

LIFE AT THE CAPITAL.

SOCIAL ETCHINGS FROM THE NATION'S CENTER.

Mrs. Olney Ready to Lead Society—The Wife of the Acting Minister from Argentina Will Figure Largely in Diplomatic Circles.

Washington Correspondence. THE Secretary of State ranks next to the President in the social scale at the capital, and the present winter will be the one in which the Olneys will make their bow in their capacity of head of the Cabinet. With the usual facility of Americans in adapting themselves to every condition, Mr. Olney finds himself as much at home in the State Department as in the halls of the Department of Justice, and his wife will take her place as the leader in social matters with equal grace. Just before leaving for their summer outing the Olneys purchased a new home, having previously occupied that of Senator Edmunds, a house which is now owned



MRS. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN. by Mrs. General Grant. It was May when the family moved to what was then known as the Bellamy Storer house, as the member from Cincinnati had lived there during the last session of Congress. The home of Secretary Olney is in the center of the most fashionable part of the city, in a neighborhood which is full of the residences of famous people and the mansions of foreign ministers. Just opposite is the pretty red brick home of Mrs. Sheridan, the widow of General Phil Sheridan, and within a few blocks are the houses of Thomas Nelson Page, the author; Hegenmuller, the Minister from Austria, and a dozen other celebrities. The Olney home is an odd-looking one, but most attractive because it is not the conventional square brick. It stands on a corner and is narrow in front, while running back for some distance on the side street. The entrance is low, being of the English basement kind, and the first or ground floor is occupied by a pretty little queerly-shaped hall and a broad stairway that leads to the parlors above. The first parlor is one of the most artistic apartments in town, not from the elegance of its furniture, but from the taste displayed on every hand. There is nothing luxurious in its appointments, but its tone is one of chaste simplicity. The room is rather long and one end is almost entirely taken up with a huge bay window, whose dainty white curtains soften the light that warms up brightly the pink sofa running around the curve.

Several book-cases of white wood are about the rooms and filled with choice novels, while the creamy walls are brightened with pretty pictures, and about on shining tables are numberless little dainty ornaments and vases full of blooming flowers. The general air is one of light and coolness, combined with a cultivated and exquisite taste. Across from this parlor is another small room, whose polished floor is covered with handsome rugs and whose furnishings are mostly of antiques beautifully carved. There is another apartment; then one comes to a huge square chamber with a very high ceiling—what must have once been used as a ball room, but is now furnished in pretty chairs, sofas full of colored pillows, tables full of books and silver



MISS MARY SHERIDAN. writing material, pictures and other ornaments. This apartment is large enough to entertain the whole Diplomatic Corps. Among the most prominent of the new members of Congress is young George B. McClellan, son of the Union general of that name. He has taken a house on Rhode Island avenue, in a fashionable part of the city, and he and his wife will house-keep all winter. The home is of red brick, and the parlor is pretty with its walls of pink and its dainty ornaments. In the hall is a big cabinet of carved oak, and the exquisite moldings of the figures make them

life-like in their beauty. On the second floor is the library, facing the south and bright with the morning sun. It is full of books, pictures, and on one side of the wall is a large square of dark velvet, on which are displayed a great many of the swords belonging to General McClellan. One large saber was that worn by the general during his campaigns, and one of the most beautiful ones was presented to him by the city of Philadelphia. Its golden hilt is richly chased and the blade is engraved with an appropriate inscription. Mrs. McClellan, who has been married for five years, was a Miss Georgiana Hecksher, of New York. She is an attractive young woman, with a bright face and agreeable manners, and is of a quiet disposition, caring little for society and spending most of her time at home. She has no children. McClellan is the youngest member of Congress, except one, but he is full of energy and a hard-working man, both in politics and business.

Mrs. Mary Sheridan, daughter of the late General Phil Sheridan, is becoming quite an expert horseback rider, and every bright afternoon may be seen in a black habit trotting her slender sorrel out into the country. She has a fine figure, which is set off by the close-fitting gown, and looks most attractive in riding costume. Miss Jane Fuller, youngest daughter of the Chief Justice, is expected to make her debut this winter, but her mother has been in poor health for some time past, and it is doubtful if the coming out will take place before the latter part of the season. Miss Jane is a handsome blonde, like her sisters, and is fond of out-of-doors sports, being an expert rider on the wheel. Her coming out will not be a formal reception, but a simple tea.

