RICH AND RARE GIRLS

THE BIGGEST FINANCIAL PLUMS IN THE LOTTERY.

Nine Pretty American Heiresses—All Are Heart Whole and None Are Seeking Titles—Fair and Free Are They.

BETWEEN THE Atlantic and Pacific coasts there are at least nine young ladies who may be regarded as the primest matrimonial catches in this or any other country—the belle ideals of the whole wor d.

These young ladies, to go over them hastily, are Miss Gertrude Vanderbilt, her cousin, Miss Sloane, Misses Alta and Edith Rockefeller, Miss Sylvia Green, Miss Virginia Fair, Miss Maude Alice Burke, Miss Julia Dent Grant and Miss Helen Post. Of these New York claims Miss Green, Miss Vanderbilt, Miss Sloane and the Misses Rockefeller during the time they are not in Cleveland. Chicago divides Miss

HELEN POST.

Grant's time with New York, while California claims both Miss Burke and Miss Fair, while the Bridge city holds possession of Miss Post.

So the distribution across the country is not an unequal one.

Let no one suppose that the possession of millions makes all women alike, and levels them or raises them to the rank of society puppets, mere butterflies to feed upon the sweets of life and die when day is done, without having accomplished anything more than being beautiful. Far is this from being the case with these nine rich girls, who are all as different as possible, and who all are possessed of very distinct characteristics.

Miss Vanderbilt is considered the richest of the lot. Perhaps she is, and perhaps she is not. When fortunes reach the hundred million mark it is hard to tell which is the greatest, on account of the daily fluctuations of the great markets which these fortunes control. Miss Vanderbilt will have many of these millions for her own some day.

The resemblance of Miss Gertrude to her father, Cornelius Vanderbilt, is very marked. She has his low forehead, his benevolent expression, and the same low, half shy manner of talking. She has gone out little. Her friends are Miss Gerry and Miss Paulina Whitney. Her debut in society is a thing of the future. She will probably be presented this summer at Newport, but as she is not quite 18 this may be postponed until the fall, when the grand city house will have its ball room thrown open.

Miss Vanderbilt is a quiet girl with no fads at all.

Miss Emily Vanderbilt Sloane, a cousin of Miss Gertrude, is another very rich young woman. She has an older sister in society, but this sister, it is said, has already mortgaged her affections, leaving the debutante, Miss Emily, with an open field.

The two girls that come next on the list of belle ideal catchers are the Misses Alta and Edith Rockefeller. These are the daughters of John D. Rockefeller and the heiress to—Well! Their father swore upon the witness stand that he could not tell within twelve millions what his real wealth might be. So form an estimate yourself.

These young ladies are the best in the world, so far as real, true worth goes. They are highly accomplished. Miss Alta, the eldest, plays the piano, Miss Edith is an expert on the violin, their father plays the second violin in this home orchestra, while their brother, John D., Jr., and their mother take their respective parts. Their home life is ideal.

Miss Alta is about 25 years old and Miss Edith is a little younger, but neither of these girls have ever entered society, and neither has even had a Paris dress. A home dressmaker makes their clothes, and one maid suffices to preside over their toilets. Their time is devoted to visiting the sick at St. Luke's hospital, to study,

VIRGINIA FAIR.

to music and to outdoor sports. Both of these girls will probably marry ministers or missionaries.

In the same category as these girls—too shy for society—is Miss Sylvia Howland Green, the only daughter of Hettie Green, and the heiress of $100,000,000, may be more. Miss Green had $3,000,000 left her by her grandmother, the interest of which she has never touched, and she gets, besides, a large amount from certain investments made for her long ago by her father, when the latter was the rich member of the family.

Her friends say that Miss Green will marry; and that the man will be any one who will be kind to her and will take the trouble to penetrate the reserve which is wrapped about her and to overcome the shyness which she can not control. She is said to be like her father, and that she will make a good wife and a pleasant home, with her straightforward, honest nature and her millions, there can be no doubt.

Very different from these are the two California heiresses, Miss Virginia Fair and Miss Maude Alice Burke. Both are beautiful, dashing girls. Both revel in society. Both are "showy" girls, and both have brilliant, effervescent manner—sometimes criticised in New York—but characteristic of the fine open air life they have led.

