## Old Blazer's Hero

By DAVID CHRISTIE MURRAY.

All this was gall and wormwood to the

"Come home, Hackett. If you can't

It may be allowed that, along with

CHAPTER III.

Church bells were ringing on a March

morning. They rang under a sky half

covered with a tatter of ragged cloud.

through the vivid rents whereof broad

sunshine poured. The wind, which buf-

feted the music of the bells, chased the

tattered clouds so swiftly that the sun-

light flowed over the heath, the cluster of

cottages, and the church, like a series of

A quarter of a mile away from the

center of the music which tumbled in

such exuberant and wind-swept mirth,

wearing an air of deep chagrin, and kick-

ing with occasional sudden emphasis at

any projecting bit of turf which lay

While he lounged thus dejected he was

unaware of the approach of a portly

tion among the shining puddles on the

western road. This person had for a

long time held in view the figure of the

melancholy lonnger at the sign post.

Finding himself still unnoticed, when he

achieved a conversational felicity.

swered.

interested tone:

Oh, yes.

emphasis.

be alone.

smile-"do you think-

the other, looking up at him.

Ned's face wore an expression of dis-

to replace by one of interest as he sur-

veyed the landscape, in answer to the

"The weather's right enough," he an

"The bells," said Mr. Lowther. "The

-he had a knack which suited his voice

certain words in this way-"I perrisu a

ness. Mr. Lowther, with his head slight

ly thrown back and a little on one side

was smiling softly and benevolently a

unaware of the other's gaze. Observing

this, the young man answered in an un-

"Yes, they are ringing for Will Hack-

"Has it occurred to you?" asked Mr

"Has what occurred to me?" asked

"That Hackett might have done-

wouldn't indicate a breath to disparage

the young lady." He was still smiling

softly at the landscape and the bells, and

Blane was looking at him with eyes of

now-might he not have done a little

"Perhaps he might. I don't know

"It may be so," responded Mr. Low

"It is his own affair," said Blane, as

"Assuredly." Mr. Lowther answered

affair." He paused there and smiled or

his companion. "I do not say that we

should set too lofty a valleyon on our

worldy goods, but it behooves us to b

careful even of our own temporary wel-

fare. Do you happen to know if our

young friend receives anything with the

"My dear young friend," cried Mr

Lowther, somewhat taken aback by this

"I am not your dear young friend.

said Ned, with a smile, which had as

much anger as amusement in it. "

about, and I would a great deal rather

"That," replied Mr. Lowther, very

The windy music of the bells and the

"What do you want to know about

unlooked-for vehemence, and recoiling

"It may be so. But in a worldly

Assuredly. Quite his own

where, though. It seems to me he has

Ned looked at him with sudden keen

they are ringing for young Hackett."

had grown quite near he coughed behind

charging waves.

within reach.

CHAPTER II .- (Continued.) the Bacchanalian sort, and were sung "Very well, gentlemen," said the cen-ter of interest, rising. "If you will have have been asked for from so accomit, you will have it. I'm as hoarse as a plished a vocation. crow, but if you make me sing it's no fault of mine, and you must put up unfortunate lover. His thoughts ran be-

fore and he saw the girl he cared for sit-He threw down his riding whip and ting lonely and pale and sad at home, sauntered to the plano. He struck a and in the same flash of time saw her chord or two and the character of the husband as he saw him now, swaggering Instrument seemed to change. It jingled and roystering with boon companions still-it would have jingled under the who were unworthy of him. These fanhands of the king of pianists-but his cies cut him to the heart, and at last, voice was richer, fuller and softer than taking Hackett by the arm, he whisper-It had been. Even now he was not go ed in a tone which sounded a trifle fierce ing to waste a sniff of the incense which from so ordinarily mild a man: was wafted about him, and was at once so common and so delightful. He pre-luded at half-random for a minute or fool of yourself, your friends must see two, and when he had whetted expec- it for you.' tancy to its keenest edge he struck some opening chords and in due time began to his congenial vices, Mr. Hackett had at least the congenital merit of being good-

His voice was of that rare and exquitempered. He laughed allowingly, and site quality which juspires immediate suffered himself to be drawn away, but confidence in the listener. On the song in the keen fresh air of the streets be of nature's born singers the soul embegan to reel and to talk thickly, and barks without hesitation at the call of his rival, with a heart growing mon arily heavier and sorer, piloted him the first true note.