Senator Elkins, of West Virginia, has taken a house in town, and he and his wife are expected to be among the leaders in entertaining. As Elkins is very rich, it will fall upon his wife to do the honors, and as she has no grown daughters, she will have to perform her social duties alone. Among the additions to social circles this winter will be Madame Dominguez, wife of Senor Don Vicente Dominguez, acting Minister from Argentina. The Dominguez family have taken a pretty new brick house on K street, almost adjoining the home of Mrs. Childs. It is furnished in exquisite taste and is full of rare antiques that are of priceless value. Madame Dominguez was Helene Murphy, daughter of the late Daniel J. Murphy, of New York and San Francisco. Mr. Murphy was created a marquis by Pope Pius IX., but never used his title, which descended to his eldest son, Lady Woolsey, wife of Sir Charles Woolsey, is a sister of Madame Dominguez. As Miss Murphy, Madame Dominguez was the belle and beauty of London, and her fame has extended over two continents. She has lived most of her life in England, having gone to that country when only two years old, but all the same she is an ardent American at heart. Senor Dominguez is a fine-looking man and he and his beautiful wife make a most dis-

tinguished couple. Both young, lovely and holding a high position in the diplomatic circles, it is safe to say that Madame Dominguez, who is fond of society, will find herself among the most popular of the acquisitions to the gay side of the capital. The French Embassy is to be remodeled to such a great extent that it will not be recognized by its old friends when completed. Not only is the exterior a pretty cream tint now, but within changes have been wrought that will bring it up from an old-fashioned mansion into the list of the most modern of luxurious homes. The furniture is the same as that which was used by the Porter family, but all of that will be stored away and new put in its place. The front hall of the Embassy will be replaced by a new one, formed by tearing down the partition, which at present forms a part of the side wall of the back parlor, and this will make a hall of imposing dimensions. The old draperies of the library will be taken down, the walls repapered and new pictures, handsome cabinets and rich tapestries, all from abroad, will be hung up in the freshened mansion. Electric bells have been hung, the gas and other fixtures will be changed for more modern appliances, and the old ornaments will be put away in the garret. One of the most beautiful of the tapestries is a huge one which the Ambassador has just brought from his home in France, the cloth being now over a hundred and fifty years old. The Embassy has also received a handsome set of china, which was presented by the government to Monsieur Patenotre.



When Emancipation Comes. Female Policeman (a few days hence)—A lady around the corner died suddenly, and no one knows what was the matter. Female Coroner.—Was she a married lady? Female Policeman.—Yes. Female Coroner.—Probably a case of suicide in the first degree. Go hang her husband.

The Banner County. The mountain county of Leslie, in Kentucky, claims to be the banner Republican county in the United States, having given Bradley in the recent election 786 votes to 79 for Hardin.

A TURKISH OFFICIAL.

BAHRI PASHA A FAIR SPECIMEN OF THE SULTAN'S REALM.

The Military Commander of Aleppo Described as a Bloodthirsty Outlaw—He Commands the Troops of Ottoman Despotism.

HE appointment of Bahri Pasha to the important office of military commander of the Aleppo district has excited a storm of indignation among the Christian residents and diplomatic representatives in Turkey. The pasha is described as a cruel tyrant, and it is remembered that he was in command at Van at the time of the Turkish atrocities there and was largely responsible for the slaughter that followed. British Ambassador Currie then demanded his removal on the ground of maladministration and cruelty to the Armenians while governor. This demand was complied with at the time, but subsequently he was restored to power and decorated by the sultan. The district of Aleppo comprises a Turkish vilayet in North



BAHRI PASHA.

