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[REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER]

Vol. XLIII.—No. 14.

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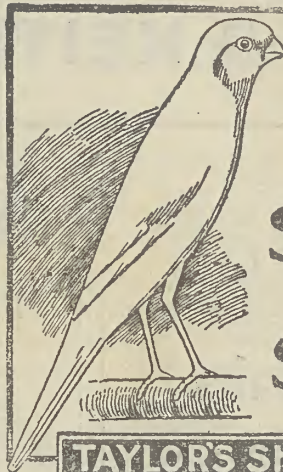
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


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
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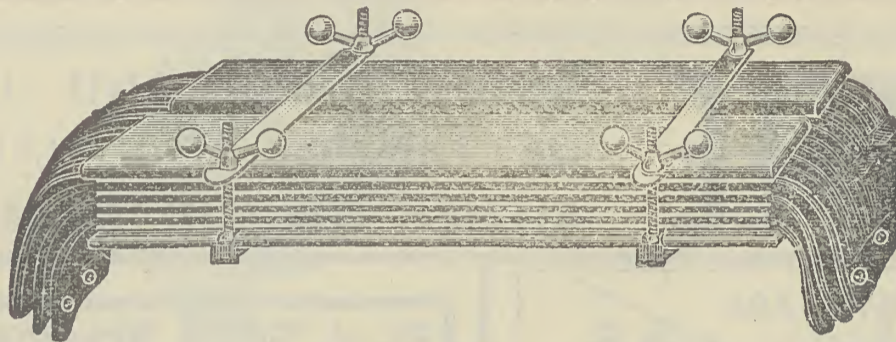
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JAMES SHIRRAS.

52 to 58 GEORGE STREET.



April 2, 1908.

[REGISTERED AS A
NEWSPAPER.]Published every Thursday by the Proprietor, HENRY MUNRO,
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panied by stamped and addressed envelopes, will be returned
in due course.*

KINCARDINESHIRE.

A DON QUIXOTE spirit animates the Kincardineshire Liberals. Their valour is more praiseworthy than their prudence. "Let us have a fight on equal terms," they say. "Why should we put up a veteran like Dr. John Fleming, of Dalmuinzie, against the young laird of Drumtochty? We would be sure to win with the odds in our favour. Give us, rather, a young untried political warrior, and let us make a sporting fight for the seat." This in effect is the position at present; and though it may be good sport, it is mighty bad electioneering tactics.

Dr. Fleming deserves some sympathy. By force of circumstances he has been driven into the vanguard of local Liberalism, and though the field was formerly filled with valiant and likely men, he now stands almost alone as a possible Parliamentarian. Into the causes of this apparent degeneracy of Liberalism it is not our present purpose to inquire, but the fact remains that the local organisations should deal more kindly and considerately with the able men that are still left to them. Dr. Fleming is not likely to sulk, Achilles-like, in his tent. There is no need for him to do so. He may yet have the reversion of a seat nearer home. At any rate, the London correspondent of the *Free Press* recognises the situation sufficiently to suggest that the ex-Lord Provost may be offered a burgh constituency sooner or later.

What we have just written is taking for granted that at the meeting of the Kincardineshire Liberal Association this afternoon the recommendation of the General Council in favour of young Captain Murray will be adopted. It is far from probable that the Council's decision will be overturned, in spite of the strong and determined agitation that has broken out in Torry.

The Liberals will have themselves to blame if they find themselves in a tight corner. Kincardineshire is one of the most difficult constituencies to handle in the whole country. It has more diversified and antagonistic interests, under the same flag, than even West or East Aberdeenshire. The decay of the line fishing, for instance, means the removal of most of the old grievances against trawlers, which used to form the stock-in-trade of the non-urban Liberal members. Such an able politician as the late Mr. J. W. Crombie could, however, adapt himself, with incomparable adroitness, to the changing conditions; but, with a new man in the field, it will be found, most likely, that the greater part of Torry will go dead against the Liberal Government, which has pursued such a vacillating policy in regard to the Moray Firth. Far be it from us to suggest that the Secretary for Scotland should think of doing justly by all men merely to score a party triumph, but if he wants to make Torry vote solidly for the Liberal, he could not do better than remove the absurd embargo on trawling within the Moray Firth area. The case for the Crown has had the bottom knocked clean out of it, by the admission that the Fishery Board has been acting *ultra vires* in the prosecution of foreign trawlers. We mention this subject for the purpose mainly of showing the Liberals how dangerous it will be to turn a novice like Captain Murray on to deal with a topic that

demands such delicate handling. No doubt the ex-Ghoorka officer, with careful coaching, will do his best, but ten to one, he will put his foot in it.

Though the issue in this election is not to be confounded by the presence of a Labour candidate, the Socialists, who have swallowed up the old Radicals, will not be ready to give their support to the Liberal, who is the son of a Peer, and may be suspected of having mixed feelings on the question of the House of Lords. Their influence, like that of the Suffragettes, will be generally "agin' the Government," and the Laird of Drumtochty will indirectly reap the benefit of that attitude. Notwithstanding Captain Murray's gallant acquiescence in the aims of the Suffragists, the ladies are in no mood to modify their active opposition to the Government nominee, and the smartest of the female campaigners, with Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Gawthorpe, and Miss Helen Fraser at their head, have already invaded the constituency. The situation has thus all the elements of a stirring typical bye-election, and, despite the dour unflinching Liberalism for which Kincardineshire has long been famous, the party in power will have their work cut out for them to keep their majority up to its lowest tide-mark.

* * *

The Student and the Girl.

"Love seldom haunts the breast where learning lies,
And Venus sets ere Mercury can rise."—Pope.

To Campus Pittodria Man had repaired—
The office-boy, lawyer, the Prof., and the laird—
When Juvenal fresh from Arcadian retreat
Went into a shop in our principal street.

'Twas only a bun-shop, where afternoon teas
Are served to the ladies who live at their ease—
A rather odd place for a woman decrrier,
But quite the best place for his matchless satire.

Spying out a maid who belonged to his "set,"
He walked to her side for a quiet tête-à-tête;
To discuss, as he hoped, why Mommsen had stated
That Cicero had always been much over-rated.

Or why the Helotae of Lacedaemon
Got so dreadfully drunk in the days that are gone,
When no Licensing Bills had been passed in Greece
And Sparta was famed for her laws and her peace.

"How d'you do, Robert?" the maiden began.
"Have the Celtic scored yet, pray tell me, good man?
I've had to 'chuck' hockey for two weeks and more:
I injured my knee-cap, and how I did roar!"

Quoth Robert, "I wonder why Horace so soon
Died after Mecaenas: why Luna, the moon,
Does not a Euclidean circle describe
When revolving around this terrestrial tribe?"

"Don't you think Julius Caesar too much of a brag,
And Xantippe quite the most horrible nag?"
But all that the maiden was heard to reply
Was, "Robert, I don't like the shade of your tie!"

"Are you never enchanted," asked Junius Juv.,
Desiring to get her thoughts out of the groove,
'When reading 'The Birds,' or Anacreon's 'Odes,'
'The Seven against Thebes,' or Horatian 'Epodes'?"

"Come, tell me your favourite character of old;
Was it Xerxes, or Nero, or Charles the Bold,
Or are you enamoured of old Abraham?"

— "I'd rather, dear Robert, you'd pass me the jam!"

But this was too much for poor Juvenal the wise,
"Pray let us," he cried, "have a look at the skies.
There's Jupiter, and Sirius, and shapely Orion,
And Cancer, the Crab, next to Leo, the Lion.

"What lovelier sight could there be when the sun
Has withdrawn his bright rays, and the night has begun?
These orbs are they near, or, I ask, are they far?"

— "Oh Robert," she said, "here's a Circular Car!"

The climax was reached: Young Juvenal he threw
The damsel aboard, and then bade her adieu,
Walked home by himself, and declared that his life
Would never be spoiled by an asinine wife.

J. W. O.

What is Whisky—and Whence?

Ode to ARIEL.

No scientist, savant, or sage one am I,
My Ariel frolicsome, frisky,
But a canny wee Scot with a fancy to try
His hand at the "ethics" of whisky.
I bow to no ban of the Rechabite sort,
Still less hold with "guzzling and muzzling,"
But take up the topic thro' love of pure sport,
And a *penchant* for quips quaint and puzzling.

The points of "guid fusky" I can't specify,
For I'm but a poor hand at analysis;
Indeed, such a task might a Solon defy,
And give to his pen-point paralysis.
But if I should paint you the squalor and woe
That flourish where keenest this trade is,
Then ask whence those soul-wrecking waters must flow,
Why, most surely you'd answer—from Hades!

Yet, ere we condemn it as Beelzebub brew,
And straightway to Tophet consign it,
Let's see what expert legislators can do
From all its base dross to refine it.
'Tis a much-abused beverage, all will allow,
Be he teetotal saint, be he sinner;
For tho' a brew-baleful to sup on, I trow,
'Tis a grand appetiser for dinner!

Then *what* is this whisky? A question complex,
That might baffle the brightest and boldest;
So *Bon-Accord* readers their souls needn't vex
O'er a problem the tritest and oldest.
'Tis a cooler in summer, a heater in cold—
Eden-vint, with a dash of the Styx;
A alchemist turning our dross into gold,
While resolving our "brass" into *nix*!

It sheds a rare glamour o'er scenes cold and grey,
Impairs and yet "doubles" the sight;
Like Phœbus, begildeth the night into day,
Plutonic, turns day into night.
An angel, a devil, a curse and a cure,
An artist in colouring "blue";
A gateway and guide to all regions impure,
But a rare 'un to frighten the "flu"!

It packs pub. and prison, but empties the pew,
Disdains not the meanest abode;
Strips bare the poor many to robe the rich few,
Yet lightens our tax-paying load.
Then balance those qualities like a true Scot,
And give to the devil his due;
Yet, now to the end of this stanza I've got,
I don't feel much wiser—do you?

But *who* is the quidnunc so cocksure as dare
Seek to solve this insoluble riddle?
Our March wags would brand *him* as mad as a hare,
Treat his treatise as pure taradiddle!
So please, gentle Ariel, let's call a halt
To a subject redolent of rot,
Lest haply you put me in steep with the malt,
With raw whisky consign me to pot!

G. B. H.

* * *

An *édition de luxe* of the history of the Clan Macrae, with genealogies, by the Rev. Alex. Macrae, M.A., curate of St. Helens, Bishopgate, London, will be shortly published by Mr. George Souter, Dingwall and Strathpeffer. "Gairloch and Wester Ross," by Alexander Polson, J.P., F.E.I.S., with illustrations by Finlay Mackinnon, will also be published next month by Mr. Souter.

The Doctor's Generosity.

