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SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.



ATE innovations in the dancing line are social items of general interest. Society in the east has again taken up the polka. Revised, revived and beautified, it is now the rage in polite society. The revival of popular interest in the polka as a fashionable diversion among merry-makers who deftly trip the light fantastic toe is one of the events of the present dancing season.

"You see," the professor said with enthusiasm, "it is not hard to understand why the polka is again popular, is it? As danced today there is a happy and pleasing variety in its movements, a perfect sympathy with the music, and an entire absence of the trying monotony that made the old polka a torture to the dancer."

It should be said that the Society of Dancing Masters that restored the polka to favor is not completely a nondescript and fraudulent variety of five-step combinations that are called special styles of polka. They say that it stands by itself, exquisite, alone, incapable of further improvement.

Language is hardly strong enough to express my admiration of the merits of Chamberlain's cough remedy. It is the best remedy for cough and whooping cough I have ever used. During the past eighteen years I have used nearly all the prominent cough medicines on the market, but say, and with pleasure, too, that Chamberlain's cough remedy is the best of all.—Thomas Rhodes, Bakersfield, Cal. For sale by A. L. Shadler, druggist.

Hansen and W. G. Miles, Moreland, Cook county, Ill., etc. Ticket No. 40,911 drew the second capital prize of \$200,000 and was sold in fractional eighths at \$5 each. One ten depositor Traders' bank, New Orleans; two to O. Hartman, through Irwin's bank, Columbus, Ind.; one to a depositor New Orleans National bank, New Orleans, etc. Ticket No. 35,901 drew the third capital prize of \$100,000. It was sold in fractional quarters at \$10 each. One to Byron D. Houghton, Oswego, N. Y., etc. Ticket No. 7,988 drew the fourth capital prize of \$50,000. It was sold in fractional parts of fortieths at \$1 each: One to Britton & Koozitz, Natchez, Miss.; one to Christian Kohler, Natchez; one to L. Liebman, for Louis L. Levin, 108 Canal street, New York city; one to Thomas Boland, Boston, Mass.; one to S. Friedman, 36 Elm street, New York city; one to L. C. Janshof, 34 Maiden Lane, New York city; one to John McArthur, 14 Clark street, New York city.

ODDS AND ENDS.

The population of Japan is just under 40,000,000. The German reichstag has voted to exempt students of theology from military service. The South Devon hounds took their followers a chase of twenty-five miles lately, the fox finally being left to continue his gallant run in the darkness.

The papal soldiers have given up their former headdress and wear helmets after the pattern in use in the German army. The rest of their uniform remains unaltered. The Sandwich Islander's pipe is made of virgin cork lined with meerschaum, and is carved by the insects that feed on the trees. It is like delicate lace work.

The last return of English naval courts martial shows that an ordinary seaman was sentenced to eight years' penal servitude for striking an officer and two others condemned to five years' penal servitude for a similar offense. A gentleman in Indiana who was so indiscreet as to leave \$20,000 for the establishment of a home for maiden ladies, has been adjudged insane by the courts and the will is to be set aside.

During the year ending Oct. 31 there were no fewer than 439 suicides in the Austro-Hungarian army, of which twenty-three were officers, and the remainder non-commissioned officers and privates. The Calcutta Public Health society are agitating for legislation to prohibit lepers being employed in washing clothes or preparing any sort of food. The native population, however, objects to the law affecting any but paupers.

By the spirometer (or lung test) the average lung capacity when corsets were worn was 134 cubic inches, when the corsets were removed the test showed an average lung capacity of 167 cubic inches; a gain of 33 cubic inches. Robert Giffen has read a paper before the Royal Statistical Society of England in which he estimates the wealth of the United Kingdom in 1885 at £10,000,000,000. This would give each inhabitant £270. Making a comparison of the richest three nations of the world Mr. Giffen finds that the wealth per head of population stands as follows: Great Britain, 250; France, 150; the United States, 100.

The standard of size for a lady's watch is little over an inch in diameter. A lady's watch usually has a hunting case or a half hunting case, a circular opening in the center of the lid showing the hands, and figures are enameled on the outside; thus the time is seen without opening the watch. Clutching watches usually have open faces. In some cases the monogram of the owner is engraved in long, slender letters on the outside of the smooth case, or the watch is elaborately decorated in enamel or jewels.