Syria, on the borders of the Syro-Arabian desert, about sixty miles east of Antioch and seventy miles from the Mediterranean. The population of the capital city is 100,000, of whom 16,000 are Christians and 4,000 Jews, the rest being Greeks, Armenians, Arabs, and Turks. The city is of a thoroughly oriental type, with extensive bazaars, numerous mosques and a population remarkable for its elegant bearing. The streets are better than those of most eastern cities, though many of them are arched over. The houses are of stone, substantially built, with terraces for evening promenades. It has recently been the seat of some of the Armenian outbreaks, and apprehension is felt that the atrocities of Van will be repeated at Zeitoun and other places within the district, after the surrender which the patriarch has been trying to bring about. When Bahri Pasha's appointment was announced, the representatives of the powers immediately held a meeting, and after a full discussion joined in a note to the porte stating that they cannot answer for the consequences in case a massacre should follow. In Aleppo frequent councils are being held in the palaces, and some plain language is said to have been used by the sultan. The protests have caused the sultan some alarm, but he shows no signs of wavering in his purpose. The appointment virtually gives Bahri Pasha control over the troops.

The superior wisdom of the feminine mind is shown in the fact that the mother never rebels against her daughter's guidance. She is the first to discover the young woman's wisdom and she enjoys the security and sense of rest which comes from feeling that she has some one to depend upon, some one to think and plan for her. She regards it as providential that as the husband of her youth grows careless, as his judgment becomes untrustworthy as to details, as he grows inclined to shirk the little questions which arise in the conflict of the household, the daughter quite naturally takes up the neglected duties, and assumes the management of the affairs. Of course it is often difficult for the mother to live up to the course the daughter marks out. She sometimes finds herself deficient in the strength or wisdom the daughter expects from her. But this is not real trouble, for under it all is the comforting sense of being guided by a strong will, the sense of being free from responsibility for the social and domestic welfare of the family, is filling the young woman's soul with satisfaction, flattering her with the consciousness of her great usefulness, making her realize her importance in the world.

Bicycles and Baggage-men. "Bicycles are worrying the life out of baggage-men nowadays," said Alfred Hasmer of Denver at the Centropolis, "especially when the owners neglect to hand up a tip. On the Denver and Rio Grande, for instance, there were checked during July 1,664 wheels, or an average of over fifty-three daily. If they had brought a quarter each into the pockets of the baggage-men who handled and watched them, or even if the company had collected a fee for the transportation service, there would have been some satisfaction, but for the road to carry its little wind-inflated competitor for nothing hurts the trainmen like fury. As a wheel might say, 'This makes baggage-men pneumatically tired.'"—Kansas City Times

HUNTS ALL ALONE.

A Picky Duluth Woman Who Is Handy with a Gun.

Mrs. Charles Lalond, the handsome young wife of a Duluth police official, was at last accounts away on a hunting trip in the northern woods, unaccompanied by any friend but her rifle and snoring alm. This is not the first time she has gone on a similar solitary excursion. Her husband feels no uneasiness on her account. Mrs. Lalond is a Mexican by birth. A few years ago, soon after her marriage, she paddled a canoe clear to Rainy Lake City, expecting to there meet her husband, who had been called into that country on business. He was delayed, and after waiting for him until her patience was exhausted, she started for home, and made the return trip alone, paddling her own canoe, and killing two moose and a bear on the way. In her dress for the woods, Mrs. Lalond is not a "new woman," so far as outward appearances go. She is a modest little woman of about 23, with a round, sunny face. Next to her body she wears a close-fitting suit of buckskin underwear, through which the wind cannot penetrate. No corsets impede her movements, and there is not the least suspicion of ungainliness. Over this buckskin suit Mrs. Lalond wears a pair of short cloth trousers, reaching to her knees, where they are met by high



SULTAN ABDUL HAMID.

Abdul Hamid II, sultan of Turkey, who is so much talked of at present, is perhaps fifty-one years of age, rather tall, but somewhat stooping. Many and greatly diverse stories are told of the personal life and attributes of the sultan, and after all, the outside world knows little about his real personality. The Armenian outrages have caused him to be more unpopular than before. He has been in momentary dread of assassination for the last eighteen years, and can no longer trust anybody. He lives in a perfect agony of remorseful terror. Those who have been admitted to a private audience with the autocrat of the Bosphorus say that his voice is not unamusing, and he adopts a low tone

in conversation. His manners are described as the very essence of courtesy.