Should he live long enough and manage to retain his lion's share of the plunder of the world, Dr. Andrew Carnegie will probably circle the globe with "free libraries and reading-rooms." Here is a new theory of his generosity. Next to beer, reading is the most effective of anæsthetics. Persons who drink beer are not likely to head revolutions; still less are the citizens who gloat over the newspaper reports of separation and divorce cases, and devote their nights and mornings to a rapturous study of the inspired pages of Annie S. Swan, Silas Hocking, Samuel Crockett, Elijah Peabody, and Ebenezer Coddling. Consequently, so long as Andie and the brotherhood of brewers contrive to flood the country with books and beer, their millions and "vested interests" are safe. This paragraph, which has got somewhat out of hand, is suggested by the fact that the Doctor has recently promised to give fifteen hundred pounds towards the cost of erecting and running a public library at Suva, in Fiji. The cheque will be received with thanks when it arrives.

* * *

The burglar was cautiously descending the stairs towards the door with his spoil when an electric globe flashed into light, and the master of the house confronted him. But the depredator's amazement at the unexpected vision was as nothing compared with his surprise at what he heard: "Don't be alarmed," said the householder; "just oblige me by posting this letter. It's the claim which I am sending to the Insurance Company."

* * *

Spring.

"Come, gentle Spring, ethereal mildness, come."

Lo, Spring, but not the Poets' Spring,
Advances in her autocar,
The wheels of which are wreathed in snow,
The petrol's frozen in the jar.

No saffron blooms her brows adorn,
No ess-bouquet perfumes her breath;
She shivers in her greenless garb,
Her shrivelled form diffuses death.

She moves in ether sharp as spear,
As bleak and barren as the grave;
Old Sol, repelled, withdraws his beams
Beyond the clouds; the wild winds rave.

March, lion-like, leads on the van,
Through hailstorms roaring with a vim;
The lamb we looked for in his wake's
Already swallowed up in him.

Sweet April wakes: she should have slept,
And dreamt of flowers, and sunshine's blaze;
A rude awakening is hers,
By rigours of the "borrowing days."

May, merry, erstwhile wont to be,
Dejected follows in the train;
Her "gab" exhales a blighting air,
Her horoscope reads "snow and rain."

Thus Spring, with all her retinue,
Pursues her path through cold intense;
Spring Poets may be with us now,
The Poets' Spring comes three months' hence.

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HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Acting Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson. 7.30 p.m. Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. James Carew and Company. To-night and Saturday night, "Henry of Lancaster." To-morrow and Saturday Matinee, "Captain Brassbound's Conversion."

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert. 7 and 9 p.m. Hilgert Arkax Company, Cyril Jarvis and Company, The Burnells, etc.

THE WINTER "ZOO." Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John Sinclair. Open all day. Special Evening Performances. 7.45 and 9 p.m. Saturday—School Children's Competition, 2.30 p.m. Musical matinee, 3.30 p.m.

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HUMBER'S WAXWORK.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. Humber. Open all day. Special Performances in evening.

PITTOODRIE PARK.—Match on Saturday. Aberdeen v. Partick Thistle. Kick-off, 3.45 p.m.

"Last Post."

Farewell to the man "who shot the dog!" On Tuesday the Volunteer passed into Limbo, but his soul goes marching along. Yesterday the Territorial Army, or as much of it as could be seen by a very active naked eye, came into existence, and we now breathe freely again. The surprising thing is that the Germans, who are said to have a special anxiety to devour Great Britain, and all that in there is, did not plan an attack timed to come off punctually at 11.59 p.m. on Tuesday night. Our foes would then have found us in the familiar position of being between the "devil and the deep sea"—these terms, be it understood, having no sinister reference to the qualities of either the Volunteers or the Territorials, but being merely employed for metaphorical purposes.

What Might Have Been.

Had the Germans descended upon us at the moment mentioned, the War Office would have been thrown into such a condition of confusion that the country would have had to rely on its natural talents for defence, and not on its army experts. Picture the scene, gentlemen! Mr. Haldane receives information that the Teutonic flotilla is off the Black Dog. He instantly summons a meeting of the Army Council, and rings up Kooy4 Aberdeen. "Are you there, Sir Alexander?" "Ay, ay, sir," is the immediate response. "Turn out the Territorials to repel invaders," says Haldane. "All right, sir. What will they wear? Kilts, trews, or pyjamas?" "I will discuss the matter with the Army Council now assembled in my back-parlour, and let you know the result of our deliberations. Ring off?" Three hours later telephone Kooy4 gently tintinnabulates. "Hulloa, Sir Alexander. The Council is equally divided between the kilt and the divided skirt." "Never mind," dolefully answers Sir Alexander. "Aberdeen was sacked an hour ago, and I have given the Kaiser a draft on the North of Scotland Town and County Bank, Limited, for £20,000,000. The German army leaves immediately by special train for London. They will look you up to-morrow afternoon. Ta-ta!"

The Art Gallery Curatorship.

The appointment of Mr. Alfred A. Longden to the post of Director of the Art Gallery and Curator of the Industrial Museum is sure to prove a popular and happy choice. Mr. Longden has a new position to fill and make, and it was thus

eminently desirable that the man selected should have had the benefit of wide experience. Although a comparatively young man, the new Curator has enjoyed exceptional opportunities of study and travel. His artistic training has been sound, and pictures of his have been exhibited at the Royal Academy, the New Gallery, and the Royal Institute. He was appointed secretary of the Arts and Crafts Exhibition Society in 1902, and conducted the successful exhibition of 1903. At the special request of the British Royal Commission for the St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, he was appointed as the representative of Applied Art, and after acting as secretary to the committee in London, he spent eleven months in St. Louis as resident representative of the British Government. While in the United States he took the special opportunity of studying art teaching in various schools and institutions. Mr. Longden filled a similar honourable position in connection with the International Exhibition at Christchurch, New Zealand. Sir Isidore Spielmann, C.M.G., F.S.A., Walter Crane, Sir Charles M. Watson, K.C.M.G., C.B., speak very highly of Mr. Longden's artistic ability, his organising skill and his winsome personality.

A Strathspey Pioneer.

Another fiddler, one of the greatest Aberdeenshire has produced, has been moved on by the "fell Sergeant." Peter Milne, the Tarland minstrel, died the other day in the Poorhouse, where for nine years he was immured, but though his latter days were passed in semi-oblivion, his name is revered as that of the pioneer of the present style of rendering the Strathspey. He was undoubtedly a genius, perhaps a trifle wayward, like many of that ilk, but his virtues outbalanced his faults. His excellencies were of so pronounced an order that most of his friends ought to have had a blind eye to his weaknesses. In the old days, in Marischal Street Theatre, he led the strings, and was universally popular among his musical confreres. Peter was a wonderful hand at telling a pawky Scotch story. The work by which he will be best remembered is "The Pride of Dee Valse," and the "Dean Brig o' Edinburgh," which he remodelled. Peter was among the last of the "Old Guard," and deserves a little niche, all to himself, in the Temple of Fame.

The D. N. and Kincardineshire.

Nearly every political article that appears in our venerated contemporary, the *Daily News*, appears to be impregnated with the genial spirit of the Rev. Mr. Stiggins, particularly when that eminent representative of Nonconformity was wound up to oratorical pitch by a more than usually liberal supply of pineapple rum. In dealing with the coming Kincardineshire election, a writer says suavely:—"There are rumours that the whole apparatus of mendacity has swept north (from Peckham) to Kincardine. . . . It is a furious fight, not a friendly skirmish; a real, not a phantom struggle. Boldness, deliberate purpose, and a resolution which can demand support and receive it from a high and stimulating effort, will alone secure victory." Hurrah! One wonders whether the apparatus of mendacity to which the eloquent scribe refers is to be operated by the imputed Suffragettes or the local Unionists.

Burns on the Bounce.

Mr. John Burns says the Peckham election has shown that "beer is on the bounce." I hope this is really the case, and that it will continue on the bounce till the "Right Honest" John and various other representatives of "scab" Liberalism are bounced out of the Cabinet, and out of the House of Commons. John mentions that the Government is to continue its policy of spoliation, which, with unconscious humour, he nicknames "domestic reform," during the whole of its deplorable existence. At the dissolution there is the cheerful prospect that, without beer playing any part in the contest, John will be bounced from Battersea. Any tears that may be shed over his fall are certain to be of the crocodile order.

Troublous Times for the Trade.

The directors of the Aberdeen Excise License Holders' Association stated in their annual report, submitted to the annual meeting yesterday, that the trade both in England and Scotland has had reason to view with considerable apprehension various measures that have been introduced. Reference is made to the part taken by the Association, through the president, Mr. G. M. Thomson, Mr. James Hill, Councillor Leith, and the secretary, Mr. George Mackenzie, solicitor, as deputationists, in opposing the Local Option Bill, which did not get beyond the second reading last session. If the English Licensing Bill becomes law in anything like its present form, changes of a

drastic nature must inevitably take place. The revenue of the country will have to suffer, investors must encounter large financial losses, and a vast multitude of wage-earners will be turned adrift from their employment. These are serious matters; other results may be equally serious; but it is difficult to foresee the ultimate gain as regards temperance reform. The Liquor Trade is meantime under strict supervision and proper control, but the effect of the Bill, as it stands, suggests the transference of the Trade in a large measure to other channels which are exempt from licence duties and proper control, and which, as yet, cannot be regarded as an infallible means to that high standard of temperance reform which everyone ought to hope for and desire to see. The Bill has no application to Scotland, but, should it reach the dignity of an Act of Parliament, an effort will no doubt be made to have certain of its principles merged in the Scottish Licensing System.

The Sinews of War.

Should such a crisis arise as that foreshadowed in the concluding sentences quoted above, the Aberdeen Association will be able to play its part. Its affairs are sagaciously conducted. A balance of £189 8s. 5d. to the good is recorded in the Treasurer's financial statement, and the membership stands at 270. Men and money are required, so that the hands of the Association may be strengthened for the critical times that are at hand.

Another Dundee Scandal.

The people of Dundee have just been provided with a fresh scandal. A Harbour official has not been on duty for two or three days, and it is alleged that he is responsible for defalcations at present estimated at £1000. Coming so soon after the Gas Office exposures, the new fama supports the contention of a multitude of the electors that the methods of conducting business in various of the departments is absolutely "red-rotten." Whoever is to blame there is no doubt Dundee has been somewhat laxly governed since the death of that deacon among town-clerks, Sir Thomas Thornton. Tam bossed everything and everybody, and though autocratic in the highest degree he was supremely efficient. When the Oracle spoke no Town Council dog dared bark.

Bungling Burglars.