Miss Burke is the prettier of the two. She is a blonde, a red blonde, with pearly teeth, peaches and cream complexion and eyes usually called "hazel." She laughs a great deal; and is the idol of her uncle, old Gen. Horace W. Carpenter, who made his millions on the Oakland Sea Front. Miss Burke has no fortune herself, but she has always lived with her uncle—since the marriage of her mother the second time—and is his acknowledged heiress to $60,000,000.

Miss Fair has a sister, Mrs. Hermann Oelrich of New York, with whom she lives part of the year, and from whose Fifth avenue mansion she was introduced into New York society. But she always claims California as her real home. Miss Fair is less beautiful than her sister, having less regular features. Her hair, eyes, and eyelashes are black and as beautifully regular as those of a madonna, but her nose is retrousse—vulgarly styled a "pug"—and although a very pretty girl, she can not lay claim to the great classic beauty which made Miss Tessie Fair, now Mrs. Oelrichs, so very celebrated. Miss Fair lives a life of great gayety. Her father, ex-Senator Fair, has about $50,000,000 invested in coast line, but just how much Miss Virginia will get is not known. She has frequently said that she must marry an intelligent man—one of whom she would not tire, and that she would care little for money, so long as he were agreeable to her personally.

Brooklyn's greatest heiress is Miss Helen Post, the daughter of Stephen Post, and the owner of $4,000,000 in her own name, besides an income for life of $10,000 a year. Miss Post is a debutante, with many attractions to recommend her. She is a blonde, is very pretty and an expert in outdoor sports. She is a leader in the Algonquin Riding club and an active member of the Civitas club, an organization to purify the government of Brooklyn. Miss Post is a little inclined to be strongminded. She is a typical intellectual society woman of the century, or as the next century woman will be, and combines the qualities of knowing how to dance and how to think in a most remarkable and charming way. Miss Post's matrimonial choice will be a Brooklyn man, so she says.

None of these rich girls have any conspicuous faults—unpleasant fads

GERTRUDE VANDERBILT.

or unreasonable peculiarities. And all are so lovely in mind, as well as desirable in person, that it may be said that the men who capture these nine virgins will have done wisely—not counting the hundred millions they will get.

Tin for Filling Teeth.

A dental specialist has made a discovery that is likely to have a decided influence upon the future of dentistry. This practitioner declares that in ordinary cases tin is quite equal to gold for filling teeth. Chemically pure tin is run into a mold of proper shape, and when cold is cut by a lathe into very thin shavings. These are used in the same way as gold. They are said to be more adaptable and cohesive than gold, and while not as durable will answer every purpose. It is a well-understood fact that gold fillings really last but a few years. The tooth decays or breaks away around the metal, which must be taken out and the cavity reprepared. This is expensive, and while some of the present day dentists will adhere to the gold filling and high charges, there are others who will fall into the popular line and use tin and make out their bills accordingly.

Eye Treatment in Nervous Diseases.

There have been of late many suggestions as to the probability that diseases of the eyes have much to do with many of the more common nervous afflictions. Among the symptoms of eye troubles are persistent headache and nausea, gastric irritation, vertigo, spinal pains and aches, chills, fever, loss of memory and the power of concentration, irritability of temper and distressing insomnia. All of these conditions vanished as soon as an experienced oculist got control of the case. There are many persons who go to any ordinary shop or to an optician and are, as they suppose, fitted to glasses. It is quite as likely that there is some organic trouble that only an experienced practitioner with all necessary apparatus can discover. While the ordinary optican is useful as far as he goes, neither he nor his patron is in the right when he tampers with the sense that is by most people prized above all others.

It is sometimes necessary to head off one fire by starting another.

There is no tariff in the kingdom to which the Salvation army appeals.

Beware of the snake that is able to assume the color of its surroundings.

Paradoxical as it may appear, good husbands make the best kind of wives.

China has an academy of manners that prescribes etiquette for the whole empire.

BULLET PROOF COAT.

