

## SOCIETY AT THE CAPITAL.

Marguerite Matthews in New England Home Magazine.

One of the most remarkable things about society at the National Capital is the fact that an official social code is operative for the guidance of the principal officers of the government and their wives at social and diplomatic functions. It is a thing which the ordinary everyday mortal can scarcely conceive of, and yet it is true, nevertheless. For years this deficiency caused endless controversy and worry in diplomatic and official life, and at various times there was correspondence between the United States and other countries, to say nothing of disagreements between members of the Cabinet and high officials generally.

In the administration of President Harrison the Secretary of State, Mr. Foster, had prepared for his own guidance by a clerk of the State Department from the best established preced-

down to the Assistant Secretaries of the various departments, in the same order as heads of departments.

The order of precedence for ladies of the official circle is the same as that provided for the officials themselves. In cases where the officials are unmarried their nearest relative, should she preside over the household, has by courtesy the precedence which would be given the wife of the official. At functions given by the officials of foreign Governments at the Capital the wife of the Secretary of State takes precedence over the wives of Ambassadors, including the wife of the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

Custom does not require that the wife of the President should return official calls, except in the case of visiting royalty. She may limit her calls to personal friends. It is expected that the wives of foreign Ambassadors should make the first official call upon

gress makes the initial call upon the wives of the Representatives already in office.

### WOLVES AND BEARS

That Inhabited the Yellowstone Park, as Seen by a Traveler.

Ernest Seton Thompson, the author and naturalist, gave some thrilling stories of animal life in his talk on "Some Animals I Have Known," the other night at the Peabody Institute, in the course of lectures given by the Public School Teachers' Association. An interesting part of the address was the lecturer's imitation of the calls and cries of the different animals. Mr. Thompson told some of the comedies and the tragedies, too, of animal life. One of the latter was the story of "Noble," the king of the pack of wolves who for five years were supreme in a section of New Mexico. Noble resisted every effort to kill or capture him. Poisoned bait, traps, had no effect on him, but at last he was brought low

factory study. So he took the rather novel method of seeing them at shorter range by digging a hole in the dump, setting his camera and his sketch books squarely on some old cracker boxes and then covering himself again with the refuse. In this malodorous hole he remained all day. He took several pictures, made a number of sketches of the bears who came to feast on the remnants of canned goods and other delicacies found in the dump. He watched with much interest and some anxiety a "scrap" between a mother bear and a big grizzly. Mr. Thompson was entirely unarmed. While the fight was going on the little cub—apparently a typical sore head—was watching the fight from a place of safety in a tree. The branch to which he hung was directly over Mr. Thompson's hole. If it had broken Mr. Thompson would have not been alone in his retreat. The grizzly bear got the better in the fight and the mother bear and the cub withdrew. The

## LABOR AND INDUSTRY

### SOME ITEMS OF INTEREST TO UNION WORKMEN.

The Silk Industry—Why We Cannot Produce Raw Silk—Where the Negro Finds an Opening—The Italians Are Coming—Industrial Notes.

#### Home, Sweet Home.

(Old Favorite Series.)  
"Home, Sweet Home," was written by John Howard Payne, one dreary day in October, 1822, in Paris, far from his own home, and in poor circumstances. Payne was born in New York City, June 9, 1791, and was designed by his father for a mercantile career, but he abandoned commerce and became an actor. He continued to act in different parts of the country, and was likewise a contributor to New York papers and journals. He went to London to try for a favorable verdict from a British audience. There he met for a time with success; but he soon abandoned the stage and took to writing or adapting plays. "Home, Sweet Home" appeared in one of these plays, an operatic drama called "Clari, the Maid of Milan," and when sung at the Covent Garden Theater by Miss Ann Maria Tree in 1822 at once took its place as the most popular song of the day. Nor has its popularity ever shown sign of diminishing. The air is usually regarded as an adaptation of a Sicilian one, which had appeared in a collection of national melodies published some years before; but Mr. Charles Mackay, the poet, in a communication to the press some years ago, stated that the composer was Sir Henry Bishop. Sir Henry was the editor of the volumes of national melodies referred to, and not being able to find a Sicilian one, he wrote one himself, and called it Sicilian; and subsequently adapted it to the words of "Home, Sweet Home." As Mr. Mackay's information was obtained from Sir Henry himself, his statement must be regarded as conclusive.

