

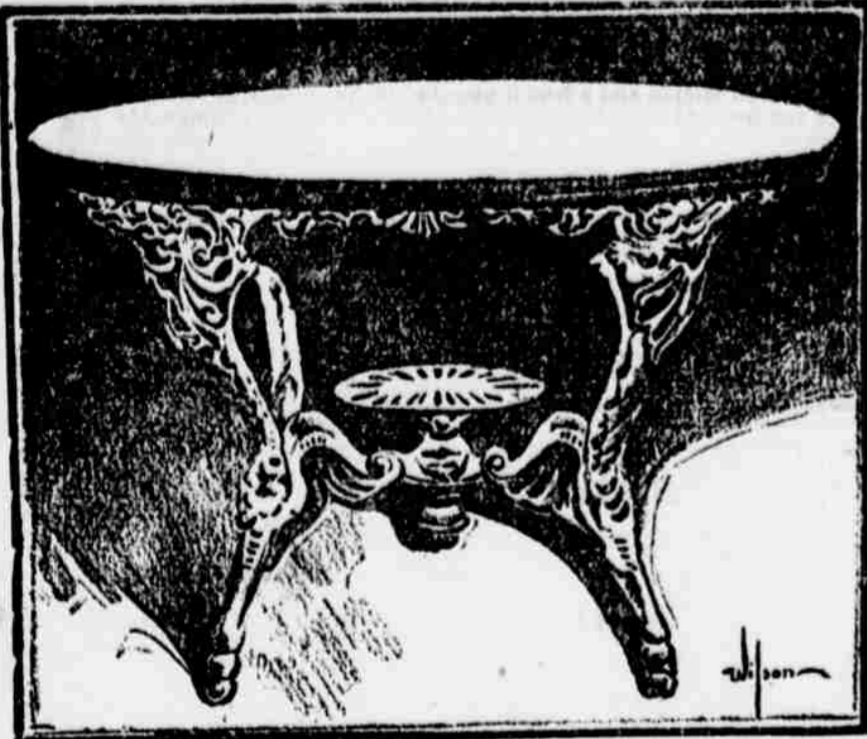
## Table with a History

What appears to be only an old-fashioned table, marble-topped and with sprawling legs of iron, occupies a conspicuous place in the club house of the Menoken club, of Chicago. But in addition to its venerable appearance the table has a history.

Of this table, which was presented to the Menoken club by Senator Mason recently, most of the great statesmen

dents, during its existence, were wont to go there and "talk shop," and incidentally, no doubt, some of them contracted gout with the viands set before them, perhaps, on the very table which now stands in the rooms of the Menoken club.

However this may be, the cafe is now a thing of the past. Recently the powers that be in Washington de-



of America, from Franklin Pierce's time down, are said to have eaten, and, presumably, over its unpretentious marble top many a national issue has been discussed which has since become a part of the nation's history, for the old table with this quaint legend attached to it occupied a place in a cafe in Washington which was frequented by the nation's legislators and executives for nearly half a century.

The cafe was operated in connection with the house of representatives and congressmen and senators and presi-

decided to relegate the eating place and it was accordingly dismantled of its furniture and the tables and other old-fashioned fixtures were consigned to the junk heap. Senator Mason, however, when he learned the history connected with the particular table, to which the head waiter invariably assigned the presidents of the United States when the executives and their guests sought refreshments, determined to rescue it. Accordingly he secured it and had it shipped to Chicago, to the Menoken club.

## Convenient Writing Desk

Here is a desirable green writing desk, plain and inexpensive. The table itself is broad and affords a generous amount of room for the arrangement of one's belongings. In the left side are two rather deep drawers and a shallower one is in the center, while two book shelves take up the space on the



right side. On top of the table on the right-hand side is a nest of pigeon holes, and on the left a set of six small drawers. Above these is a case containing a drawer for telegraph forms and compartments for reference books.

### Good Mansfield Story.

When Mansfield was traveling through the country with "Beaucaire"

he carried three horses with him from place to place. In the course of the play, however, only two of them appear. A man who was interested in stage affairs asked one of the stage hands at the Baltimore theater why the third horse was carried about from place to place, when he never had a chance to shine in the limelight.