Persons who aspire to shine as burglars ought, if possible, to reserve their apprenticeship to the craft in a remote country district where the police are not always on the prowl. The last brace of burglars arrested appear to have been wretched amateur bunglers. One was caught coming out of an ice-cream shop, where he had gone to get some cigarettes; the other was laid by the heels at a cabinet-maker's. Possibly he was there in search of tools likely to be of service in future operations, for money there was none on the premises. In both cases drink was assigned as the reason of the crimes. This the fiscal was not inclined to admit. The point, however, is of little importance, except as a warning to other housebreakers to "join the teetotal" when they are on the burgle. Most of the Kings of Burglardom are rigid abstainers. In fact, in most money-making professions total abstinence from alcoholic fluids is the key to success.

Literary "Heroism."

We are glad to see that the *Free Press*, which prides itself on being the most literary paper in the United Kingdom, has the courage to make emendations on the work of the late Mr. Shakespeare. Principal Marshall Lang, in his speech at the Technical College Conference, the other day, quoted the familiar line about Othello's occupation being gone. The *Free Press* men were to be no parties to palming off this second hand goods as original copy, and with a heroism that deserves the biscuit, they rendered the learned Principal's words as follows:—"The educational circumstances had so changed since the Provisional Order was secured that a fellow's occupation was almost gone, that was to say, having regard to the means and resources at the command of a fellow."

Slater's Saturday Night.

Mr. Samuel Slater, sawtrimmer, of Nelson Street, must really be a remarkably expert tradesman. According to his wife, he is scarcely ever sober, yet he manages to make a weekly wage of 38s. Out of this amount Sam contributes the magnificent sum of two or three shillings a week for the upkeep of the house. He is sly, devilish sly, is Sam. In order that

there may be no undue guzzling in his home he buys his own food and locks it up in a chest. The balance of his earnings the thirsty sawtrimmer spends in drink. Like himself, his favourite tipple is ignoble—a mixture of beer and unreduced rum. Few, if any of Sam's Saturday nights are spent after the fashion celebrated by Burns. Occasionally, indeed, he goes completely over the score, particularly on Saturday last, when he came home drunk and assaulted his wife. The pity is that the son who gave evidence against him is not yet old enough to wallop his parent. Any lack of filial reverence involved in such an action would surely be forgiven him.

"A Lazy, Loafing Scoundrel."

Alexander Lawrie, a young man of no promise, who has just attained his majority, recently formed himself into a Distress Committee with powers to relieve himself and his wife and child. This, probably, is how he accounts for the ill-executed series of misdemeanours which have housed him at Craiginches for sixty days. The Fiscal, however, says that Alexander will not work, and an uncle describes him in strenuous language as a "lazy, loafing scoundrel." This has the effect of depriving the prisoner of all claim to our sympathy. Probably from every point of view it is better that Lawrie should be put away. In prison he may overcome his dislike to work—a dislike which is shared by all genuine philosophers—and it is likely, too, that his wife and child will be much better looked after in future than if he had remained in the position of head of the household.

For Supper.

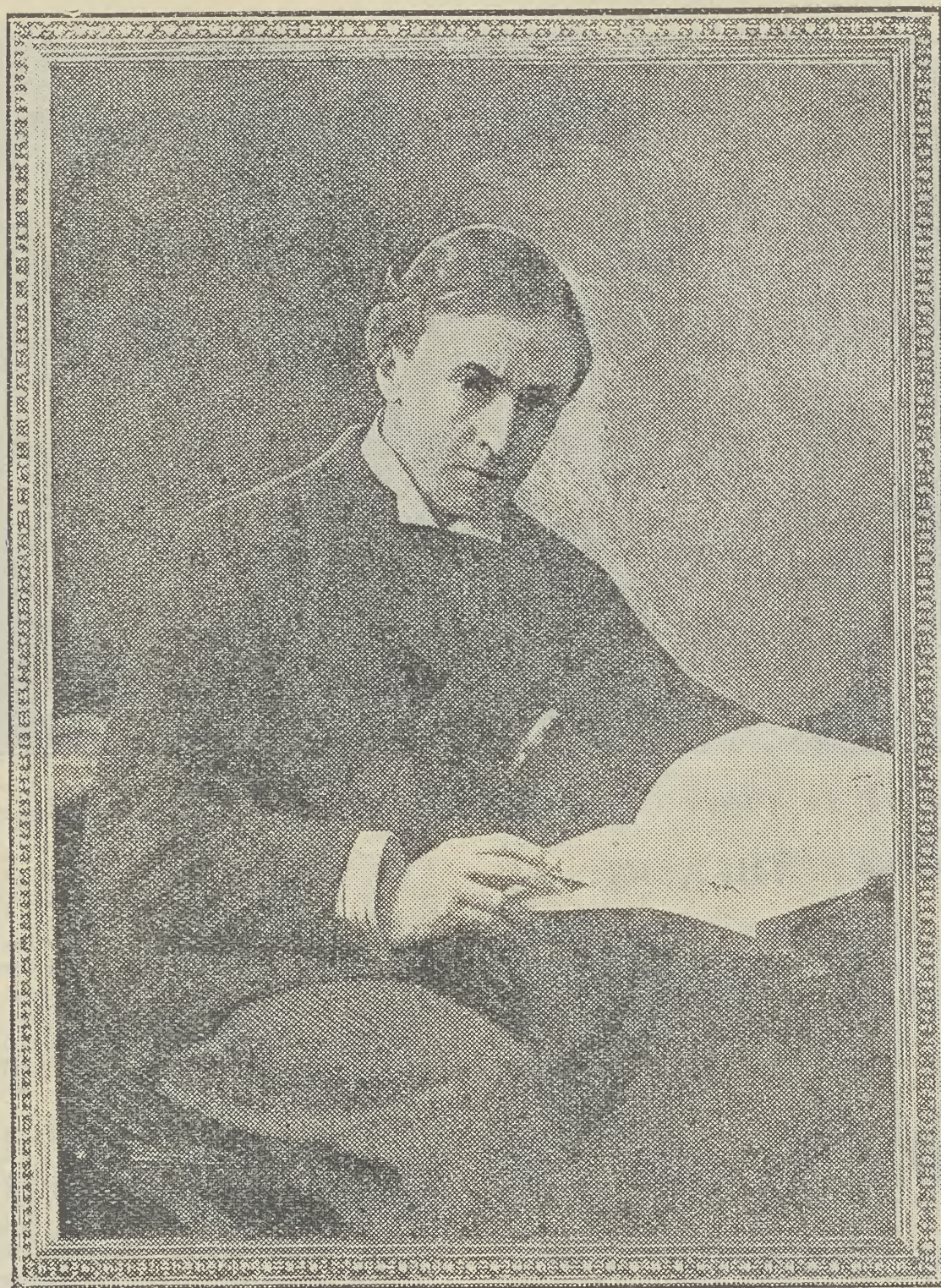
Brown & Polson's "Patent" Corn Flour prepared with good milk as a hot soup or simple baked pudding makes a light supper dish, such as imposes no tax upon the digestion, and induces a good night's rest. A few sultanas added makes a nice variety.

Messrs. A. C. Grant, Ltd.'s, Spring and Summer Fashions.

The enterprising firm of A. C. Grant, Ltd., Clothiers, Caledonian House, Grantown, who have now an important west-end London branch in Maddox Street, just off Bond Street, have just issued a most attractively got up booklet with their spring and summer fashions. The metropolitan extension has been found necessary owing to the firm's large and increasing connection in and around London. Considering the high quality of the materials, and the fashionable character of the "cut" of all garments supplied by Messrs. Grant, their prices, as compared with those charged by the more noted London tailors, are extremely moderate.

The Abruzzi-Elkins Marriage.

I believe that a marriage has most chance of being fairly happy when the contracting parties belong to the same rank in life. If anything, the husband should be of "better family" than the wife. That will prevent her uttering many barbed reproaches in the future. Particularly, as a humane animal, do I object to the proposed union between the royal Duke of Abruzzi, and Miss Elkins, millionairess of Ohio, or some other American State. If the two are bound to marry, then I say they are fools, and the man the worst fool of the twain. If his love were not purely selfish he would never attempt to foist the woman into a circle where she will be ostracised, or else treated with the scant courtesy extended to a great man's concubine, and where her children, even though declared of the royal caste, will be regarded as mongrels in blood, in fact, little better than bastards.



Mr. MARTIN HARVEY.

"The Bride of Lammermoor."

Mr. Martin Harvey will make his reappearance at His Majesty's Theatre on Monday evening, as Edgar Ravenswood, in Mr. Stephen Phillips' dramatised version of "The Bride of Lammermoor." Mr. Harvey will be supported by Miss N. de Silva and by his complete London Company. "The Bride of Lammermoor" has made a phenomenal success in Glasgow and Edinburgh, and a similar result awaits the play in Aberdeen, where Mr. Harvey is so popular. On Tuesday evening "Hamlet" will be produced, by special request. "The Bride of Lammermoor" will be staged on the other nights of the week.

* * *

Miss Ellen Terry at His Majesty's.

Mr. George Bernard Shaw, the greatest dramatist of to-day, is the author of "Captain Brassbound's Conversion." It is, to a large extent, a "one-woman" play, and the greatest actress of modern times, Miss Ellen Terry, is playing it this week at the Theatre. There are people who make no pretensions to subtlety of mind, who declare, with enthusiasm, that among the many notable theatrical treats we have had lately this play has afforded them the most intellectual enjoyment and amusement. The atmosphere of topsy-turvyism in the social entanglement of the play is set forth with diabolical truthfulness, and the dialogue is

a continuous flow of the most pointed self-revealing nature, illuminated throughout with trenchant wit.

He who hath ears to hear and eyes to see will comprehend the serious, underlying purport in this, as in all Shaw's dramas, and will be gripped by the arresting truths of his penetrating Fabian philosophy. "Captain Brassbound's Conversion" is one of his famous trio of plays written for Puritans, and there is no dubiety as to what he means by "Puritans." The play is, further, an amusing study in dialects. In the matter of characterisation it is dominated by the irresistible charming wilfulness of the one woman in the play, Lady Cecily Waynflete. It is a part which suits Miss Terry's genius as a comedienne to perfection. With the exception of Nance Oldfield, we have never seen her in anything so likeable and loveable. Mr. Shaw describes Lady Cecily as a good-looking woman between 30 and 40, and there is therefore no straining, but a perfectly natural assumption of the character. Her winsomeness and resource never fail, and she interprets the character with a wealth of humanistic detail. Mr. James Carew plays Captain Brassbound, who is a character of markedly Shavian mould. He plays the part well, better, indeed, than most people seem to realise at first acquaintance. Mr. Max Montesole makes a notable success as Mr. Drinkwater, and both Mr. Frank Fenton and Mr. Story-Gofton are very acceptable as the judge and the missionary. The action of the play takes place in Morocco, and the scenery is as picturesque as it is appropriate.



Miss ELLEN TERRY and Mr. JAMES CAREW in "Henry of Lancaster."

THE PALACE THEATRE.