John Howard Payne returned to the United States in 1832, and was employed as a writer on the press and a playwright, until he was appointed United States Consul at Tunis, where he died in 1852. Thirty years later his remains were removed to Oak cemetery, Washington, where they now rest. The song as it appeared in the play consisted of but two stanzas, and as usually sung includes them only (the first and third) as given below.

'Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam,  
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home;  
A charm from the skies seems to hallow us there,  
Which, seek thro' the world, is ne'er met with elsewhere.  
Home, home, sweet, sweet home,  
There's no place like home,  
Oh, there's no place like home.

I gaze in the moon as I tread the drear wild,  
And feel that my mother now thinks of her child;  
As she looks on that moon from our own cottage door,  
Thro' the woodbine whose fragrance shall cheer me no more.  
Home, home, sweet, sweet home,  
There's no place like home,  
Oh, there's no place like home.

An exile from home, splendor dazzles in vain;  
Oh, give me my lowly thatched cottage again;  
The birds sing gaily, that came at my call;  
Give me them, and that peace of mind, dearer than all.  
Home, home, sweet, sweet home,  
There's no place like home,  
Oh, there's no place like home.

#### The Silk Industry.

Today the United States makes 85 per cent of the silk it consumes. Domestic products supply the whole market except that for the finest products of the hand looms of France and Switzerland. Imports of raw and spun silk for the last fiscal year were 10,500,000 pounds, valued at \$32,735,464. The raw silk comes from France, Italy, Austria, Spain, China, Japan, India, and the Levant. It is in hanks or twists of the filament as it has been reeled from the cocoons. Each thread of these skeins is composed of five of the original filaments, cemented into one by the hardening of the gummy envelope of the filaments after these leave the basins of warm water in which the cocoons are put to be unwound. The preparation of the silk for the looms is called throwing, and this consists of about a dozen distinct operations. The first of these is putting the twist of raw silk on a reel and winding it off upon spools, turn by turn. Then comes the combining and twisting of the filaments into threads of various kinds. An idea of the intricacy and labor involved in just this part of the operation may be gathered from the fact that a thread of ordinary sewing silk contains about 200 filaments of the silk as the worm spun it. Every part of these operations must either be done by hand or watched continuously, for the silk thread is built up entirely of continuous filaments. Although the silk throwing, spinning and weaving mills form the foundation of the industry in this country, and their products for this year will probably amount to \$100,000,000 or more, this is by no means the whole of the benefit which the country derives from them nor the extent to which they give occupation to workmen or capitalists. Around this central industry cluster those of the dyer, printer and finisher, the makers of machinery, the dealers in raw silk and in the manufactured goods and many cognate businesses. How much these all represent in capital and hands employed it would be difficult to estimate, but in the various direct industries of producing ribbons, broad goods, sewing silks and twist, tie silks, hat bands, knit goods and laces, fringes, braids and trimmings, something like \$20,000,000 is now invested, and close to 100,000 hands are employed. Rough speaking, about 50 per cent in value of the silk product is in broad goods, 25 per cent in ribbons and perhaps 10 per cent in sewing silks and twists, leaving 15 per cent for the varied products of the other factories.

No attempts to rear the silk worm and produce raw silk have been financially successful in the United States. Silk, from the first branch of its production, is essentially prodigal of labor and an article of luxury. It is de-

clared by an expert that it takes more time to build a spool of silk twist than it does to build a modern locomotive, and during much of this time some one's hands must be employed in the operations. It is the amount of time used in raising and tending the silk worms and reeling off the filaments of the cocoons that has defeated each attempt to introduce silk raising as an industry in this country, and will probably continue to defeat its successful introduction. Of late Pennsylvania has become a great silk-weaving state, manufacturers at the original centers having found it desirable to scatter their plants, in order to more readily obtain girl and child labor at low wages. Today, of the 861 establishments in the country, New Jersey has 257, New York 228, and Pennsylvania 172, but in the list of looms and spindles required for the equipment of new mills in 1898 Pennsylvania led with 1,255 looms out of a total of 2,340, and 27,000 spindles out of a total of 53,000, and there are silk factories in more than fifty Pennsylvania towns.