Travelled in a Man's Garb. A woman clad in man's garb was among the steerage passengers of the American line steamship New York, which arrived here from Southampton recently. The woman's name is Hannah Nystrom. She is a Russian Finn and she purchased a ticket at the Southampton office of the company, giving the name of Henry Nystrom. She wore high-topped boots and a long, double-breasted frock coat, and for headgear she had tied a bright-hued handkerchief over her locks. Her sex was not discovered until the ship's physician, who was making a round of the steerage, vacuinating all the between-decks passengers who could not show recent vaccination marks, ordered her to bare her arm. She refused, and it was through the attention the refusal attracted that her sex was discovered. Then she admitted her real name, and said she had adopted the disguise in order to escape from a cruel husband. She was removed to the women's quarters at Ellis island, and will be allowed to land as soon as she is provided with suitable clothing.—New York Times.

NEW LIFE OF CHRIST.

A MONUMENTAL WORK BY A FRENCH ARTIST.

He Began His Art Career as a Sceptic, but is Now a Devout Believer—Engaged for Ten Years Upon the Task—His Story of the Redeemer.

MISS Edith Cones contributes to the Century an article on the monumental work of the French artist, James Tissot, in illustrating "The Life of Christ." The work is shortly to be published in Tours, France, in the most expensive form, \$1,000 each for the first twenty-one copies, and \$300 each for the remainder of the edition of 1,000 copies. The Century has acquired the right of reproducing a dozen of the finest of Tissot's pictures, and these accompany Miss Cones' article. The writer says: In the Paris of to-day a great religious work has been slowly accomplished, untouched by the insidious influences about it. In the production of this work, which externalizes his full development as man and artist, M. Tissot has been impelled by a desire to use his art for the purpose of presenting a truthful idea of the figure of Christ and the personages of his time—to disengage the whole, as far as possible, from the mass of conventional legend and inaccuracy which surrounds that period, and through which we are accustomed to view its events. With this idea he made, in 1886, the first of two journeys to Palestine, beginning a serious study of its topography, and of the various races which have from time to time taken root there—their manners, customs, dress, gestures, architecture, government—endeavoring to sift through the overlying mass of foreign influences (Arab, Turkish, Persian and Latin) the true elements of the old Jewish civilization, and essaying, as far as possible, to enter into the mental and moral attitudes of that race of Judea, so unique in its design and destiny. With this end in mind it was necessary to reproduce with some degree of exactitude the external setting of the events recorded in the Gospels, and he has thus reconstructed the architecture of that period with great minuteness, proportioned after dimensions and descriptions given in old buildings and religious works. He rebuilds for us the ornate temples and houses of the Herods, and the simpler and more harmonious lines of older structures. We see, too, the little Syrian villages, with their narrow, winding streets and square, low dwellings, lighted through the door; and faithfully pictured are the varying types of the Syrian landscape, the smiling hillsides of Galilee, the severe beauty of Samaria, and the barren and melancholy wastes of Judea.

A devout Catholic, M. Tissot had, among other opportunities for study, the privilege of entering old monasteries and churches, generally inaccessible, where, jealously guarded from profane eyes, are to be found ancient and curious manuscripts, carvings, and relics which throw new light on the history of that time and the early centuries of the Christian era. Apart from what would seem almost special powers of intuition where his work is concerned, M. Tissot has been greatly aided by a study of the Talmud, Josephus, the early fathers of the church, and the works of the celebrated ecclesiastical writers, among the last those marvelous volumes of Katrine Emmerich, almost unknown and now out of print, which are among the most curious revelations of the human mind. In connection with his work M. Tissot has made a new translation of the Latin text of the Vulgate. To those occupying themselves with the history of that period, and specially to the student of mystic lore, the detailed catalogue of the pictures, accompanied by explanatory notes, will prove of the highest interest, as M. Tissot is deeply versed in that symbolism which made the smallest of the Jewish rites and customs pregnant with meaning. He has thus a significance for everything, from the jewel on the breast of the high priest to the color and shape of the garments of the participant at a feast. It would be difficult to overestimate the documentary value of M. Tissot's great work apart from its high esthetic merit. Scene after scene is restored with what would seem almost the power of a seer. Each act is set in its peculiar and fitting environment of place and condition, and the great drama unrolls itself before us with a strange reality. In the minute exactitude of the portrayal one may follow the events with something of the intensity of an eyewitness. The diversity of types represented is most interesting in its ethnological and historic fidelity, being drawn directly after those found there to-day, and which are presumably the same now as then, enduring through the inevitable changes of governments and customs the centuries have brought in their train. One sees the Jew, the Pharisee, the scribe, the Greek, the Egyptian, the Arab, the Roman, the aristocrat, the slave, each type made familiar by the Gospels, standing out distinct, unmistakable even to the casual observer. The Syrian woman, too, has been faithfully pictured in her dark-eyed loveliness and languid grace, reaching her highest perfection in the beauty of Mary the Mother and Mary Magdalen. Specially interesting from this point of view is the picture of the sanhedrim, where every possible modification of the Jewish type is represented in that famous assembly which is lightly pronounced the sentence that has brought down on it the malediction of all succeeding ages.