LATEST INVENTION FOR DEFENSIVE WARFARE.

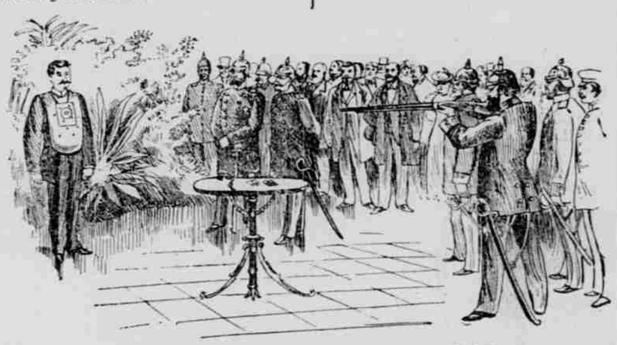
At a Test Recently Given the Inventor Wore the Coat, Allowing the Soldiers to Fire at Him—New Army Rifles Now Needed.

HERR DOWE'S new bullet-proof coat is exciting the keenest interest among European governments. It threatens to revolutionize the science of warfare, and as preparation for war is the chief concern of many European governments, the importance for them of the invention can not be exaggerated. Several tests have been made and they have established the fact that the coat renders the human body invulnerable to the deadliest of modern small arms. A test of the coat was made recently at the Alhambra Music hall, in London. The inventor wore the garment himself and was fired at by Capt. Martin of the British army with a Lee-Mitford rifle. A bullet from this is capable of piercing the bodies of five men at a distance of a thousand yards.

Two shots were fired, Capt. Martin aiming rather low. Not only was the coat not pierced, but Dowe hardly appeared to be shaken. He stated afterwards that the shock caused him no pain.

This settles a very important point in connection with the coat. It was at first predicted that even if it resisted penetration the tremendous impact of a bullet from a modern rifle would stun the wearer or even shake him to death. It is still difficult to understand how a man can stand upright before a bullet which would pierce five bodies in ordinary clothes. The coat must not only resist penetration, but destroy the impact.

The coat was next suspended against a sheet of plate glass and ten shots were fired at it. The glass was uninjured. The bullets were flattened into the shape of mushrooms. The test was held privately for the military authorities.



TEST OF THE BULLET-PROOF COAT.

A previous test was made in Berlin by the war department. A good marksman fired at a horse having the cloth round its body. A plaster of paris bust was also placed in the coat and fired at. Finally it was tried on Dowe himself. The results justified the inventor's claims, as they have in other tests.

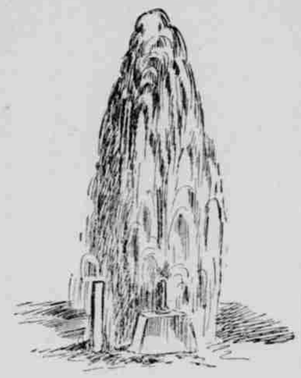
The cuirass employed at this test weighed sixteen pounds, but the inventor promises to reduce it eventually to half that weight. Very little is known yet of the composition of the coat. Dowe will only explain its manufacture to the military authorities. It is of felt and in its present form is about two inches thick. The coat is, of course, extremely cumbersome, but its adoption appears to be inevitable. An army supplied with it would be able to destroy, with little loss on its own side, an army of soldiers not having the coat. It is easy to imagine some of the radical changes in warfare which the bullet proof coat will bring about. Fighting will, in many ways, resume its mediaeval character, when men encased in steel hacked at one another with weapons of enormous weight and size. Huge axes and other weighty implements will possibly replace the sword and bayonet in the soldiers' hands. Mechanical ingenuity having advanced so much since the middle ages, the new weapons will, perhaps, resemble surgical instruments. It will be necessary to seek out the felt-encased man's weakest point and attack him there. A combat between two men attired in this way will resemble a struggle between two oysters to get one another open. The most useful firearms will then be the light, quick-firing cannon, for a shot from one of these, even if it does not penetrate the coat, will surely disable the wearer. The bullets of all the new army rifles are extremely small, and they apparently are destined to become useless.

A New Ice Box.