The wife of George Kennan is, like the wives of so many literary men, the busiest member of the domestic firm. Being without children, she devotes her whole time to the interest of her husband, has sole charge of the sale, distribution and receipts from his work, and acts as private secretary, banker, reviser, critic and translator. She is a few years her husband's junior, a companion and partner as well as wife, and a lady of strong character and great personal attractiveness.

The forms of untruth which prevail among people are always highly characteristic of mental, if not of moral, qualities. The humorous exaggerations of our people are in strong contrast with the bold inventions of the Persians, which resemble the extravaganzas of the "Arabian Nights." The author of "From the Indus to the Tigris" tells the following as a specimen of Persian mendacity: One of the Persians of our escort assured us that the wind often prevailed with such furious force that it knocked people off their legs.

"You astonish me," I said, "this is some thing very wonderful." "Yes," he continued, "you speak the truth—it is wonderful. God is great, and his power is infinite. But I will tell you the most wonderful thing of all. Everything looked perfect and most substantial, but the moment a hand was stretched out to touch an object, the object at once crumbled to powder. The place is only a few miles off our road; would you like to gallop over and see it?"

"Your description," I said, "is so complete that I see the place before my mind's eye. Why incommode ourselves in this rain for what is so apparent?" I saw that he felt the sarcasm, though, with genuine Persian nonchalance, he covered his retreat with an "As you will! There the place is, and if you like to see it, I am ready to accompany you."—Youth's Companion.

Too Much "Solomon." Dr. McChesmore, editor of The Presbyterian, while making a tour around the world, was painfully impressed by the fact that a popular piece of music, in which there are "vain repetitions," may become irritating. He says: On our tour, in nearly every church where we preached or worshiped which had a choir of some pretensions, we heard the piece, "Consider the Lilies," which in song, bold and flighty, told us five or six times that Solomon was "not arrayed."

Valuable Books. Some of the best bargains that swell the purse of a second hand book seller come about by pure luck; at least, so it seems to me, considering the time I have been in the business. One day a man came into my bookstore and inquired for a certain book on the entomology of Missouri. I did not have it, and learned that it was published no more. He told me to see if I could find the book for him. I kept a "skinned eye" on the lookout for the volume, but yet knowing it was next to impossible to find it. Purely by accident, though, I happened to see the identical book while I was purchasing several volumes in a private library. I offered fifty cents for the book, and it was accepted, the man saying that it was of no use any more. Two days after, my customer who was interested in entomology called, and he couldn't get a \$5 bill out of his pocket quick enough to satisfy his haste in exchanging that for the book. There were \$4.50 clear profit made on a book that will not be called for once in two years.

Electric Alarms. There is no end to things people will try to contrive with the aid of electricity. A queer looking little fellow came into my office last week with a box that contained a scheme, he explained, which, by attaching to a door, or drawer lock, would ring a bell which could be placed anywhere chosen. This bell would keep on ringing, too, until some one on the inside of the door would shut it off. By a simple combination latch, the electricity can be shut off in the daytime. But most peculiar is that the old man proposes a scheme by which he can surround a window or other entrance so that, by sensitized plate, if a person passes through it the bell will ring and keep on until stopped. This, too, can be shut off at the will of the occupants. It seems feasible, and if it succeeds will yield an effective and cheap security against burglars. —Interview in St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Plaster of Paris Flooring. Plaster of Paris can now be rendered hard enough to be used for flooring purposes by means of a process recently communicated by the French Academy of Sciences. The plaster is mixed with one-sixth of its weight of freshly slaked lime of good quality, and this mixture worked and applied with as little water as possible. After it has thoroughly dried it is treated with a strong solution of iron sulphate, which, gradually oxidizing, leaves the floor impregnated with a yellow colored substance which develops a fine imitation of mahogany under an application of linseed oil.—Washington Star.

Took Her at Her Word. Indignant rascal get to omnibus conductor.—Please understand, sir, that you are pale to answer questions, and not to ask them. Tell us when we have passed Southampton street. Conductor (in minutes later)—We have passed Southampton street now, mum. It's about three-quarters of a mile back, on the left hand side.—Pitt Me Up.

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