

LADY CURZON IN SOCIETY.

Lady Curzon is a tall woman of just the right build for her height—slender but not thin. She has a long oval face without a faulty feature. Her large gray eyes are very sympathetic; her mouth is very sensitive. Her hair is spun jet. She is graceful in every movement, and, being an American, knows how to choose and how to wear frocks that become her like her lips and eyes. She is all tact—five feet and six inches of it; 140 pounds of it. When it fell to her lot to take the arm of a general at dinner the other night, she began at once to question him upon the trade in fire arms in the Persian Gulf. The general was mad with delight. It happened that this was his hobby, and breaking up this nefarious calling was the work he had in hand. The Vicereine found this out, but how she did it no one could imagine.

When she gave her first Drawing Room at the palace she was not content with a formal presentation, but went up to the ball room and staid an hour, moving from group to group, and talking with charming ease and brightness to ever so many ladies. This was not much, you say; yet in Calcutta they cannot remember who ever did as much at a first Drawing Room before. There are not many Americans in India. I think, yet she does not overlook them. She calls on the leading American lady in Bombay, makes much of our consul-general's wife in Calcutta, and in that city also invites an American business man to lunch with her, then to dinner, and then gives him her portrait to take to her mother. The position she made for herself in five weeks is best shown by the fact that all white circles in India were shouting her praises, when she suddenly fell ill, and a gloom that you could almost cut with a knife shadowed every English cantonment. "Great heavens!" every one exclaimed, "if the Vicereine cannot stand the climate and has to go home, what a dreadful misfortune it will be!"

The English find the Vicereine "queenly," "ultra-refined," "aristocratic" I even heard her called imperial. The warmest man I met bubbled over with "She is the greatest swell that ever came to India." The coldest-blooded one, a nobleman, who carried a cold storage atmosphere about with him, bit his lip, and said: "Well, beautiful isn't precisely the word for her. 'Impressive,' 'imposing'—those words exactly hit her off."—Julian Ralph, in Harper's Weekly

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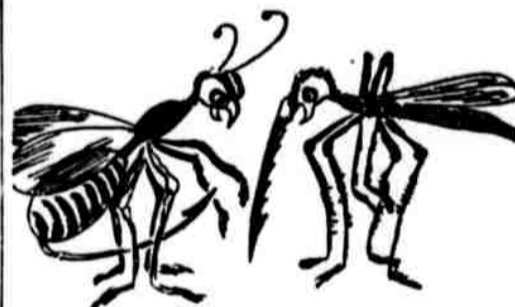
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