Neither the gale nor the downpour of Monday evening intimidated the patrons of the Palace, and, as a consequence, the house was quite as full as usual at both performances. The programme is particularly varied this week, and all the artists are well up to their business. Heading the bill are the Hilgert Arkax Company of acrobats, who are already famous on the Continent. The troupe certainly cannot complain of any lack of warmth in their welcome to Aberdeen. The Burnells appear with the utmost success in a farcical sketch, "On the Links," which gives full scope to their versatile talents; and a hit is also made by the two pretty girl contralto singers—Miss Fraser and Miss Haley—who are enthusiastically applauded; Halma is extremely versatile as a juggler; and Mlle. Florette contributes a remarkable turn as a contortionist. Mr. Cyril Jarvis's Company appear in an amusingly written and cleverly contrived sketch, "In Trouble," which is exceedingly well acted; and Mr. Harry Taylor and Mr. Victor Travers are also popular. The Bioscope show includes two exceptionally interesting films, "When Satan Plays"; and the orchestra, under Mr. Shepperd, gives a finely executed and much appreciated rendering of that excellent composition, "The Imperial Volunteers."

* * *

The Winter Zoo.

The number of entrants in the wild animal sketching competition at the Zoo last Saturday was considerably larger than on the occasion of the first contest. The work was so good all round that Mr. Brodie Crawford had some difficulty in placing the winners of Mr. Sinclair's prizes. Finally he made the awards as follows:—(1) George Fyfe, Rosemount School; (2) S. Leslie, Skene Square School; and (3) James Ogston, Central. Handsome money prizes subscribed by Councillor Christie, Mr. Beattie-Scott, and Mr. Crawford, were also given to the three competitors next in order of merit, namely, James Morrison, Ferryhill School; David Crone, Rosemount School; and John Bisset, C. of S. Normal School. Mr. Beattie-Scott distributed the prizes, and out of the fulness of his experience gave the children some valuable hints as to the best methods of going to work to attain artistic success. Another competition, in which drawing—pencil and water-colour—will form a feature, has been arranged for Saturday first.

The variety part of the programme on Monday, when, in spite of the dismal weather, the house held a large crowd of interested spectators, was sustained by Mr. Jack M'Kechnie, who increases in popularity as a comedian; the inimitable Mr. Barney Duffy, eccentric and dancer; and Mr. O'Brien, a promising aspirant of the Irish persuasion. Mr. Dove Paterson shows an entirely new set of films this week. Chief among them is the series amusingly depicting the misadventures caused by a runaway horse, "Why the Wedding was put off," and "Little Jules Verne." Mr. A. Bannerman plays the accompaniments acceptably.

Chaka, the lion, who has been on the sick-list of late, is now fast recovering his wonted strength. I regret to say that his royal consort, Sheba, showed little sympathy with him in his affliction. Indeed, it is reported that on more than one occasion she attempted to make off with the tit-bits intended for the patient. Sheba is certainly not a ministering angel.

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MUSICAL GOSSIP.

By "Vox."

The Last Harrison Concert.

For the last Harrison Concert of the season, which will take place on Monday, April 13th, most of the artistes are well known to concert-goers. There is Miss Louise Dale, soprano; Madame Ada Crossley (whose fine voice and most artistic method are indisputably magnificent); Mr. Ben Davies, tenor, and Mr. Robert Radford, bass; while Miss Emily Buchanan (violin) and Miss Jean Buchanan (piano) make it certain that the instrumental part of the programme will be well represented. Mr. Harrison, by this goodly company of singers, will give delight to those of his patrons whose likings are towards ballad music.

* * *

"The Mikado" by Juveniles.

When the Gilbert and Sullivan operas are essayed by juveniles the performances are not infrequently musically weak, and histrionically almost ridiculous, but it must be said of Madame Shirley Jackson's Juvenile Choir, in their performances of "The Mikado" last week, that there was a surprising amount of very good acting, while the singing was excellent, particularly in the choruses. The boys' voices were a little untuneful in their upper notes, but the girls gave delightful music, and their pretty movements in the dances were a most pleasing feature of the performances. As Katisha, Miss Robina Murison was well fitted for the part. Her singing was of more than average merit, and her acting, if somewhat conventional, was, nevertheless, always correct. Miss Liza Copeland, as Yum-Yum, sang in a clear, pleasant voice, and her acting was natural, and, at points, thoroughly graceful. Nankipoo, Ko-Ko, Pish-Tush, and Pooh-Bah were not all equally gifted in speech and song, but they made good appearances in their respective rôles. One of the best concerted pieces was "Brightly dawns," which was so effectively sung as to merit repetition.

* * *

"The Lily of Killarney."

Mr. W. A. Craig's Operatic Choir must be a plucky body, for on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of next week they will give performances of Sir Julius Benedict's delightful but difficult opera, "The Lily of Killarney." To tackle such a work with a first year's operatic company of amateurs is astonishing, but it is wonderful what enthusiasm can achieve, and I hope their performances will be successful. In "The Lily" there is great scope for splendid acting, notably for Myles Na Coppaleen and Danny Man, who will be personated respectively by Mr. A. M. Benton and Mr. A. R. Dewar, while, musically, the part of Hardress Cregan will give Mr. W. A. Craig capital opportunity as a tenor. Mr. G. W. Morgan will conduct the chorus and orchestra.

* * *

"How are you getting along at golf, old man?" Linksman (enthusiastically)—"First-rate. Smashed thirty clubs, broken a stray cat's back, splintered the sash of the Club-house window, and laid out four caddies. Oh, I'm getting along, you bet. Why, I can't find a man to play against me now, and I've only been practising for one season."

Queen's Rooms "At Home."

A most enjoyable "At Home" in connection with this popular restaurant was held in the big hall of the establishment last Saturday. Over 50 couples were present, including the members of the staff and their friends. Dancing was begun timeously, and kept up enthusiastically till an early hour next morning. Supper was served in the course of the evening, under the genial presidency of Mr. William Duff (Messrs. Worthington & Co., Ltd.). After an excellent repast, Mr. Duff, in felicitous terms, proposed the health of Mr. and Mrs. Carr, the respected manager and manageress of the "Queen's," for their kind hospitality, and the trouble to which they had put themselves in getting up the entertainment. Mr. Carr made a most appropriate reply on behalf of Mrs. Carr and himself. Altogether a very pleasant evening was spent.

* * *

Canning Caine.

Mr. Derwent Hall Caine, the eldest son of the Manx prophet, has appeared with success as Bruno Rocco in a condensed dramatised version of the trial scene from his father's "Eternal City," which was played recently at the Hippodrome, Crouch End. Referring to the great novelist, Mr. James Douglas, the eminent critic, who is by no means a great novelist, says somewhat cruelly: "A man of genius knows that his face must be stamped upon the memory of the public . . . like the name of a soap or a pill. It is therefore his business to have a face that is hard to forget. Now Mr. Caine has succeeded where so many men of genius have failed."

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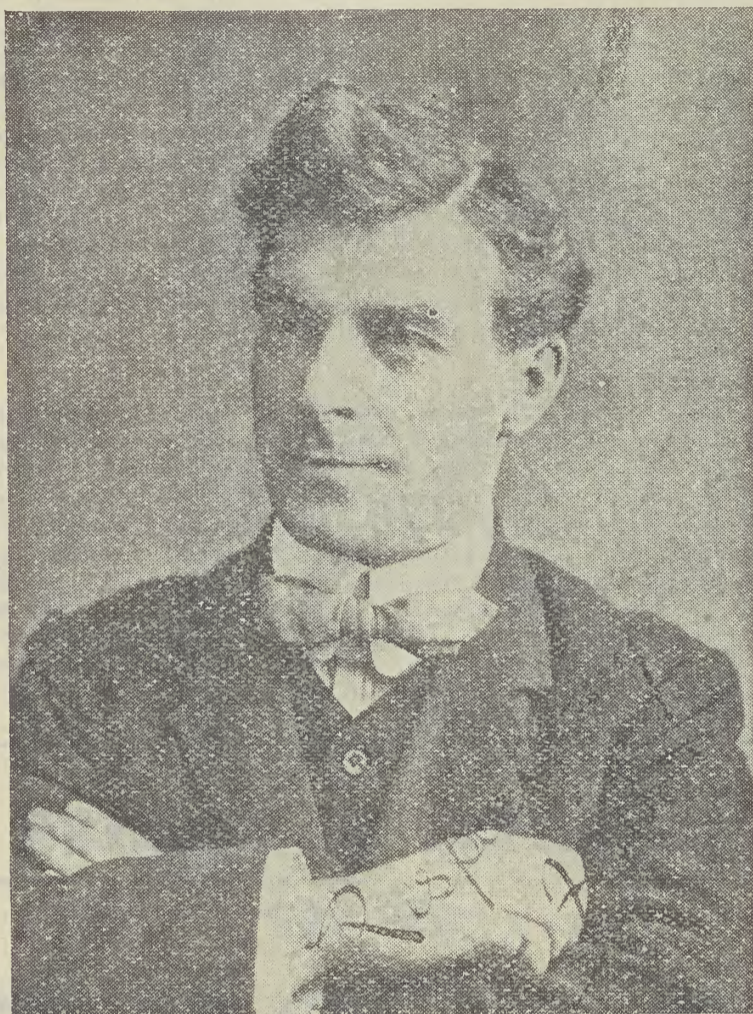
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Empire Music Hall.



Mr. Dan Fraser, Comedian.

Mr. Dan Fraser, the popular comedian, who has been continuously engaged at the Empire since the opening four months ago, took his Benefit last Friday. The house was crowded in every part. In fact, so many of Dan's admirers could not find seats that an overflow meeting could easily have been held. The programme was well worthy of the occasion. Extra turns were contributed by Mr. Robert Anderson, ball-punching expert; Miss Vera Gray, comedienne; Duggan and Dillon, eccentric comedians; Mr. Will Sheridan, violinist; Miss Crow, danseuse; Mr. Peter Massie, vocalist; Collie and Collie, cake-walk exponents; Mr. J. M. Grant, tenor; Miss Daisy Watt, champion lady piper of Scotland, and others; and the "business" of the Geisha Company, which included Miss Jessie Bunting and Mr. Grant, in addition to Mr. Montague, Miss Marie Rose, Mr. Fraser, and Mr. Arthur Bright, a former Alhambra favourite, was, as usual, thoroughly appreciated. The piano accompaniments, no small part in the performance, were played by Miss May Calder, with Mr. Bright as an occasional substitute, and Mr. William Calder directed the cinematograph display.

In the course of the evening Mr. Montague, on behalf of the artists and a few friends, presented Mr. Fraser with a handsome dressing-case. The latter, in the course of his reply, referred to the members of the Empire staff as a happy family, and mentioned that he would be with Mr. Montague when that gentleman opened with his Pierrot Company at Stonehaven a few weeks hence. "If Monty doesn't know a good servant," said Dan, in conclusion, with a touch of characteristic jocularly, "I know a good boss, and I'm not going to leave him." From the appreciative remarks that fell from "Monty" while making the presentation, there can be no doubt he is perfectly alive to Mr. Fraser's many good points, both off and on the stage.