If there had been nothing else to have home, and, bidding him good night at the accounted for it, it would have been a door, turned away, feeling as blank; as remarkable tribute to Will Hackett's desolate as the night itself. vocal powers that a wayfarer should have paused in the street at the first note of his song, and should have stood stock still in the wind and snow to listen. There was, however, much else to account for this circumstance, for the wayfarer was none other than Will Hackett's unsuccessful rival. He had forgotten the wind and the snow half an hour before, and now in the very act of standing still to listen he forgot the song. He doubted the news he had heard, and had tried vainly to persuade himself that he had no belief in it at all, but his thoughts were comfortless and disturbed. He had been Mary Howarth's suitor these two years, and though he had been more than arms. Against it leaned Ned Blane, sufficiently shy in his suit and timid enough in his hopes, he had hardly identified swaggering Will Hackett as a

The Hacketts had been well-to-do time out of mind, but for the last three or four generations the family had been rolling broadcloth personage, who picked his traveled, running like a deer, so industriously downhill that it was a way with a cat-like nicety and delibera- (To be continued.) marvel they had not long since reached the bottom. This sweet-throated Will's great-grandfather had in his time gambled away one-half the family belongings. The grandfather had in like manner reduced his share by a moiety; and the father, whose career was briefer and one of his glossy gloves with an air of more rapid than that of his predecessors, accident, and having thus attracted the had left the remnant of the property so lounger's notice, he bade him good mornheavily mortgaged as to be almost value ing. There are people who in speaking Since his death the Hackett home- convey the impression that their vocal stead had been closed and was likely to organs are oiled. Mr. Horatio Lowther soft blue eyes and golden hair which remain so, for the mining resources of was one of these. His salute was a he had loved long ago. the district round about were fast being opened up, and coal pits and blasting a start and blushed like fire. He pushed furnaces are undesirable neighbors for a country seat. The discovery of the min- answer to the salutation eral resources of the land would have made careful people wealthy, but it had only encouraged the later generations of she Hacketts to larger extravagances. Will had inherited the tastes and procliv- black gloves hither and thither, and smilities of his ancestors, and was as deep in debt as he knew how to be.

If there had been nothing worse than the fullen fortunes of his family with which to reproach Will Hackett the thing might have been borne with; but the young fellow kept the family reputation alive in all ways, and the graver sort of people shrugged their shoulders at the mention of him, whilst the feebler held up their hands in horror. The long and the short of it is, he was the last sort bells. Those morning bells! How many of man in the world for a girl to think a tale their music tells! I perrisume of marrying. Now the disappointed lover knew all these things, and they galled

him terribly. Edward Blane, sunk deep in the mem ory of these things, stood in the storm wrathful, sore-hearted and piteous, When the song was finished and the applause which followed it aroused him from his thoughts, he awoke out of a dream which nature and the bells, and appeared to be had carried him both into the past and the future by a year or two. He could not have told then or afterward what Impulse drew him into the hotel and led him to the upper room in which the singing was going on. The thing seemed most to desire just then was solitude. Lowther, preserving his attitude and his and he had no mind to exchange unmeaning talk with people he did not care for, or even to listen to Will Hackett's delightful singing. Yet he entered and stood rather moodily propping himself against the door, until his old half-abandoned crony discovered him, and crossed

the room to shake hands. "Why, Ned, old lad, it's a hundred years since I saw the last of you. What brings you here?"

"I heard your singing as I was going by," said Ned. "I wouldn't come up till you'd finished."