"Ah!" said the imported, Mansfieldian auxiliary, "that just goes to show what a 'ell of a fine artist our Mr. Richard is. 'E don't really need the third 'orse at all, you know, but there's one place in the play where he announces that 'e is going out to mount his 'orse. And 'e's such a fine realist, our Richard is, that 'e employs this 'orse to be waiting outside in the wings so that he can come off and mount him. Why, even in harlequin matters our Richard wouldn't lie to one of his audiences for worlds."

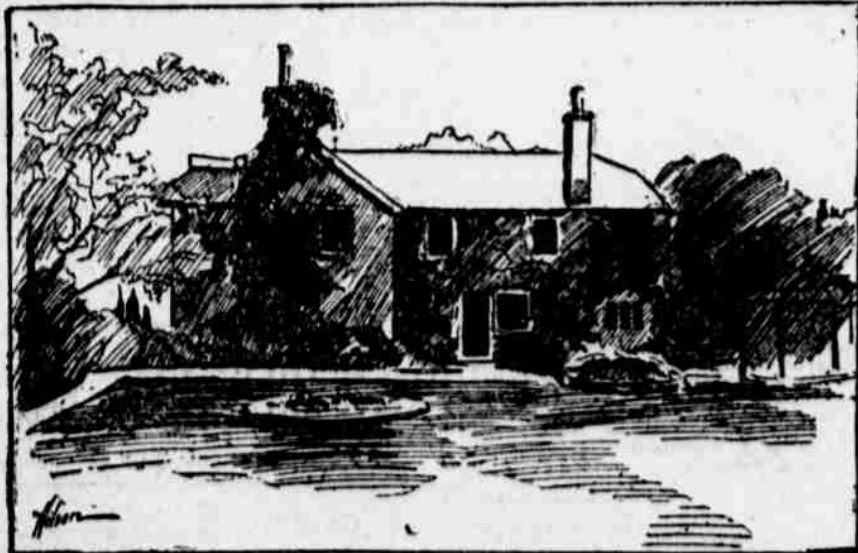
**New York's Assessed Valuation.**  
The increase in assessed valuation in New York City is \$80,000,000, which will give the city an increased borrowing margin of \$8,000,000 July 1 next. The increase is normal. It is caused by enlarged building operations.

**Noise of Electric Cars.**  
The electric cars at Ramsgate in the south of England are said to make an undue noise, which is attributed to the resonant nature of the chalk soil.

## HOME of CHARLOTTE YONGE

No doubt there are many of our readers who will readily recognize the charming house which forms the illustration of this little article. It is the dwelling where Miss Charlotte Yonge was born and died. It is easy to see how very suitable the house must have been to the genius of the owner. Miss Yonge, as is well known, was extremely fond of the house, which

she herself wrote in a style that was almost childishly simple and her themes were of the commonest and most every-day type, she nevertheless exercised an influence second to none over the very greatest minds of her time. Probably this was what made Canon Dixon say that "The Heir of Redclyffe," he considered to be, after half a century's reflection and experi-



ence, "unquestionably one of the finest books in the world." It seems rather late in the day to say anything about her now, says a writer in Country Life, since nearly every important journal in the country has pronounced its opinion—and generally a favorable one—upon her work. But we imagine there are many who will be glad to look upon the house so closely associated with her name.

## The Women's Corner

A charming creation, whose cleaning value cannot be over-estimated, is made of white point d'esprit and lace, colored a faint russet. The skirt is in narrow gores, between which the yellow white of the insertions shows in horizontal lines. Under a wider entreeux, used as a heading, two deep flounces finish the jupe, which, cut to train slightly, is worn over point d'esprit petticoats.

The round bodice is made of straight strips of insertion and net, gathered at the waist and grided by a folded belt of velvet in the same yellow as the lace.

This velvet also appears in a band and knot on the elbow sleeves, and in a loose bow holding down at the left bust the ends of the graceful fichu draped about the shoulders.