Though he has acquired so good a "grup" of the Aberdeen accent as to be able to pass for a native, Mr. Fraser, who is still in the twenties, was born in Inverness. Since boyhood he has felt most at home when facing the footlights. Like Harry Lauder, he began his career as a sentimental vocalist. Eleven years ago he scored his first success and earned his first professional fee—the half-a-crown paid him by the late Mr. David Christie for singing a couple of ballads in St. Katherine's Hall.

Dan gained his first experience of comedy work as corner-man in the Dixie Minstrels, a once well-known troupe of "coloured" entertainers. About four years ago he decided to come out as a Scottish comedian. In this he was well advised. First, he appeared with Mr. Will Penders' Company at Laurencekirk, and the impression he made was so favourable that numerous other engagements speedily followed.

Mr. Fraser has now been a "Professional" for three years. In that capacity he was four months with Melvin's Mascots at Forfar, and afterwards he successfully filled many important engagements, both in the north and south of Scotland. Mr. Robert Calder of cinematograph fame has been one of his staunchest friends and patrons. "No artist who wants to launch out in the profession," says Mr. Fraser gratefully, "could fall into more encouraging hands than those of 'Pa' Calder, who, in his time, has introduced many new artists to the public."

Dan's first engagement with Mr. Montague was at Stonehaven two years ago. "I expect," said the comedian, when interrogated as to his future prospects, "to spend another happy summer with him, for 'Monty' is one of those managers who believe in giving their artists every encouragement." In answer to further queries Mr. Fraser stated that he was always received with the utmost enthusiasm in his native Clach-na-cuddin. He liked Aberdeen audiences immensely. They always received him with exceeding great kindness. Dan, it may be noted, writes most of his own songs. Undoubtedly, he is an artist of great versatility and resource, with a voice of remarkable range for a comedian, and his professional future should be one of no ordinary brilliance.

The house, as usual, was crowded in every part on Monday. The Sisters Crossley danced and sang with remarkable spirit and grace, and both were equally successful in their separate turns as Miss Marie Rose and Miss Jessie Bunting. Mr. Arthur Bright not only sings well, but is really a champion performer on the Milanese pipes; and Mr. J. M. Grant's fine tenor voice was heard to the best advantage in a number of attractive ditties. Mr. Dan Fraser sang and pattered most delightfully, and his encores were embarrassingly frequent. The Geisha troupe of entertainers, with Mr. Montague at their head, contributed several amusing interludes; and the accompaniments were pleasantly played by Miss May Calder, while Mr. William Calder was quite in his element as cinematographist-in-chief. To-night, Mr. Robert Calder, of cinematograph renown, who is joint-manager of the hall, takes his Benefit. An excellent programme has been arranged for the occasion.

Humber's Waxwork.

Mr. Humber's latest star attraction is Madame Herculine, the champion heavy-weight lifter of the world. On Monday she performed several wonderful feats in presence of a large assemblage of admiring spectators, such as lifting a barrel containing 22 gallons of water by her hair, and supporting on her chest an anvil weighing over 300 lbs. while a horse-shoe was being forged on it. Madame will give performances at frequent intervals in the afternoon and evening during the week. Other attractions are plentiful in the saloon, and all receive their due share of popular attention.

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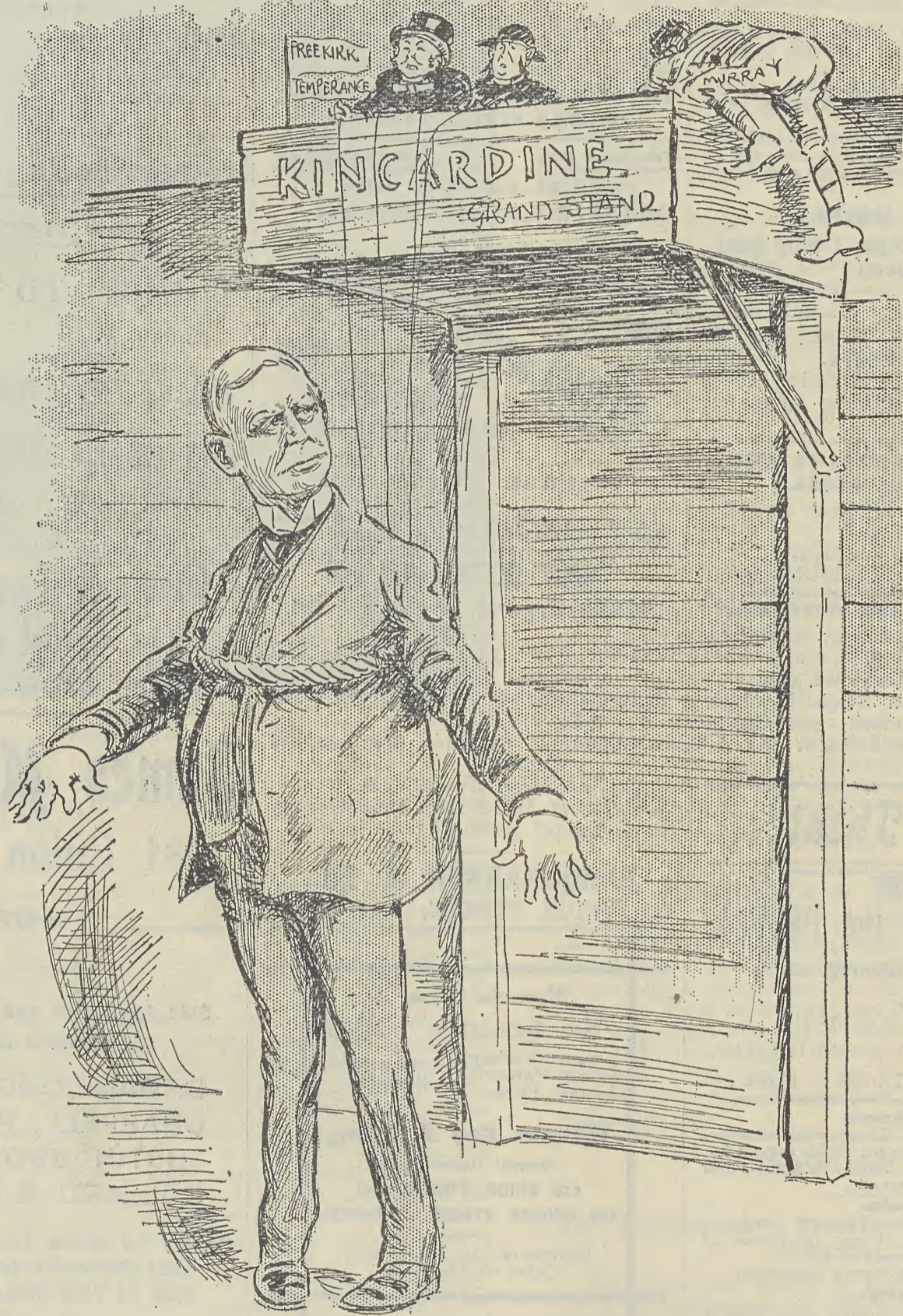
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OF THE HISTORY OF ABERDEEN

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And Challenge Shield Competition

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PIPE-MAJOR JOHN HENDERSON.

Pipe-Major John Henderson.

The formation of the Aberdeen City Police Pipe Band is in great part due to the enthusiasm of the Pipe-Major, Constable John Henderson, and the sympathetic encouragement and assistance which he received from his superior officers and the members of the rank and file. Practice was begun in August last year, and the Band made its first appearance at the Annual Police Concert in December following. It may be noted that the whole of the proceeds of this entertainment were applied to defraying the cost of the bandsmen's splendid instruments and uniforms, all of which were supplied by Mr. Robert Brown of Logan's Music Saloon.

The affairs of the Band are most competently managed by a Committee, which includes the following:—Chief-Constable Anderson (Convener), Superintendent Goodall, Inspector Buchan, Sergeant Black (Drum-Major), Constable George Beverley, and Pipe-Major Henderson. The names of the Bandsmen follow:—Pipers—George Beverley, Robert Goodall, Charles Symon, John M'Kenzie, John Clark, and John Smith. Drummers—David Ross (bass), Alexander Gallon, Alexander Coutts, and John Anderson. During its early stages the Band was greatly helped by the assistance, most ungrudgingly and kindly given, of Pipe-Major Dunbar, 3rd Gordons. It is expected that the Bandsmen will be pretty busily occupied during the summer months, playing in the Parks and at various kinds of outdoor functions, such as garden parties and picnics. Constable Henderson, the Pipe-Major, who is still well under thirty, is a native of Inch. He comes of a family of pipers, his father, Mr. Thomas Henderson, his grandfather, Mr. Peter Henderson, and one of his brothers, being all celebrated exponents of bag-pipe music, while Piper Patrick Milne, of Dargai celebrity, is a not-distant relative. At the age of 18 Mr. Henderson came into Aberdeen, when he had, as his tutor on the pipes, Mr. Gilbert, now piper to the Earl of Kintore. The pupil speedily became a highly efficient performer. Shortly after attaining his majority he enlisted as a bandsman (piper) in the 3rd Battalion of the Scots Guards. On the reduction of the corps the Pipe-Major exchanged his uniform for that of the Aberdeen City Constabulary. The most noteworthy incident of his career in this service is that he was chosen to be one of the guardians of Joseph Hume, the Lhanbryd murderer, when on trial in Aberdeen. While in the

Guards Piper Henderson played before the King at Buckingham Palace, on the occasion of the King of Spain's visit to this country prior to his marriage; and he also had the distinguished honour of carrying off the first prize for March, Strathspey, and Reel at Aldershot, in a contest between bandsmen of various Scottish regiments, including the Scots Guards, Seaforth Highlanders, and King's Own Scottish Borderers. As Pipe-Major of the C.P.P.B. he is, therefore, undoubtedly the right man in the right place.

* * *

Had Robert Burns lived to-day and set himself to write a sequel to "Man was made to mourn," it would probably have been "Man was made to motor." The latest in rules of the road for chauffeurs are as follows:—If your brake fails to work at a critical moment, run into something cheap. If you desire to make an impression on a young lady run over her. If a man gets in your way and is run down, he should apologise. If he is dead, demand an apology from his wife.

* * *

A Soprano in Trouble.