"And now," cried the landlord, "it's done a lot better than he deserves. pretty well beknown as there's nothing Mr. Hackett wouldn't be willin' to do to ther. oblige Mr. Blane, and he can hardly do sense. less than sing another song to pay him if the talk wearied him. for standin' out I' the cold to listen to the first un."

"Ay, sing us a song, Will!" said his old companion. "They're all rarely pleased to hear you." "Why, so I will," answered Hackett: "but I'll have a little refreshment first,

if you please, Warden." The landlord bustled from the room and soon returned. Then Hackett sang another song. This time he chose "Sally in Our Alley," and the unlucky lover, though not easily disposed to be affronted as a rule, felt a personal application in the ditty and took umbrage at it. The joyful and tender exultation of the line 'Oh, then I'll marry Sally" especially wounded him, and the singer's accidental smiling took in his direction seemed to his raw and distempered fancy as if it were meant to barb the shaft. He have nothing in the world to talk to you leaned moodily against the wall and re-

ett, his song being over, began to rally him upon his gloomy temper. sweetly, "is an invitation not to linger "You've taken rather more than's good I will accept it in that sense, Mr. Blane. for you," said the sufferer. "Better stop and will wish you good morning."

signed himself to bitter funcies. Hack-

it and go home.' "Who? 1?" cries Hackett. "Not a bit swiftly alternating bands of shade and shipe were still careering over the heath of it! To-day's the only day we own. We mayn't be alive to enjoy ourselves as Mr. Lowther turned his broadcloth back upon the finger post, and left the

The foolish youngster spoke with so young man staring sadly after him. much aplomb, and with an air so gay and sprightly, and laughed so heartily Will Hackett's affairs for? Is he in in his speech that everybody but Ned your clutches, you fat ald spider? Heav-Blane took the speech itself to be full of en help him if he is! The bit he has left wit and humor and laughed loudly with won't be long in going after what he

used to have if he has got into your web." Until the actual coming of the wedso often and found refreshment so essential between songs that when but an ding day he had never been able to conhour had gone by his ditties were all of vince himself that his sweetheart would

really make so bad a business of herselt as to marry Will Hackett. Something was to have turned up to prevent so egregious a sacrifice, some outbreak on the part of the intended bridegroom, or discovery on the side of his victim. His wife could be nothing less than a victim, to the unlucky rival's fancy, and he found people enough to agree with him

and confirm him in his opinion.

Ned had quite resolved to see nothing of the wedding coronous, for to what good end should he vex himself by that? And yet here be was, a mile nearer the parish church than he had a right to be, and hankering after pain with that unreasoning instinct which prompts children to irritate sore places. When Mr. Horatio Lowther had got some two or three hundred yards away Ned lounged after

him slowly and irresolutely. There were no faces at the cettege windows and no idlers or wayfarers in the road. The bells were silent now, for the wedding procession had entered the church. He must needs enter the porch, and there, in company with two or three peeping children, whom his presence awed into supernatural gravity and silence, listen to the murmuring and echoing voice of the minister as it rolled indistinctly about the hollow building. which was more than five-sixths empty. He heard the groom's voice more clearly, for Hackett's loud swagger was but little tempered by the place and the oc-The listener turned away and stood at the entrance to the porch, looking out upon the graveyard for a little while; and then, stepping lightly by instinet, walked down the path and into the village street.

It was all bare and empty as he had left it, but a sudden unreasonable fear of being observed set him walking rapidly, and he felt as if any one who should chance to see him must know how raw and desolate and heartbroken he was.

Behind him and somewhat gaining apon him, though not rapidly, was a man on horseback. The horse was fat and unwieldy. By dint of hard kicking and and kept his seat until he came on a his name.

"Mr. Edward." Ned Blane looked up and recognized the Bard.

"What's the matter?" he asked, for Shadrach's face was wild. "The Blazer; the Old Blazer," said Shadrach, breathing bard.