Another field where silk manufacturing may become an important industry is just being exploited by a New York city house. Within a month or two a mill has been put in operation in Fayetteville, N. C., by the Ashley & Bailey Manufacturing Company, in which it is their intention to use young negro labor exclusively. The mill has been provided with competent teachers and already from seventy-five to 100 hands are at work, led by the first pupil, a young negro preacher. The projectors of the enterprise believe that the young people of the negro race are well adapted to acquiring the manual dexterity needed for silk handling, and if this proves true they will go on and build other mills as hands become available. The present mill will employ 350 hands and will do spinning and broad-silk weaving.

#### The Italians Are Coming.

Mr. T. V. Powderly, Federal immigration commissioner, looks forward to a tremendous influx of foreigners this year. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899, there arrived 311,715 of these, nearly 100,000 were from Southern Europe, and the increase among Italians in 1898 was 20,000. This year it promises to be even greater. In the last annual report of the New York Bureau of Labor Statistics, Commissioner McMackin makes, and quotes from other sources, some interesting matter on immigration, and also comments of trades unions on the effect which this enormous increase to our foreign-born population has on wages. Commissioner McMackin says: "To economic reasons in general may be attributed the large immigration of recent years. The improved facilities nowadays for transportation across the ocean make it an easy matter for people to change their homes. The foreign agents of steamship companies have induced thousands to immigrate through their alluring advertisements to the effect that employment was steadier here, with more remunerative wages; that lands were cheaper and the opportunities for procuring homes were far better than in any other country." Mr. Joseph Powderly, a member of the Federal commission, which, in 1891, investigated the causes of emigration from Europe, said in his report to the Secretary of the Treasury: "The swamps of Florida, the mountainous region and alkali beds of the West and Northwest look as well on paper as if made up of the most fertile lands; and when the exceedingly low price of these lands is advertised, it need not be wondered at that the tide of emigration to the United States becomes more rapid and swollen. On reaching the United States and discovering the real nature of the swindle, there is only one thing for the emigrant to do—turn to the already crowded manufacturing center to look for employment."

#### Industrial Notes.

Philadelphia has 193 trade unions. St. Paul (Minn.) employing painters favor a shorter workday. Chicago electrical mechanics will demand \$4 per day after the first of April. Twelve hundred cigarmakers in Boston, Mass., have struck for higher wages. Louisville, Ky., union carpenters have secured an advance of thirty cents per day for the year 1900. Nearly all the national trades union organizations report large increases in membership during January. An increase of twelve per cent in the wages of 400 weavers in the lace mills of Wilkesbarre, Pa., is announced. South Carolina cotton weavers who went to Pawtucket, R. I., refused to go to work when they found they were wanted to take the place of strikers. The Berwine-White Coal Company, of eastern Pennsylvania, has announced an increase in the wages of its 30,000 employes, to go into effect April 1. The shipbuilding yards in San Francisco and Puget Sound are so crowded with work that many owners have been forced to send orders for vessels to England. The Bricklayers' union of Denver, Col., has notified the contractors that they will demand 6 1/2 cents an hour and the eight-hour day and a Saturday half holiday. The Philadelphia United Labor League will employ an agent to procure evidence of violations of the city eight-hour law by contractors and others doing municipal work.

#### Wants to Go Abroad.

Jones—"Dear me! Why aren't you for expansion?" Johnson—"Because I don't want to stay at home all the time! If we keep on expanding there won't be any 'abroad' to go to."—Kansas City Independent.



MISS ISABELLE DU BOIS.  
A Leader at Washington Society Functions.