Mrs. Ethel Bugby, who was at one time fairly well known as a soprano on the concert-platform under the name of "Miss Morfa Hughes," has been sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment in London for a long series of jewellery thefts. Mrs. Bugby was tried on similar charges a short time ago, but on that occasion she was acquitted through pleading that the offence had been committed by her "double." As the unfortunate woman had a comfortable home, I suppose she was really a kleptomaniac, which, in most cases, is only another term for a "born thief." Most people, both male and female, are thievishly inclined, only, fortunately, the great majority are sensible enough to recognise that "honesty is the best policy." I have no doubt Mrs. Bugby was guilty, and I merely mention her case to show with what scandalous unfairness prisoners are permitted to be treated by the police. One of the officers who gave evidence against her said he "believed she was convicted twenty-one years ago (the woman is now thirty-four), but a detective was dead and it could not be proved." This may not have affected the sentence; still it is utterly abominable that such a loose, unsupported statement should have been made in court. That this sort of thing is allowed is a menace to the reputations and freedom of us all.

KINGARDINESHIRE BYE-ELECTION.**Votes for Women.**

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL UNION.

MEETINGS

In STONEHAVEN TOWN HALL, on MONDAY, 6th April
At Eight p.m.

IN HALL, LAURENCEKIRK, on TUESDAY, 7th April,
at Eight p.m.

OPEN-AIR MEETINGS .

At TORRY, BANCHORY, BERVIE, &c.

Election and Suffrage Literature and all information from Miss HELEN FRASER, Organising Secretary, Committee Rooms, 27 Victoria Road, Torry, and 55 Barclay Street, Stonehaven.



FOOTBALL.

A Lucky Win for Airdrie.

No one would have grudged Airdrie a victory on Saturday had their point been got as the result of a good effort, or as the reward of sustained play on their part. The fact is that Macfarlane threw away the points by a bit of play of which he is not often guilty. There was no one more disappointed than Rab when he saw the mistake he had made by rushing out, with a clear sight of the ball, and unaccountably throwing it against an opponent who had no more to do than run it through. Prior to this incident, however, there were many happenings which should have put Aberdeen on the lead. They had two penalty kicks in their favour in the first half, Tom Murray shooting across the bar with the first, but the second one did not appear to us to warrant the full penalty. W. Low took it and made the goalkeeper's fingers tingle by the stopping of it. When Airdrie did get their point Aberdeen played desperately, too much so, and lost many opportunities by getting in one another's way with only Duncan to beat. It was the coolness and cleverness of this same Duncan that prevented Aberdeen from getting their due reward on play. There were times when the local forwards, with a little thought, might have done better than bang the ball over the bar, but there were shots sent in that would have beat most goalkeepers. Towards the end we thought the home side were to get a goal, but the defence prevailed, the judgment of Rombach, combined with the alertness of the goalkeeper, staving off all the wiles which the Aberdeen forwards could indulge in.

* *

The Play and Players.

Aberdeen showed slackness in their play when they had the wind which lost them the points. The forwards were the chief sinners in this respect, in shooting wildly without allowing for the strength of the wind behind them. Their judgment was better displayed when they faced the breeze, but it was too late to make up what they had lost, for the defence had gathered confidence. The halves played well and we could not say one was better than the other. Hume was the better of the two backs, while Macfarlane, bar his mistake, was clever. To Duncan and Rombach may be ascribed the chief honours for carrying away the points. Their defence was grand, and M'Leay was also in good form as a backer-up. The halves are a bustling lot, but have not the judgment in feeding their forwards to make the front line successful. Brackenridge was the best forward in our opinion, with the centre neat. They lacked combination to be effective, while their shooting, like the home lot, left much to be desired.

* *

The Semi-Final.

Rugby Park was a scene of great enthusiasm on Saturday when Kilmarnock and St. Mirren met to settle who was to enter the final tie for the Scottish Cup. The game, as is too often the occasion when a great event happens, was spoiled by the play degenerating into a scramble after the ball, instead of the finer movements which go to make success sure. Excitement prevailed all round, and infected the players to such an extent that they forgot they had partners to play to. Kilmarnock got a great chance from a penalty after thirty minutes' play which Grant cleverly saved, but goals they could not get, no matter how they tried. The Saints had a similar experience in the second half, with a penalty thrown in which Young held, and the game dragged out without either side having a goal to bless themselves with. The replay at Paisley should be a warm one, and the Saints will be better prepared, as their suspends will be able to resume by that time. The date will be fixed by the Emergency Committee at their meeting this week.

* *

The Celts down.

The surprise of the League competition on Saturday was the downfall of the Celts at Dens Park. Had they won this game their position as champions was unassailable, but a couple

of slips, with Falkirk going strong to the finish, might land the Celts into second place. The Celts can command 57 points if they win all their remaining fixtures, while Falkirk, by the same process, will only reach 54. It can be gathered from this how keen the remaining games will be for these two clubs. Dundee ought to feel proud of their victory, though the Celts were certainly handicapped through injuries more than were the home side. Still, on play Dundee deserved a lead, for they were the better side so far as outfield work was concerned. They have still to get rid of their habit of trying to walk through with the ball at close quarters. From a penalty they scored their first goal, and their second was awarded on time, being through and no more when the whistle sounded. Falkirk gathered a couple of valuable points from Port-Glasgow by 3-1, which always helps them along in their run for the flag. In defeating Partick Thistle by three clear goals Queen's Park have touched their true form, and another win or two will put them into a respectable place on the table. Clyde, by their victory over Motherwell (2-0), are now within easy reach of clearing the bottom place, which will fall to the Port. The Rangers had no difficulty in beating Hibernians by three goals to nil—a result which does not go down well in the capital, especially as the Hearts also suffered defeat from Hamilton Academicals by 2-1. Third Lanark put on pressure in their game with Morton and won by two clear goals, so that, with the exception of the Celts, the Glasgow clubs were in scoring vein on Saturday. The fixtures for the remaining portion of the season were re-arranged at a meeting of the League secretaries on Monday.

* *

For Crystal Palace.

The English semi-final round passed off on Saturday without any hitch barring the way for the finalists to appear at Crystal Palace on the 25th of this month. Not a few predicted that it would take more than one game to settle the tie between Newcastle United and Fulham. This prediction turned out to be a mere myth, for we do not recollect when the Tynesiders won a great tie in such hollow fashion as they did at Liverpool on Saturday. They had Fulham in a tangle all the time, and but for Leslie Skene, in goal, the Southern Leaguers would have a great score against them. The ex-Queen's Park custodian defied all shots for thirty minutes, but single-handed he could not do everything, and once he was beaten the rest seemed easy, combined with a nasty accident which he received in collision with Appleyard. It was a great success for Newcastle to score 6 goals and prevent their opponents from getting through, and should inspire them with greater confidence to win the cup this time. In the other tie at Stamford Bridge Southampton met Wolverhampton Wanderers, the former again starting favourites. Though the Saints had a great share of the play, the "Wolves" had a clever goalkeeper in Lunn, who defied all efforts on the part of Southampton. Just on half-time the "Wolves" got a goal, cleverly taken by Radford on the rebound. This success steadied the Wanderers' attack in the second half, and when they got another goal Southampton went to pieces and had to defend for all they were worth. For the "Wolves" to enter the final by 2 goals to nil, and occupying only a middle place in the second division of the League, speaks volumes for their pluck in cup-ties. They have always done well in the national competition, and may be relied on to give Newcastle a warm ninety minutes at the Crystal Palace. As their styles of play are so dissimilar anything may happen in this meeting, though it is Newcastle's turn to win the cup.

* *

The International.

The annual red-letter day in Scottish Football is the International fixture between England and Scotland. This year the game is due to be played at New Hampden Park, Glasgow, the grounds of the Queen's Park. In 1906 this fixture was played on the same ground, when a record for attendance was put up, 103,000 being present, and for the

CRICKET GOODS.

My Annual Exhibit takes place on FRIDAY and SATURDAY,
3rd and 4th April, in the DOUGLAS HOTEL, Aberdeen.

JOE ANDERSON,

PERTH, N.B.

game on Saturday the accommodation has been increased so that 150,000 may see the game with comfort. The great space of ground for spectators is entirely composed of earth embankments, penned off in portions so that no undue crushing is experienced, or pressure brought to bear on those in front from the spectators on the higher slopes. Since the venue was settled the Queen's Park officials have been busy giving every possible attention to the safe housing of the crowd which they expect, provided the weather is at all propitious. Profiting by the experience of the last game, the officials have made many improvements on the entrance and exit gates, and it is desirable that the public should carefully follow instructions.

* * *

The Selections.

To say that the home side, selected for this great game, has given general satisfaction would be very wide of the mark outside Glasgow and Edinburgh. To find only two clubs in Scotland represented in the eleven which has been chosen is, to say the least of it, curious, and either shows poverty in class-men or an unwillingness, on the part of the selectors, to give a fair chance to rising talent. When we begin to analyse the men and their positions we think it unfair to many players who have borne the brunt of other international games to be passed over for the sake of sentiment, for it cannot be anything else that has actuated those who have charge of looking out for players. The Scotch team is as follows:—M'Bride; M'Nair and Sharp; Aitken, Thomson and M'William; Walker, Howie, A. Wilson, White and Quinn. There has not been any mixing up of places in the English eleven, which is chosen entirely on merit as the men play in their respective places. The team is:—Hardy; Crompton and Pennington; Warren, Wedlock and Lintott; Rutherford, V. J. Woodward, Hillsden, Windridge and Bridgetts. Reserves, Greenhalgh and Bradshaw. We are just afraid that the Scotch selection will not arouse that enthusiasm in the provinces which should have been the case had one or other of those who have got a chance been again entrusted with the greatest honour which a footballer aspires to, that of having an English cap. In Aberdeen there has been considerable disappointment at Lennie being overlooked, especially when he practically won the Welsh game for the Association which distributes these honours.

* * *

This Week's Programme.

At a meeting of League secretaries in Glasgow on Monday, Aberdeen arranged to play their return League fixture with Partick Thistle at Pittodrie instead of Meadowside. This arrangement has evidently been come to owing to the International, and the fact that Saturdays are so scarce. So far as gate money is concerned, the Thistle will benefit by playing at Pittodrie to a greater extent than if the game had been at Meadowside. Aberdeen had arranged, provided the League did not interfere, to play Dundee at Dens Park for the High Cup, but this will be off till another day. Aberdeen will not definitely fix their team till to-night, but the following are expected to turn out:—Macfarlane; Coleman and Hume; Halket, Macintosh and W. Low; M'Eachran or Macdonald, Muir, Murray, O'Hagan and Lennie. By this arrangement the A team will be done out of a fixture, unless a friendly can be fixed somewhere. All the A team's Northern League fixtures are at home, so that they cannot move till the League fixtures are completed.

* * *

Chatty Bits.

There was a poor response at Pittodrie on Saturday, and apparently the team was affected in that way too, for they did not give that display they usually do.

The art of penalty kicking is a lost art out Pittodrie way. If we mistake not, they have missed eight of these particular shots in succession in different games.