There is a new idea in ice boxes that is well worth the attention of housekeepers and house builders. It is often well worth while to have a large reserve ice chest, in which to put a stock of ice to draw from as occasion requires. This is built in the cellar, or in any convenient place in a shed or areaway. A suitably sized box is built either of cement and gravel or of a single course of brick properly laid in cement mortar. Cross pieces, either of wood or iron, are put in to support the necessary shelves. At one end of the box an upper-story receptacle for ice may be arranged in the form of a box set over the end of the first box, or the ice may rest upon a shelf in the main part of the chest. The entire inside is smoothly finished in Portland cement, and the outside may have a coat of good mortar to make it smooth and cleanable. It is possible to make an inner surface almost as smooth as glass, and it may be scrubbed with hot water and soap. A drainage pipe is fixed in at one corner of the floor of the ice-holder, being of zinc, and the pipe being properly attached. In a sandy or porous soil the drip may run into the earth, or it may be caught in a pan set under the drainage pipe. A double cover of wood will be required for the chest proper as well as the ice compartment. If built with the house, this arrangement need cost but the merest trifle. One recently made by that useful person the Jack-at-all-trades cost less than $4, and was voted far superior to the ordinary high-class refrigerator.

A Nebraska Artesian Well.

The artesian well at Niobrara, Neb., of which we give an illustration, has a depth of 650 feet, and is utilized in connection with a system of waterworks, electric light, and motor powers, and a large flouring-mill. The well has a flow of twenty-five hundred gallons per minute through an



NIOBRARA'S ARTESIAN WELL.

eight-inch pipe, and with a pressure of ninety-five pounds to the square inch the water rises to an elevation of eighty feet. The spectacle as the jet shoots upward and breaks and falls in masses of spray is one of great beauty. The water has a temperature of seventy degrees. The well is owned by the milling company of the enterprising town.

Poison Ivy.

The susceptibility of certain persons to ivy poison is one of the curious eccentricities of the human system that the medical profession frequently has to encounter. Many persons are not in the least affected by it, while others can not go anywhere in its vicinity without feeling the injurious effects. One instance of extreme susceptibility is given where a brushpile was burning when a stranger, passing by, was poisoned by the floating smoke and broke out in rash with violent itching all over the face and hands. In another case some old stakes and rubbish that had been left on a brushpile for years were removed, when the laborer was severely attacked with this difficulty, the eyes being almost closed from the swelling of the face. This poison is somewhat eccentric in its action, and its victims never know just what course it may take. It sometimes makes its appearance on one arm or one ankle, and may appear in several succeeding years at about the same date. Sometimes it is a permanent tenant, breaking out all over the body whenever the system has been overheated. Again, it will form tiny specks just under the skin, and after a few days showing a small, red middle and a slightly raised rim, which comes off and brings the little hard speck with it. The itching is almost intolerable, and nothing yet invented or discovered by medical science is able to afford relief.

The Samoan Question.

In view of the agitation concerning the attitude of this government toward Samoa, and the reports that it proposes to withdraw from the existing tripartite control, the appointment of James H. Mulligan of Kentucky as consul-general has a special interest. Mr. Mulligan is widely known throughout Kentucky as a man of ability and high character. He is about 50 years of age a lawyer, and has occupied many positions of trust and responsibility, having served one term as state senator and for several years as a member of the lower house of the legislature. His friends regard him as peculiarly equipped for the duties of the office he is now about to assume. The character of his instructions is not known,

JAMES H. MULLIGAN.

but it is not believed in well-informed circles that the government is prepared to withdraw absolutely from the existing treaty arrangement and hand over the islands to exclusive foreign control. There may, however, be modifications of this agreement with a view of securing a form of administration more acceptable to the islanders, while at the same time assuring proper protection to American interests.

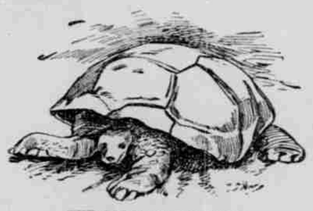
A number of shopkeepers in various parts of England have lately been heavily fined for marketing and selling American beef and bacon as English products.