### Broadcloth and Lace Costume.

One of the very latest models is shown in this Lisuit-colored broadcloth and Russian lace costume. The skirt of this beautiful gown is laid in tiny box-pleats from the belt to the circular flounce in the direct front, gradually growing shorter at the sides, and sloping up to the shirring at the back of the skirt. Where the tucks end, the fullness forms the flare of the skirt. Each tuck is edged with five rows of stitching, done with Corticelli stitching silk. At the head of the circular flounce there is a broad applique of Russian lace, the material being cut away underneath. On this lace are three rows of pale green velvet applied in a Greek design. The flounce is confined half its depth by the box-pleats, the fullness spreading below. The bodice is also tucked and fastened with little loops and buttons. Over this there is a bolero of Russian lace trimmed with the bands of green velvet. A broad turn-down collar of velvet is edged with sable. The sleeves



### Broadcloth and Lace.

are covered to the elbow with the lace, which is then allowed to hang in a flowing effect. Turn-back cuffs of velvet at the elbow are edged with sable. The lower or undersleeve is tucked all over and slashed up its outer edge, where the ends of the tucks form

loops. Fine ruffles of lace fill up the opening and fall over the hand.

### Stitching as Decoration.

Stitching is still a most fashionable mode of decoration. A novelty introduced this fall consists of rows of



### Stitched in Persian Colors.

machine stitching in contrasting and sometimes variegated shades of silk. A new model is this street gown of blue camel's hair. The skirt has a curious arrangement of graduated tucks, curving over the hips and forming the fullness below. Straight down the middle of the skirt is a strip of red broadcloth covered with Mexican open work embroidery, done with blue Corticelli crochet and knitting silk. On the center of this strip is a fancy braid of black and gold, edged with black silk crochet acorns. A similar strip extends the full length of the back of the skirt and continues up under the trimming of the bodice, thus forming a princess back. This same trimming appears on the bodice, sleeves and collar. The belt is of red taffeta stitched in rows of Persian colors with Corticelli stitching silk. The wide sleeves extend just below the elbow. Beneath are undersleeves of batiste embroidery applique on red taffeta. The front of the bodice, displayed by the bolero, is also of the batiste.

### New Vells.

Altogether unique is the new face veil with the edge embroidered in cherries in natural colors, or with a row of tiny violets or forget-me-nots with green leaves. Another novelty is a veiling with reversible dots, black on one side and white on the other. The storm veil has been issued by an enterprising manufacturer to take the place of the two vells which have been worn for the past two winters. The storm veil consists of a chiffon veil and one of net joined at one edge. The net veil is worn over the face and the chiffon one around the hat crown, unless a storm break unexpectedly, when the veil may be spread as a protection over the entire hat.

## EVFNING DRESSES OF PINK AND WHITE SATIN.



## Beecher and His Salary

An old member of Plymouth church, who knew Henry Ward Beecher and his family, has this to say about the great preacher: "No one ever knew what he did with the vast sums of money he earned as a lecturer," he said. "He used to give money away with both hands, and he was as likely to give a street beggar a twenty-dollar bill as a dollar. But his salary from Plymouth church went direct to Mrs. Beecher, intact. He never drew any money from the church until the end of the year. Then he received a check for \$20,000, his full year's salary, and handed it to his wife. When he died he did not leave much of an estate, although he had earned millions of dollars in his life, but Mrs. Beecher had always received her \$20,000 a year and she lived in comfort, and even luxury, in Brooklyn, till she died. He was a great man was Henry Ward Beecher, and I am glad there is a good statue of him in Prospect park, as well as the monument in front of the borough hall, in the city that he served so long and so well."

## Some Excuse for the Old Gentleman

The elevated train came to a stop at Scollay Square with such suddenness that an old man with a silk hat and three big bundles was hurled down the aisle as if from a catapult. The bundles and the hat took various directions, and the old man brought up against a stout young woman, who promptly measured her length on the floor.

The young woman picked herself up and gasped: "This is outrageous!" The old man said, as he groped about for his bundles: "I—confound it—know it—confound it—couldn't help myself—confound it." Then as he left the car he glared at the guard and indulged in this final outburst: "Confound it all, I say!"

A man seated in the car said to his neighbor: "The old fellow is a church member." "Perhaps," was the reply, "but he put a good deal of expression into his words."—Boston Herald.