We have insisted more than once that this duty should be relegated to a particular individual, and not to any and everyone who likes to have a try. Who will be the next trier?

It is becoming evident that the forwards have gone stale with their dismissal from the cup ties, and it will require something strong to convince us to the contrary.

Judging by Saturday's result, we should say that Aberdeen began badly, and they are evidently going to perish in the same way.

Buck up, lads, there is a lot of good games yet to get through, and it would be a pity to lose your good name.

Aberdeen A went one better on Saturday than they did on the last occasion they were at Peterhead.

On Saturday they made a draw of one goal each, play being fairly equal all through.

Charlie O'Hagan is again chosen to represent his country against Wales. May you be successful this time, Charlie.

Northern League have secured the aid of Dundee this year to play a fixture on behalf of their funds.

On Saturday a team was selected to represent the League against Dundee, and the following is the choice:—Bernard (Dundee A); Neilson (Kirkcaldy), and Craigie (Montrose); Ramsay (Lochgelly), Gowans (Forfar), and Drain (Aberdeen); Scott (East Fife), Docherty (Forfar), Richardson (Brechin), Dorward (Arbroath), and Clinton (St. Johnstone).

The various rumours about the departure of players is quite premature. Nothing definite will be done till the end of this week.

Sunderland have made a desperate effort to get clear of the last place in the League, and at present seem to be secure.

Is it a coincidence or what, that Walter Arnot should nominate the Scotch team on Saturday? He must have a rare insight of what is going to happen.

His selection was not taken seriously by the critics, but he has come out top this time.

There will be a big exodus from Aberdeen and surrounding districts to Glasgow on Saturday.

* * *

FOOTBALL COMPETITIONS.

Almost without exception the coupon-senders pinned their faith on Aberdeen and the Celtic. Both teams proved broken reeds, and consequently no prizes of any description can be awarded this week. Perhaps the flowing tide will be with our friends when they try again. Aberdeen surely can't go on getting beat right up to the end of the season.

Next week the dose will be repeated—4 prizes of 2/6.

	GOALS
SCOTLAND	- - - - -
International.	_____
ENGLAND	- - - - -
ABERDEEN	- - - - -
Scottish League.	_____
PARTICK THISTLE	- - - - -

Signature.....

Address.....

The Coupon to be cut out.

CONDITIONS.

- 1.—Correct scores must be given in every case to win the prizes. The goals on each side have to be noted in figures.
- 2.—The competition will be decided by ballot. **Four** of the correct guessers will receive **2/6** each this week.
- 3.—Coupons will not be received later than two o'clock on Saturday of each week, and must be lodged at the offices, 10 Crown Street, in an envelope, marked "Football Competition."
- 4.—The decision of the Editor in all matters of dispute will be final.

JUNIOR FOOTBALL.

BY "THE ROVER."

The semi-final ties of the Dithie Shield were decided at Central Park on Saturday. Play in both games was fairly even, but at times rather too much inclined to the robust.

Mugiemoss, in accounting for Shamrock by 2 goals to 1, were worth their win. Shamrock missed many chances, and Lawson's goal was the feature of the game. Still, all over, the 'Moss were the better team.

St. Andrews put up a stiff fight to Favourites, but had to acknowledge defeat by 2 goals to 0. Some very bright touches were shown in this match at times by both sides.

In the league, Woodside created a surprise by ousting Parkvale by 2 goals to 1.

Shamrock Athletics were at Culter, and, after a rough game, had a well-deserved 1-0 win.

This week at Central Park the only first-class match will be that between Shamrock and Inverurie Thistle, and they will occupy the third pitch, the other two being set apart for the Bon-Accord Cup semi-finals.

Other league matches are:—

Mugiemoss v. Culter, at Mugiemoss.

Loco. Works v. Favourites (replay) at Inverurie.

On Monday (Dumbarton Holiday) the Association will have a visit from the famous Dumbarton Wednesday. The match will be played at Pittodrie, kick-off 2.45.

* * *

Bon-Accord League.

The semi-final round of the cup-ties is due to be decided this week. Central Park has been secured as a venue, and it is to be hoped that there will be a big turn-out of the public to see what our second-class juniors can do. The contestants need no recommendation on my part, and each has reached the semi-final round by sheer merit.

The ties are:—

Morison Thistle v. Royal Stanley.

Hawthorne v. Albert.

In the league last week Morison Thistle had the better of a mediocre game with Crescent and won by 3 goals to 1.

At Stockett Richmond had a visit from Argyle, and won well by 3 goals to 0.

* * *

Granite City League.

Since the championship has now been practically decided, interest in this competition is greatly on the wane.

Norwood and Orion had a goal-less battle at the Links, and the result was just what the game was worth.

This week's matches are:—

Ashfield v. Orion, at Links.

Norwood v. Thistle, at Links.

Corinthians v. Stafford Thistle, at Links.

The League "At Home" takes place in the Richmond Café to-morrow night and promises to be a great success.

* * *

SWIMMING NOTES.

The Royal Life Saving Society.

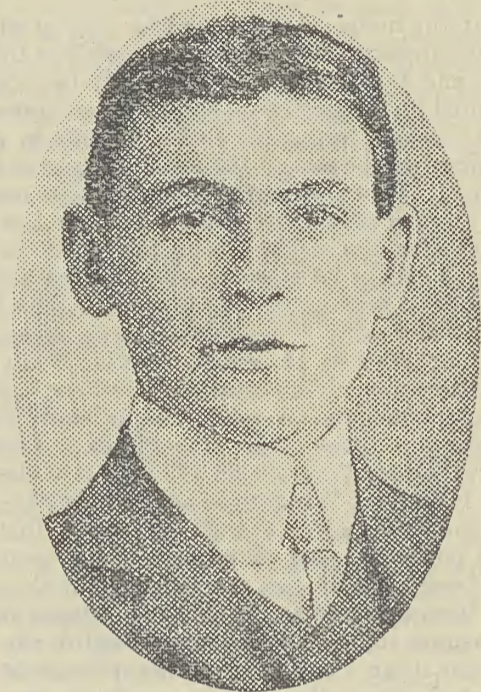
A lecture is to be given by Lieut. P. B. Garrett, R.N., in the Richmond Café Rooms to-night. The subject will be "H.M. Royal Navy," with special allusion to the subject of life saving, from a naval and coastguard standpoint. After the lecture will take place an interesting ceremony—that of the presentation of badges to the winners of the local life saving championship competition for 1907, which were won by the Thistle A. Swimming Club. The winners who are to be honoured are W. Campbell and A. Milton (now of the Aberdeen Amateurs), J. Rice, and C. T. Carrott.

A meeting of the Executive of the Royal Life Saving Society was held, in Glasgow on Saturday last, and, as I have already mentioned, the Annual Meeting of the S.A.S.A. took place the same afternoon.

The Visit of Jabez Wolffe to Aberdeen.

A letter has just been received, from Mr. Wolffe's manager, by the secretary of the Aberdeen Amateurs, definitely fixing up his Granite City engagement for Wednesday, 20th May. A most interesting programme of events for that evening is being prepared by the gala committee of the A.A.S.C. The list I hope to give next week. The programme will not be ready for a week or two, as entries for all the events have yet to be received. Tickets, however, will be on sale this week. There is a great demand for them already.

The swimmers of Aberdeen are at last beginning to waken out of their winter's sleep, and, ere long, the League and Cup-tie Committee will be making up the League fixtures for the season.



Mr. VICTOR NORRIE.

* * *

This week I give the portrait of Mr. Victor Norrie, a well-known swimmer and polo player, and vice-captain of the A.A. S.C. Mr. Norrie first came into prominence by winning the School-boys' Championship of Scotland when he was only a lad of between thirteen and fourteen years old. Since then he has never looked back, winning many prizes and doing yeoman service for his former club (Thistle A.S.C.) in water polo playing, either as centre forward or as left back. This last position he has occupied for some time past, thus helping the Thistle to win the local league for four successive years. Victor, who is undoubtedly one of the best sprinters in the north, can hold his own with the best swimmers in Aberdeen. I need not refer at length to his past performances, but the prizes that he has won would make many a veteran's teeth water. This year, as he was desirous of a change, "Jeck" threw in his lot with the Aberdeen Amateurs, and they hope he will be to them what he has been to his old love. May it be so.

* * *

Splashes.

I hear there was a large turn-out of Aberdeen delegates to the Annual Meeting of the S.A.S.A., in Glasgow. I don't think.

* * *

I am really unable to understand why the various clubs in Aberdeen were not better represented at so important a meeting.

* * *

The other centres seem to have had a fair representation present.

* * *

A monogram—the letter A—is to be put on the pants of the Amateurs. The costumes, however, I expect, will have the Bon-Accord Coat-of-Arms.

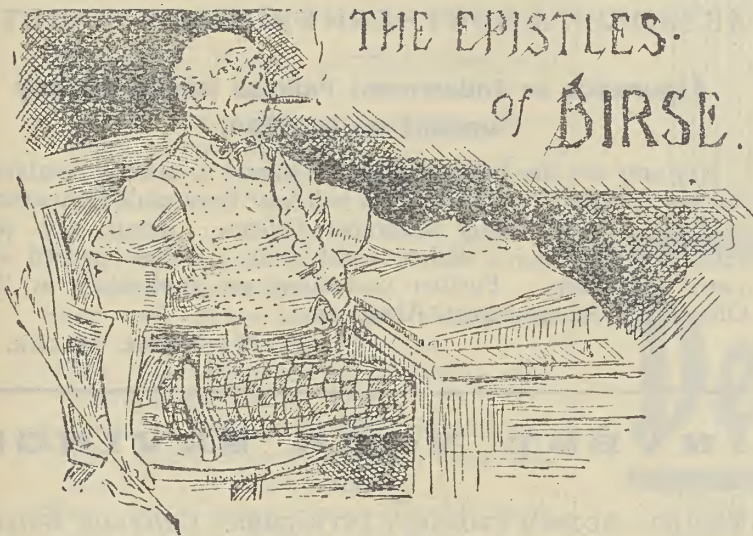
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The baths are looking magnificent after their spring coat of paint.

* * *

Captain Milne, and his very efficient staff, have looked well after the comfort of the swimmers, and the latter will enjoy their dips better than ever this coming season.

G. A. G.



Trouble About the Dog.