"What! Not on fire again?" "No: drowned out this time. Sevenand-forty down. You'm wanted. I seen you by the church an' I've been tryin' to holler iver sence, but I've had all the stood a sign post, holding four gaunt breath shook out o' me."

The first feeling in the wounded lover's heart was so terribly like thankfulness that some absorbing duty called him from himself that he stood stock still for a moment, more horrified at himself than at the news. In the next instant he turned back upon the way he had

A Poet's Mother.

Robert Buebanan had one deep enthuslasm, his mother. She was always young in her appearance, but he regarded her, to the end of her life, as abounding even in girlish charms. He could never realize that she was growing old. In looking at her, even when she was close upon 80, he saw the

benediction. Ned drew himself up with "I cannot imagine my mother as old," he said again and again, the day back the soft felt hat and nodded in after she died. "I do not feel that she is dead, for I cannot imagine the world "It is a lovely morning," said Mr. Lowther, pausing, "It gives one a sense

When, a youth of eighteen, he went He did not say what it gave one a sense of, but he waved his shining up to London, "to take the world by sterm," he was a miserably homesick ed with the look of a man who has lad. He sat in a corner of the railway carriage, his heart aching, his eyes dim

gusted weariness which he tried in vain "I real z d" he says, "that I was for the first time quite friendless and invitation conveyed by the waving black alone. I thought of my dear mother praying for me at home, and I longed to turn back and ask her forgiveness for any pain I had caused her. Even now, I never take a railway journey at night without recalling the dismal heartache of that midnight journey to and face to perfection, of lengthening London."

Almost daily, during this early struggle, d.d he receive a letter from her, always full of loving instruction for his guidance. His answers were overflowing with heart and hope, Mother and son were constant in this tender service. From first to last they were the best and most intimate of

True Gallantry.

Sir Walter Raleigh's chivalrous ac tion of throwing his cloak on the ground for his queen to step on is recalled by the story of a small boy's generosity, which is described in V. C.

A little girl was standing one very cold morning in one of the poorer districts of Edinburgh, waiting among a could not be supposed to know that crowd of other poor children to gain idmittance into a ball where a meal wrath and wonder. "But might he not was to be given them. It was bitterly cold, and the little girl shivered violently, and tried in vain to keep her bare feet warm.

A ragged little urchin who was standing near observed her, and taking off his cap and laying it at her feet, said, "Here, lassie, stand on my cap till the door coens."

No Horsewhips Used. There is a notable law in effect in most of the large Russian towns concerning horses that deserves special mention. Among the curious things that arrest the attention on arriving in Moscow is the entire absence of whips among the drivers of cabs, carringes and all sorts of vehicles. On inquiry, says a traveler, I was informed that there was a law prohibiting their use. I don't believe there is a sing's whip in use in Moscow. The excellent condition of the horses attests the benefit of this humane law. Nothing can exceed the beauty of the sleek and well groomed horses used in

the carriages of Moscow. Uncie Reuben's Philosophy. I hey had a right smart lot of people cum to me fur advice at one time or another. In de fust place, dey wanted to save a lawyer's fee an' in de next dey wanted to see if I was as big afule as dey was. If I didn't agree wid 'em I was a bigger one, of course .-Detroit Free Press.

"The expedition endured the extremest hardship."

"Yes, I understand they were locked in the ice during two lecture seasons." -Detroit Free Press. A sensible woman seldom wastes ber

time ou a handsome man.

THE ENGLISH LORD CROMER IS ITS REAL RULER.

From Him the Khedive Takes His Orders-Great Fertile Land of the Nile World-Its Varied People.