PROSAIC WOOING.

Curious Love Story of Prince Rudolph and Princess Stephanie.

The story of the formal love-making of Prince Rudolph to Princess Stephanie is thus told: He proposed to her person to the Princess Stephanie, King Leopold II's eldest daughter, on March 7, 1881, at an evening party given in his honor in Laeken castle. Herrmann, the famous conjurer, had been performing in one of the great state saloons, and a concert was being given in the great conservatory attached to the estate. Matters had been so arranged that, while the general company present were being conducted from the scene of Herrmann's acrobatic feats to the winter garden, Rudolph and Stephanie were left together, teleseparated, for a few minutes.

As soon as the coast was clear the handsome archduke approached her royal highness with a low and formal obeisance, saying, "Madame, will you take me for a husband?" to which plainly put question the princess, countessing deeply, replied with equal directness: "Yes, imperial highness." "Your answer makes me supremely happy," rejoined the archduke. "And I," added the princess, "promise that I will do my duty to you in all circumstances." No more was said, and the youthful pair, arm in arm, joined the royal circle, in the winter garden, where Rudolph, leading his betrothed up to her father, addressed the king as follows: "Sir, I have begged the Princess Stephanie to bestow her hand upon me. It is my privilege to inform you that my petition has been granted."

"I rejoice, monseigneur," replied King Leopold, "to greet you as my son-in-law."

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A Warrior's Skeleton.

The skeleton of an Indian warrior at least 6 feet 6 inches tall was found in Muscongus, Me., a few days ago by two men who were digging a cellar. The body had been buried in a sitting posture, facing east, and about it were found iron implements and spear and arrow heads, while around the arm bones were copper bands, covered with curious carvings.

There are some 15,000 persons in London whose professional occupation is writing for publication.

IS FOND OF BRIGHT COLORS.

Mrs. Alva Vanderbilt Dotes on Floral Ornamentation.

One of the large drawing rooms of the New York residence of Mrs. Alva Vanderbilt at Madison Avenue and Seventy-second street is forty feet deep, and its chief feature is the magnificent fresco work on the walls and ceilings. Mrs. Vanderbilt has always been fond of a great deal of color in the ornamentation of her numerous homes, and the mass of richness to be found in these apartments is almost oppressive. But the fact that the ceilings are very high looses down the wealth of color, and the dainty furnishings give a bright and cheery effect to the whole. Many of the art treasures of Marble House at Newport have been moved to this house, for it was the intention of the mistress to make the bravest possible showing when all the fashionable world came to see her daughter made a duchess. One of her treasures is a screen in three sections, representing "Wine, Women and Song." It was painted by a notable German artist, and although but about four feet high and about the same in breadth, cost the net sum of \$7,000. The first section shows a Bacchante cupid holding a wine cup; the second, two cupids dancing attendance upon a beautiful woman, and the third a stinging cupid. The frames are covered with velvet and the ornamentations at the top of the standards are of gilt. This is said to be the finest screen in the country. The walls of the drawing room are nearly covered with Gobelin tapestries, the intervening panels and medallions of a beautiful decorative character. It is not probable that elaborate floral decorations will be used to ornament the house, as it has always been Mrs. Vanderbilt's policy to rely upon the permanent splendor of her home. This was the case when she gave her famous ball at Marble House last August in honor of her daughter. All the art treasures which she had collected during the last twenty years were exhibited, giving guests at the dance more pleasure than the customary profusion of flowers.