MRS. SENATOR MARTIN OF VIRGINIA.  
Another Leader in Capital Society.

dents, a guide, as authoritative as possible, to proper official conduct in Washington functions. This memorandum, though incomplete, was used by Mr. and Mrs. Foster, and was handed to Mr. Olney when Mr. Cleveland came into power. Mr. Olney declined to have it made public, and although he himself used it for his own information, he refused to give it official recognition. And yet, there is no really official sanction to this set of rules, but they have been followed for eight or ten years by the various Secretaries of State, and thus, by usage, claim the right to official recognition.

Shortly after President McKinley came into power there arose a controversy between the late Vice President Hobart and Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British Ambassador, as to which of them preceded the other at social and diplomatic functions. The argument became so heated that Secretary Hay received a personal letter from Mr. McKinley asking him to obtain from the proper English authorities a definition of the standing and rank of Sir Julian from the point of view of the social authorities of his own government. It developed that the British authorities did not consider Sir Julian's contention proper, and a note was dispatched to him with the result that next morning the Ambassador called upon the Vice President at his home, and the matter was amicably settled.

Under President Cleveland the Vice President, Stevenson, declined to assert his prerogative, and when the men met the Vice President gave way. There was much correspondence, and the matter was finally compromised. At the house of a foreigner the Secretary of State took precedence at dinners, and at the house of an American the highest foreign official had the place of honor.

It is interesting to know that the code of official precedence at present used in Washington is based mainly upon an act of Congress, approved Jan. 19, 1896, providing for the succession in the event of the disability of both the President and Vice President of the United States.

The order of precedence is as follows: The President, the Vice President, Ambassadors of foreign Powers in the order of their formal recognition by the government, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of War, the Attorney General, the Postmaster General, the Secretaries of Navy, Interior and Agriculture, the Chief Justice of the United States, the Associate Justices in order of appointment, the Governors of the States of the Union in order of their admission, and so on through the list of Senators and Representatives, in order of their election.



MISS MARIE BAGLEY.  
(Sister of the late Ensign Worth Bagley, prominent in Washington Social Gatherings.)

the wife of the Vice President. This is also true in the case of the wives of the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, the wives of members of the Cabinet, of Senators and Representatives, as well as the wife of the Major General commanding the army.

Conversely social etiquette has decreed that the wives of Representatives should make the first call upon the wives of Senators, as well as upon the wives of members of the Cabinet, of Foreign Ministers, the wife of the Chief Justice of the Associate Justices, the wife of the Major General commanding the army, and the wife of the Admiral of the Navy. The wife of a newly elected Representative to Con-

gress makes the initial call upon the wives of the Representatives already in office.

### SYLVESTER ABEND.

A Pretty Custom Observed in Berlin to Welcome in the New Year.

It was with much pleasant anticipation we awaited the approach of "Sylvester Abend," as they call New Year's eve in Germany. About 10 o'clock, supper being ended, we all adjourned to the parlor, where they danced until almost midnight. Then refreshments were served. These consisted of queer little cakes made especially for the holiday season, apples, nuts and Berliner plankuchen, which are perfectly delicious. The latter look like large brown doughnuts covered with sugar; on opening them they are found to be filled with jam. Our Christmas tree was relighted, having been furnished with new candles. The ringing of the bells announced the beginning of the New Year. Guns were fired, and from the church bells sounded. Later all the windows were flung wide open, and standing within them the people held up their glasses and yelled out, "Prosit Neujahr," to every one who passed by. People on the street called in to us; even the Droschky coachmen, as they drove by, called out "Prosit Neujahr." Of all the pretty customs in Germany I thought this the prettiest. Not only to your friends do you wish a happy new year, but to all. At a window in the house opposite stood a lady dressed in white; behind her was the brightly lighted room with its Christmas tree. Smiling and holding up her glass she called over to us, "Prosit Neujahr." Never again did I see the lady of that house, but a pleasant recollection of her always lingers in my mind.—Bessie Burnside, in the January Woman's Home Companion.

### Scarlet Fever Shuns the Tropics.

A medical paper directs attention to the curious fact that scarlet fever has never been observed in an epidemic form in the tropical or sub-tropical regions of Asia or Africa.

### The Salt of the Ocean.

The ocean, it is estimated, contains 7,000,000 cubic miles of salt, and if it could be taken out at once the level of the water would not drop an inch.