Egypt is one of the most cosmopol-

guese and Spaniards, with some En that Lord Cromer does not approve. glish, Germans, Americans, Swiss Swedes, Belgians, Dutch and Danes,

REJUVENATED EGYPT service in England. They control the wint life of Egypt, lead all the sports and amusements, organize the clubs and set the fashlons. In every Egypthan city there is a Church of England establishment, with a chapiain, a school and regular services on Sun-

Most Promising Country in the of Turkey and pays an annual tribute While Egypt is nominally a province of 3,000,000 to the Sultan, and the Khedive is supposed to be subject to his will, Lord Cromer, the British conitan of countries. Not even ours, with sui general and diplomatic agent, is its varied peoples, gathered from every the de facto ruler of the country, and civilized quarter of the Khedive is allowed to do nothing the globe, outranks without his consent and approval. He the land of the has no formal title. In the official lists Nile in diffusion he ranks with the consul generals of of races. In the the United States and other countries, regious out of and on ceremonial occasions he apwhich Moses led pears with his colleagues of the conhis persecuted sular corps, and makes his bow to the countrymen there man on the throne. And the man on are still 22,000 the throne returns the salute of his Jews. Greek and master, and is conscious that the quiet-Roman Catholi- looking gentleman with unostentatious cism have here manners and a pleasant smile controls 122,000 adherents, his thoughts as well as his acts, for it among Greeks. Italians, is a waste of time for his highness to French, Austrians, Russians, Portu-reflect or plan or even imagine things

Lord Cremer Is Boss While the administrative force and though for the most part these races the executive departments of the govare included in the 24,000 communi- ernment are nominally in centrol of cants of Protestant churches. There natives, every official of importance are 600,000 Copts and the rest of the from the minister of foreign relations 10,000,000 inhabitants are Mohamme- to the chief of police in every city, has dans. In view of the preponderance of an Englishman at his side who acts as Musselmen, the rejuvenation of the his "adviser" and receives his orders realm of the Pharachs is one of the from and makes his reports to the marvels of modern times. Thirty cen- British consul. If the official does not turies ago Egypt dominated the world. conform to the views of his "advisor" Rome at the zenith of her greatest he loses his job. If he proves himself power was insignificant in comparison, capable, useful, honest and is willing tight holding the rider quickened his pace for the country was the garden and to carry out the British policy he is the granary of the world. But with promoted, honored and admired. Hence level with the foot passenger and gasped the reign of the Pharaohs ended, the Lord Cromer has his finger upon every prosperity of the country declined and bureau and upon every clerk of every for 3,000 years Egypt was dead. Her department of the Egyptian govern-



BRIDGE KASR ACROSS THE NILE AT CAIRO.

finances were ruined and her water- ment, and every wire runs into his ways fell into desuctude. Her people house. This supervision begins with were sullen, hostile to every civilizing the Khedive himself, who has his "adinfluence and growing into hopeless viser" in the person of an aid-de- road laws of the State so as to conbarbarism.

problem, subdued the rebel dervishes his "adviser" or if he should attempt and determined to restore fertility to guide unaided the government of where stagnation prevailed, a new era which he is the titular head, he would opened for the Nile region. Even the be quietly reminded that there are Sphinx might have been pardoned for heirs to the throne. He is therefore smiling dubiously at the temerity of compelled to accept the situation which the invader, but English keenness foresaw great possibilities and English to the throne in 1892, and is likely to



persistence was not to be checked. Today, Egypt is one of the most promising regions in the world. The construction of dams under the direction of Lord Cromer, the British consul general and diplomatic agent, has add Egypt, the value of which will amount to about \$400,000,000. It was the greatest engineering achievement the world has ever seen and under proper control the land of the Nile should become the richest on earth. That is what conservatives bespeak for it and what England is seeking to make it.

But that is in the future. It is condition of the country to-day, in the infancy of its reju-

venation, that the know about.

world wants its varied inhabitants, the Moham medans are the most liberal and tolerant of any adhering to the faith of Islam and offer no objection to the Christian mission

EGYPTIAN SHEIK. hopeful sign. The Copts are the descendants of the ancient Egyptians. They are well educated and furnish the professions. In their religious views they differ from the great majority of Christians in that they deny the human side of Christ's nature, asserting that be was wholly divine. The Jews control commercial affairs to a large extent. They are bankers, money lenders, exporters and importers, being riv aled in this respect by the Greeks. The Bedouins, descendants of Esau. live on the plains, in tents of camel's hair, while the laborers are Nubians. The English control politics.

