been at great pains to keep them on a footing of impartiality. The King's children have been kept much out of the public view, and the result is said to be that they are wholesome and unaffected.

NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN.

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