## Portrait of Dandy of Bygone Age

Dandies have flourished in England almost since the conquest, and the picture shows one of the time of good Queen Bess. His title was Lord Russell of Thornhaugh. He was the son of the second Earl of Bedford, and



learned the art of foppery as a courtier of Flushing. Sidney, in token of his tier in Venice, Germany, Italy and Hungary. He fought in Ireland and in the Netherlands, and succeeded his friend, Sir Phillip Sidney, as Governor of the Netherlands. In September, 1602, he had the honor of entertaining Queen Elizabeth.

### British Train de Luxe.

For some time past the Liverpool Atlantic passenger companies have been negotiating with the London and Northwestern Railway with a view of getting a more luxurious train between London and Liverpool for the steamer service. They were backed up by the American consul. The result is that the first train de luxe left Riverdale station, Liverpool, on Saturday with the Campania's passengers. It consisted of a complete corridor train of twelve carriages, including drawing and dining-room cars, magnificently fitted.—Western Mail.

### Much too Literal.

When asked what he thought of a certain captain who frequented the Essex links, a Scotch caddie said: "Weel, sir, he's a verra nice gentleman an' a good gauffer, but he's awfu' nerra—awfu' nerra." "Narrow! What do you mean, Donald?" "Weel, sir, it was this way. Efter the game was ower, and I had carried the clubs up tae the house, he says, 'Donald, will ye have a draw?' and I said: 'I do be verra pleased,' so he gets the bottle, an' he pourin' awa intae a glass, an' I wantin' tae be genteel, says, 'Stop! stop!'—an' he stopped."

### Japanese Smokers.

The Japanese smoke in a very peculiar manner. The pipes have very small metal mouthpieces, and only hold enough tobacco for three or four whiffs. They use a tobacco which is cut extremely fine, and looks more like light blond hair than anything else. It is of a very good quality, however. The Japs take a whiff of the smoke and inhale it, letting it pass out through the nostrils. They rarely smoke more than one pipeful at a time.

## Telephone for Use on Moving Trains

A device known as a "telephone for trains" has been patented by Prof. M. Russo d'Asar of Germany and is said to have stood a practical test with satisfactory results. The invention consists of a system of telephones by which the inventor says the engineer and conductor of a moving train can communicate with another moving train on the same track or with a station agent or guard along the line. A successful experiment is said to



have been made with the invention at Mitterssling-Grossloke, Germany. Under the system it is declared that an engineer of a train running at a high rate of speed can keep in perfect communication with every one connected with the running of his or other trains on the same track.

## Reply Neat and Effective

In the smoking room of a Swiss hotel a discussion recently took place between a German and an American as to the merits of their respective armies. The former believed in discipline and trained troops as he believed in the hereafter. The American believed in training, too, but held that a lot depended upon the material trained. "Given," quoth he, "that brains are lacking, no amount of physical training will make up for them. Take the American troops, comparatively untrained, and see how well they fight. It's because of their brains." "Nonsense," rejoined the aroused German. "Untrained troops can never stand against well-drilled ones. Take your own country, for example, with practically no drilled army. What would you do?" He paused impressively, and then said: "What would you do if Germany landed an army of 250,000 perfectly drilled and perfectly equipped men on your shores?" "Bury them," was the quiet but complete rejoinder.

## Made Profit on Christmas Gifts

A recently married couple who received on Christmas day a great many pieces of silver, each in the regulation satin-lined box, profited by their gifts in a way that the donors may not have suspected. They collected all their boxes on the following day, and returned them to the silversmiths from whom they had been purchased. Some of these cases cost almost as much as the silver that they contained. The dealers were willing to take them back at their own prices and give silverware in return for them. It is the custom of most of the big jewelers and silversmiths to change the style of their boxes each year.—New York Sun.

## Gen. Andre's Speech Has Roused France

General Andre, whose sensational speech at the Gambetta celebration causing talk in Paris, is the minister of war of the French Republic and a fine type of the soldier-scholar. An orator of high power, he is also one of the best strategists in Europe, a fact brought out when he was com-



mander of the Polytechnic School from 1893 to 1896.

### Voting Made Compulsory.

A bill to make voting at elections compulsory, which is to be introduced into the French chamber by M. Georges Berry, provides that any person abstaining from voting at elections shall have his name displayed on the door of the town hall, pay a fine of from five francs to ten francs, and be disfranchised and rendered ineligible for any public office.