The English population is mostly engaged in the government offices. There are probably 1,200 or 1,500 in the several departments of the administration, with a few French, Germans and Italians. They receive large salaries. twice as much as natives in corresponding positions and about twice as much as they would be paid in similar having time to think about it.

following the counsel he gives. If When England took up the Egyptian Abbas Hilmi II, should decline to obey continues as it existed when he came

continue indefinitely. Englishmen are careful to explain that they have not annexed Egypt; that there is no protectorate, and that no official tie exists between the two governments. The word "occupation" is used to describe a condition that has existed since 1882, and in theory Great Britain has never attempted to legalize her position in Egypt. Her army is there theoretically at the request of the Khedive to preserve the peace and protect his throne, but for twenty years Egypt has been actually governed from London, and more absolutely than any British colony. Lord Cromer has greater authority than any of the viceroys or governors of Australia, Canda, India or any other colony.

The other powers of Europe accept the situation for financial reasons, because the interests of their subjects in he Egyptian debt can best be served hat way. They are allowed representation in the treasury department and in the courts, and England assumes the rest of the responsibility.

Two Kinds of Law. Georgia has a law intended to induce stock owners to keep their animals in ed 2,500 miles to the cultivable area of their own fields, says the Atlanta Constitution. When a farmer finds his neighbor's cattle in his corn, instead of sending them to the pound or shooting them, he puts them in his own corral, and when the owner comes for them, charges him fifty cents a head to pay for the trespass.

> It happened that when the law was under discussion two neighbors were very violent, the one in favor of it, the other against it. After the law had been passed the cattle of the man who had opposed it got into the other man's field and were captured. Their owner went for them.

> "As I am a law-abiding citizen," said the other farmer, "and as there are fourteen cattle, it will cost you seven

The man whose cattle had been Impounded was indiguant, but he paid the bill. A little later he captured his neighbor's cattle in his field. Wallet in pocket, the owner of the cows rode over to get them.

"Well," he demanded, "how much do I owe you?" "Not a cent," replied the other. "I may not be a law-abiding citizen, but I'm a neighbor."

"He seems to be quite an important personage now." "Why, he always was, and so were the other members of his family." "Nonsense!"

"Not at all. He started as janitor in a flat, his brother is a policeman and his sister a cook-lady."-Philadel-After: She-Ah, you men! Before

marriage you pay compliments, but He-After? Why, after, we do better; we pay bills.-Life.

If a woman doesn't have time to eat, she gets along pretty well, not



The good roads movement is making substantial progress, according to the Chicago Inter-Ocean. It says: Among the several organizations interested in road construction is the New York and Chicago Road Association. This organization is endeavoring to extend anomaly—the name given to a soap the road improvement idea to all parts of the country, but it is particularly interested in a good road from Chicago to New York.

While the association is making an from a country which uses no soap at effort to secure from Congress an appropriation to pay for part of the proposed improvement, it is exerting its influence to secure State legislation favorable to good roads and county and city appropriations for improvements along the line of the projected high-Way.

Recently the county board of supervisors at Elmira, N. Y., appropriated \$254,000 for the construction of roads to be built in conformity with the plans of the State engineer and according to the suggestions of the New York and Chicago Good Road Association. This is one case illustrating not only the interest in the movement. but action on practical lines. Six or eight years ago residents of New York city, as soon as they passed the city limits in the northern portion, came to almost impassable roads. Streets in the city were well paved and well cared for. The roads in the zone between the city and country were cared for by neither city, nor county, nor

This condition led to new legislation. under which the roads leading into the improved. Under the influence of the New York and Chicago Good Roads Association still greater improvements have been made. While the cities and counties are expending money for their own benefit, the improvements are made under the direction of the State engineer and with the general system of road construction in mind. This instance at Elmira, shows what is being done at the eastern end of the proposed highway from Chicago to New York city. A good deal has been done in Ohio and Indiana. How much has been done in Illinois?