AN AGED TORTOISE.

HAS RECENTLY EXPIRED AT COLOMBO.

It Was One Hundred and Fifty Years Old and Had Been the Pride of Travelers for Many Decades—Measured Six Feet.

THERE ARE VERY few of the thousands of passengers who annually pass through Colombo on their way to or from the Australian colonies or the far east who have failed to see the well-known tortoise at "Uplands." These will hear with regret that the venerable reptile which has spent some one hundred and fifty years of his life in that healthy spot has at last breathed its last as a protest against its removal inland. Its actual age was probably 200 years. It measured six feet from snout to tail and its shell measured 4 feet 6 inches. Its probable name is testudo elephantopis, though some erroneously speak of it as testudo indicus, another large variety. The original home of the species was the Seychelle and Mauritius groups of islands, but sailing vessels found them very convenient as a reserve of live fresh meat in the event of scurvy breaking out, and as a result they have been at last restricted to one island—Aldabra island, to the north of Madagascar. Even here they are almost extinct, and would have been so long since had not Lord Stanmore, then Sir A. Gordon, made it worth the natives' while to preserve them by demanding, in his capacity as governor of Mauritius, an annual tribute of two specimens.



THE COLOMBO TORTOISE.

The tradition with respect to the Colombo tortoise is that it was sent to Ceylon from Java, as a present to the governor, who in those days was a Dutchman. Whether that be so or no, it is certain that the creature was quite at home in 1796, when the Dutch rule was replaced by English. Through all the events which have occurred since those days the reptile has maintained its quiet existence, excepting for a struggle it is said to have successfully maintained against no less than seven men who endeavored to remove it to the grounds wherein an exhibition was being held, and for such little excitement as might have been occasioned from time to time by the carrying of half a dozen delighted children on its back. Recently, however, the local government acquired Uplands as a site for a graving dock, and claimed the tortoise—for which Dr. Gunther of the British museum is said to have unsuccessfully offered £10 some years ago—as part of its bargain. As soon as the work was begun the creature was moved to the Victoria park, about a mile inland, where it sickened and died in less than a month. Mr. Haley, the director of the local museum, immediately inquired of the governor whether it was to be preserved and kept in Colombo or sent to the British museum, which is said to have a claim upon it. The decision has been to retain it in the island, and the shell has accordingly been stuffed and added to the attractions of the museum in Colombo.

India's Woman Lawyer.

The first and only lady lawyer of India is Miss Sorabji, a clever Parsee. She was induced to study law by her desire to help her country-women, who are forbidden by religion and custom to receive legal advice from men. The young woman won academic honors in India, and afterward went to England and studied at Oxford, where she was successful in her work and became a protegee of the late master of Balliol. Many a time, on Sunday evenings, it is said, when Dr. Jowett toddled slowly into the college concert in the hall, at the head of his party, he was followed by her lithe, graceful figure in picturesque sari, the native dress of Parsee women.

Sage of Bloomingdale.

Nicholas Seagrist, known for many years as "the sage of Bloomingdale," died in his home in New York recently at the age of 79 years. He was the son of Joseph Seagrist, who was an officer under the first Napoleon, and came to this city a year after the battle of Waterloo. The family lived for years at No. 44 Leonard street, and in that house Nicholas Seagrist was born. More than fifty years ago Mr. Seagrist moved to what was then known as the village of Bloomingdale and opened a country store, in which he made a moderate fortune. He invested his money in land in that neighborhood, which in time became extremely valuable.

Jenny Lind Memorial.

The memorial recently unveiled in the Poet's Corner in Westminster abbey to the famous singer, Jenny Lind, is a striking medallion portrait in profile, carried out in marble by the late Mr. Birch, R. A. Encircling the medallion is the inscription: "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth," which air of Handel's was the favorite of the diva. A lyre, with dates of the singer's birth and death, supports the whole. A large gathering was present at the ceremony of unveiling, including Mr. Goldschmidt, the husband of Jenny Lind, with his sons, daughter and grandchildren, with many distinguished persons of the social and musical world.

JENNY LIND.

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