DEAR MAISTER EDITOR,

I think I've menshint mair nor aince i' th' coorse o' this correspondence that vera frequently I suffer in m' pooch an' feelin's thro' m' saftness o' he'rt. Fouk, of coorse, tell me I ocht t' keep a firm'er grup o' th' purse-strings when importun't b' beggars an' oot-o'-collar wastrels; bit, while admittin' th' gen'ral soun'ness o' their contenshin, I'm obleeg't t' reply that I canna help mysel'. I wis built that wye—chirity is o' th' essence o' th' man. If there's ony fau't in that, th' fau't is nae mine, bit m' Creator's. Wi' a' due reverence be it spoken. Of coorse, I weel ken I'm

SWICKIT ON A' HAN'S;

still, if I happen t' relieve a'e case o' geniwin distress oot o' a hun'er brocht oonder m' notis, an' t' which I contribut', I'm perfittly content. Th' system has its drawbacks. Ilky noo an' ageen m' benefesharies bring me int' seerious tribble. Th' latest instance o' that occur't thro' m' takin' peety on a derelick collie pup that I discover't half-stairvin' on a road near Ketty-browster. Tho' I hid nae wark for a dog about m' premises, th' beastie lookit sae wae-begone that I straightwye gither't 'im up in m' airms an' cairri't 'im t' th' Ludge, faur, ever eftir, he livet in luxury an' comfort. An affectionat' breet he wis, weel-markit tee, dootless the possessor o' a gweed pedigree, an' worth siller i' th' dog-market. Tho' baith gutsy an' fu'some, Billie, as we kirsten't 'im, speedily made a conquest o' Kirsty, fa lavished on 'im a wealth o' affecshin that, if she'd been a richt-mindit 'oman, she wid a' reserv't for her husban'.

Fin he cam' int' m' possesshin th' dog appear't t' be aboot three month aul'. That wis i' th' month o' August last year. Billie, accordin' t' m' calculaishin, which may be slightly inaccurate, for I ha'e nae certeeficaishin o' th' exack date o's birth, is, therefore, noo risin' nine month. Bein' oonder th' impresshin that I cud harbour 'im for a towmon' athoot a leeshens I didna report his presence at Kettybrowster t' th' Inlan' Revenue Authorities. In fack, I intendit t' keep th' maitter dark a'thegither, for th' exacshin o' saiven an' saxpence a year fae ilky person that chooses t' keep a dog is a

MUNSTRIS PIECE O' INIQUITY.

Thanks, probably till an informer, I hid a veesit fae an Inlan' Offisher last Seterday fortnicht.

Speir't he curtly:—"Have you a licence for your dog?"

"Fat dog?" I queri't innocently.

At that instant Billie cam' frolicin' int' th' gairden. M' veesitor said naething, bit jist p'intit his thoomb at 'im.

"Hoot, toots," I cri't, wi' a lauch, "that dog's nae mine. He's a perfit stranger. In fact, I dinna believe I ever clappit e'en on 'im afore th' day."

This lee wis completely spil't b' Billie boundin' up, barkin' like mad, an' dancin' an' jumpin' roon' me in a transport o' affectionat' delight.

"Seems to know you pretty well, anyway," said the offisher ironically. "How old is he?"

"Hoo sud I ken?" I protestit. "I taul' ye already—"

"Appears to be a year or more," remarkit th' Inlan' man, surveyin' th' dog keenly.

"Rubbish," I cri't, "he's nae mair than nine month—" I stoppit abrup'ly, recognisin' that I'd pitten m' fit intill't.

"Just so," said the offisher calmly. "You ought to have had a licence three months ago, and, to avoid any unpleasantness, you'd better pay me th' seven and sixpence now."

"Pey saiven an' saxpence," I cri't. "The dog's nae worth't. I'll see ye dam't first."

"You'll probably see yourself in the Justice of Peace Court, for keeping a dog without a licence, before that. You've got your warning, so pay up or not as you please."

"I winna pay up," I said, bitterly. "I'd rather sheet th' dog."

"As you please, but that won't enable you to evade your responsibility. You either take out the licence or I summon."

Th' lang an' th' short o't wis, that eftir some further argyment I most reluctantly pairtit wi' th' saiven an' saxpence. This sae anger't me wi' Billy that durin' th' neist week he never come near bit I rebuff't 'im

WI' A CURSE AN' A KICK.

Th' result wis that missin' his daily gambols wi' a sympathetic playmate, he took t' stravaigin' in search o' recreation which, in his case, ashoom't th' form o' pure mischief.

Unluckily, it happens that m' nearest neipour is a cantankerous breet o' a retir't speerit merchan', fa mak's a speeshilly o' pultry breedin'. Times athoot number he's warn't me t' keep Billie on chine, an' threiten't that if ever he catch't th' beast on's premises he wid kill 'im at sicht. I aye lauch't at th' mannie an' 's compl'int, thinkin' they were merely put forrit t' cause me annoyance. Hooiver, th' merchan's fears were at last realis't. In th' coorse o' th' week, Billie, probably thro' exacerbation o' temper at m' neglec', progress't fae th' purely playfu' t' th' activly outrageous stage o' misconduct. That, of coorse, didna' come within m' adisence till last Monday, fin I receiv't th' follain' startlin' letter, which was adres't me fae th' vreetin' chaum'ers o' a prominent local lyar:

"Sir,—On behalf of my client, Mr. Ebenezer Mutch, retired merchant, I hereby intimate a claim against you for £2 12s. 6d., being the value of five Cochinchina fowls which were killed by a dog belonging to you.

"Mr. Mutch informs me that he has already warned you to keep the said dog on chain, so that you can have no possible defence to offer to the claim.

"If payment of the amount is not made within three days from this date, I shall be obliged to take action against you."

I at aince took this letter t' Bickers, m' ain advocat'.

"Ye'll hae t' pey," said th' latter, eftir readin' th' epis'le.

"Nae me," I protestit. "I'll tak' m' Bible aith that Billie wisna th' deid o' th' hens."

"Fa wis, than?"

"Mebbe it wis the rottens?"

"Maybe's nae a gweed honeybee. Hae ye ony proof o' that?"

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"Nae as yet," I admittit. "Bit I'll awa' hame an' see if I can get ony. Whither or no, I'll be back t' see ye th' morn."

Man, it wis lucky I didna authoreese Bickers t' send a check forthwith for th' twa twal' sax. On reachin' Ketybrowster I found th' flageetious dog a corp'. Th' nicht afore, in th' coorse o' anither raid on th' merchan's p'ultry yard, he swallow't some pushin which hid been laid doon b' that miscr'ant. As a consequence, Bickers vrote th' ither lyar neist mornin', acknowledgin' th' slaughter o' th' hens, bit intimatin' a coonter claim o' ten poun' for th' loss o' Billie, an' likewise hintin' plainly that his client ocht t' be thankfu' he wisna proceedit ag'inst creeminally as a dog pushiner.

Yours truly, PETER BIRSE.

. ENGLISH .

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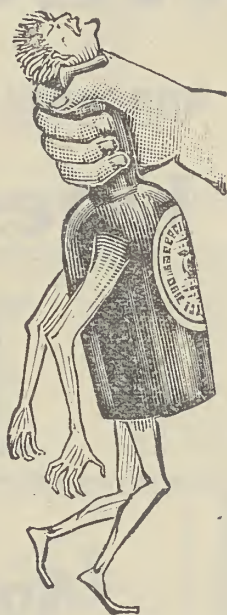
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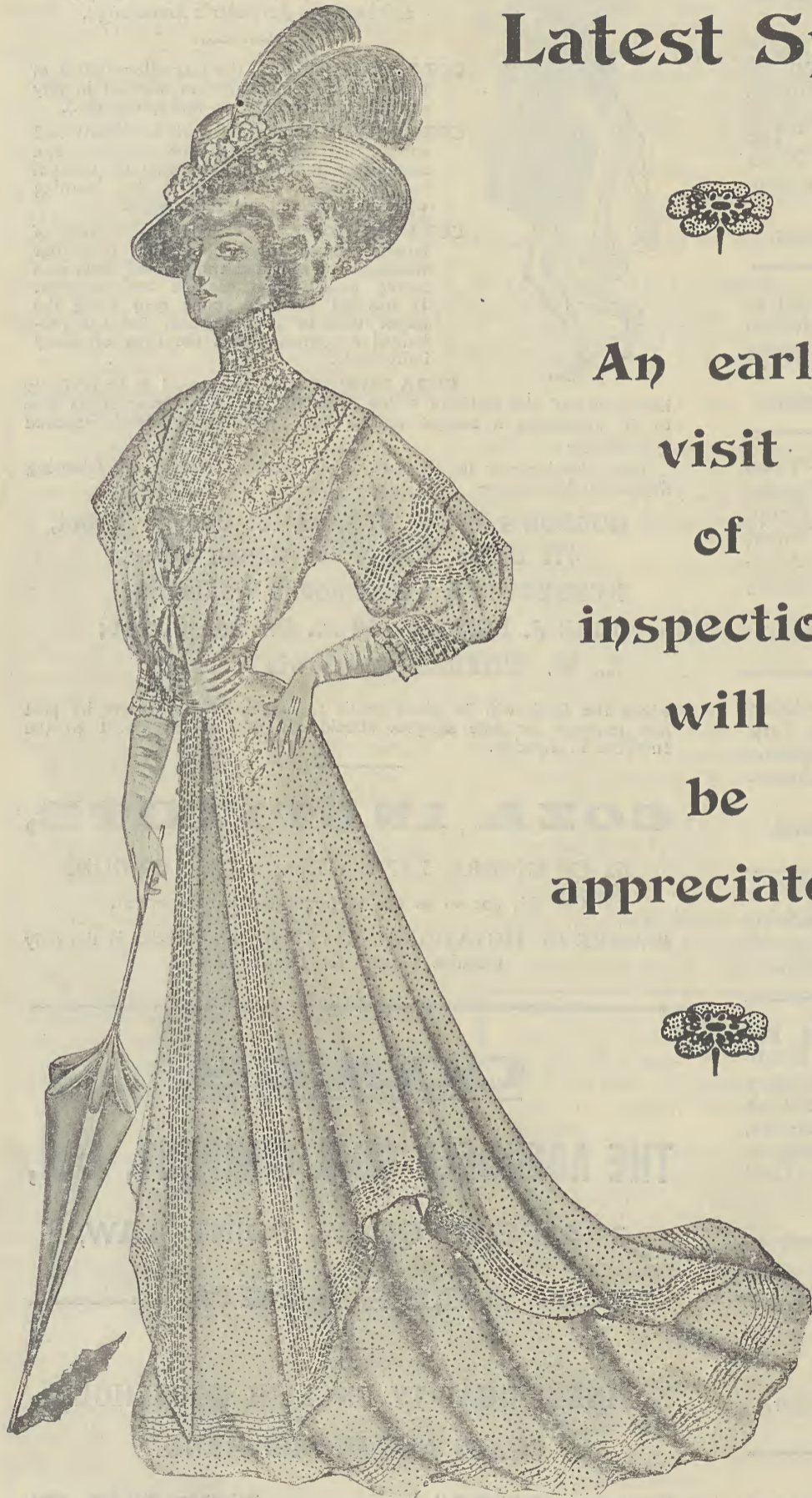
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