Last May the Illinois Legislature passed a bill creating a good roads commission. This law went into force July 1, 1903, and the commission is under instructions to embody in a report to the next general assembly a bill for an act to amend the present camp, and appreciates the importance form to the present advanced thought requirements on the subject of road building. This is a move in the right direction. Meantime roads leading out of Chicago, with some notable exceptions are in as bad condition as were those in the vicinity of New York city eight years ago. Before the State roads commission can submit the report the western contingent of the New York and Chicago Good Roads Association can do much. Congress will be asked to give practical assistance to the good roads movement. The State of New York has not waited for national legislation. Other States have not waited. New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana are constructing roads with a highway to Chicago in mind. Illinois should not lag behind.

SOME DREAMS DISPELLED.

Turkey's Bad Coffee Egypt's Bad To-

bacco-No Castile Soap in Castile. What traveler has not dreamed of sipping the real Turkish - coffee Turkey? Of smoking the authentic eating rich, meiting, luscious Smyrna figs in Smyrna? Of washing one's hands with the only original Castile soap in fair Castile?

How do these travelers' dreams materialize? Alas and alack! They are but clouds and shadows. They don't two-thirds are lacemakers. The art

come true. How about the delicious Egyptian cigarettes? The delicate Egyptian tobacco? Alas! - the native Egyptian peasant housewife is glad to add to the tobacco is so bad that nobody smokes it family exchequer by thus utilizing her but the natives, and not even they when they can get anything else. In Egypt, as in so many places, the tobacco comes from Somewhere Else. the family are found to be important The highest grade tobacco there apparently is imported from Europefrom Roumella. The next best comes from Northern Syrla-the best known grade of this tobacco being known to Europeans as "Latakia," although not shirts. Silk is the chief material used, so called in Egypt. Persian tobacco is but of late there has been a demand also imported. In short, Egypt im- for cotton lace. ports the tobacco, the wrappers, the boxes, and the smokers, and then you have the Egyptian cigarette.

"But still," contends the enthusiast, "there can be no coffee like the genuine Turkish coffee. Ah, think of the they cut down so many trees. I sup-Arabian nights! And Scheherezade! And Lady What's Her-Name, the En- too fast by absorbing their moisture, glish peeress who wore Turkish trous- and when they cut down whole forers, lived in Turkey for years, and ests, why, there's nothing to do but let sipped Turkish coffee with Turkish the floods come. But it's awful for the pashas. And of the bearded shelks in the desert-with hubble bubble pipes reading the other day about some houris all sitting on divans and all sipping coffee-with all the comforts West when the floods came, and they of a home-out in the desert! Come. now! You must give in on the Turkish coffee."

To this I can only reply that they may have had good coffee in Turkey in know what State he is a native of bethe time when Sultan Haroun-al-Raschid walked his city's streets in- Doesn't it seem awful our allowing so cognito, but they have not now. You can get better Turkish coffee (so called) in New York than in Turkey; you can to have put a stop to it just as soon as get much better Turkish coffee in we were declared independent. Bethe Hoffman House than you can in cause we're not really Americans now, Stamboul, Pera, Scutari, Smyrna, except the negroes, and they're Afri-Befrut, Jerusalem or Cairo.

How about the luscious figs of Smyrna? Well, my experience was that the nearer we got to Smyrna the poorer grew the figs. When we reached Beirut they were pretty bad; when we were off Smyrna, the peddlers brought some aboard that were very bad; when we got ashore at Smyrna | broken off.-Philadelphir

we were offered some on the quay that were worse; in the hotel they were wormy, and when we got into the heart of Smyrna the figs were able to walk wound the dealer's counter.

I used to be very fond of Smyrna figs before I went to Smyrna,

I have not eaten any since. I shall never eat any again. Never mind why.

In Castile I found no Castile soap. They did not know what I meant: they had never heard of Castile soap. This irritated me, so I began investigating the Castile-soap problem. I learned-or was told-that Castile soan is not made in Castile: it is not used in Castile; that it is made in Marseilles out of olive oil imported from Palestine. Thus we note this strange comes from a country which knows naught of this particular soap, it is manufactured in a city using little or no soap, out of materials coming all.-Jerome Hart in Argonaut.

## CABINET AND MINISTRY.

What the Terms Mean as Used im Great Britain.

London dispatches sometimes refer to the "cabinet" and sometimes to the "ministry," and may lead readers to believe that these are distinct bodies, whereas the cabinet is the inner circle of the ministry, says the London Transcript. A man may be in the ministry without being in the cabinet, but he cannot be in the cabinet without being in the ministry. The cabinet members are those of the ministers whose advice is most earnestly desired by the premier and constitute his ministerial staff. As Mr. Balfour originally formed his ministry in July, 1902, the cabinet was made up of the premier himself, the lord high chanceller, the lord chancellor of Ireland, the lord president of the council, the lord privy seal, the first lord of the treasury (Mr. Balfour), the first lord of the admiral-

ty the secretaries of state for home affairs, foreign affairs, war, the colo nies and India, the chief secretary of cities of New York State were greatly Ireland, the chancellor of the exchequer, the secretary of Scotland, the presidents of the board of trade, the local government board, the board of agriculture, the board of education and the postmaster-general. There were thirty-one members of the ministry who were not in the cabinet under Mr. Balfour's original organization,

Certain great offices of the state are found in the cabinet according to unwritten law, but offices of secondary rank are represented or unrepresented, as premiers decide, the political power of their incumbents often being the determining influence. Thus, the chief secretary for Ireland, George Wyndham, was not in Lord Salisbury's cabinet, but is in Mr. Balfour's, his presence being an absolute necessity in view of the Irish land legislation policy Mr. Balfour has adopted. On the other hand, Mr. Balfour's cabinet schedule did not include the chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, nor the first commissioner of works and buildings, both of which were in Lord Salisbury's. The cabinet, like the ministry, is an evolution, neither resting on any specific statue. A good many British institutions have grown up in the same way, the law coming from the institution and not the institution from the law. Here in this country everthing is dependent on the written law. In the absence in Great Britain of a formally designated written "constitution," some Americans have leaped to the absurd conclusion that Great Britain has no constitution at all.

Island of Lace Makers.

The Maltese are famous as lace makers, although the methods employ ed are of a primitive type, says the Montreal Herald. All Multese lace is of necessity hand made. The people of Gozo, one of the Maltese group, have a deeply rooted aversion to labor saving machinery of all kinds. In many lines of industry there the methods in vogue a century ago are employed today. Egyptian eigarettes in Egypt? Of The art of lacemaking is handed down from generation to generation and one will often find an exceptionally beautiful design the jealously guarded se-

cret of a single family. Of Gozo's 25,000 population 10,280 are women and girls, of whom about has also been taught in the schools since the recent impetus given to the trade. Wages are low there, and the spare time. As her children grow up she trains them in the art, and it is not long before the female members of factors in the support of the household Among the articles made are handkerchiefs, edging, parasol covers, pillow covers, collars, boleros, lamp shades, shawls, mantillas and even whole

Miss Flutterly on Floods.

"Isn't it awful the floods we're having nowadays?" said little Miss Flutterly, "Papa says it's because pose trees stop the springs from coming people that get washed away. Papa was and harems of beautiful black-eyed Russian immigrants that had just settled on the banks of a river out were carried into Kansas, and they had no means of telling what State they had come from. One of the youngest had been born there, and he will never cause those Russians are so ignorant. many ignorant people to come to this beautiful country? I think they ought cans."-Leslie's Mouthly.

Better than Married. Gaddie-I hear Goodman ! as married to Miss Dolley. Crabbe-Oh better than Gaddle-Really? You ! Crabbe-I meen the