

"MR. SPEAKER" UP FRANK

Illustration Sketch of Monsieur Deschanel the Honorable Frenchman.

We have a new president of the chamber? He is worthy to have himself in the silver suit of the Mayor, and to set the part of host in the tapestried hall des Fêtes. Deschanel has those social gifts and talents for which so many women are remarkable. No woman could have more tact, charm, quick repartee, or a loquacious feeling for what is elegant, distinguished, refined. He dances in perfection, has an elegant figure, and a face that would be of feminine beauty were the forehead not so virile. The well-cut profile is one for Verres, a baluster, or cameo. It looks delicate, but if you examine it you will find it strong. He was nursed on Greek and Latin, but took most kindly to Greek. I suspect him of a weakness for Alcibiades, Pericles, Aspasia, and the society that gathered round them. Nobody talks of love at an epicurean banquet with more Anacreontic feeling than the new "Mr. Speaker." That I think of it, he is in some respects a kinsman of Moore, but received a better education and has a harder head. Had he been born to wealth he might have grown up a dandy, but he was born the son of a proscriber of the coup d'etat at Brussels (1876), and was reared in honorable poverty. As it is, his dress is merely elegant, and a good deal of the elegance is thrown into it by the wearer. There is no better drawing room actor. He is a very clever orator, though his speeches are over-studied. But he is a first-rate lecturer, as his father was before him. Such a man must have aristocratic leanings. He would have been in Athens with Alexander and Aristotle as against the disciples of Democritus. But I do not think he realizes what a vast distance lay between Athens and Corinth, though they were but 30 miles or so apart. A Corinthian republic perhaps would suit him better than an Athenian. M. Emile Deschanel, the speaker's father, was also an Athenian in education and feeling, but had no particular taste for elegance, except in literature. He went in, as a professor of classic literature, to analysis of the feminine heart. I have somewhere two little keepsakes he once upon a time gave me on "Le Bien qu'on dit des Femmes" and "Le Mal qu'on dit des Femmes." He was a worshiper of Racine, and discovered endless keys to his tragedies. They turned in the rusty old locks and were wonders of ingenuity. Throughout the empire Prof. Deschanel had a black mark against him. He nearly caused the interdiction of certain courses of lectures in the Rue de la Paix by his expostions of Shakespeare. Poor Badinguet had just been holding out the olive branch to the Bishop of Orleans and patronizing Darbois, Archbishop of Paris, the future martyr of the commune. Deschanel pere found in this a parallel with Richard III, between the two bishops. It was seized by the audience. I never heard anything more spirited and more amusing than the lecture. The passages relating the Richard and the bishops were admirably read. He also gave a lecture on Juliet's love affairs, which brought pocket handkerchiefs to eyes. Romeo he thought a poor creature. But love is blind, and all the interest of the play was centered in Juliet. Prof. Deschanel has now a chair at the Sorbonne and a seat in the senate.—London Truth.

APPLIED GEOGRAPHY.

John W. Gibson Teaches the Science in a Decidedly Novel Way.

John W. Gibson, principal of the public school at Fairbank, Tighman's Island, one of the veteran teachers of Talbot county, teaches geography on a big object-lesson scale. He has laid off on about a quarter of an acre of the school yard a map of the world on Mercator's projection, showing the continents and islands, the oceans, seas, lakes, and rivers, the mountains, and the valleys. The water for the water-ways is mechanically conveyed from the overflow of a semi-artesian well near by. The natural lay of the land gives the plane surface, the mountains are built up with oyster shells, gravel, and earth, and sand from the river shore has been spread to show the deserts. The work is done to a scale, Mr. Gibson being a surveyor and civil engineer of no mean capacity. His pupils helped him enthusiastically in the work. The various mineral and vegetable products of the different countries are assigned to their respective places. Mr. Gibson does not claim that the idea of a schoolyard map is original with him, but the work probably has never been done on so large a scale before, nor with such evident attention to accuracy of detail. There is large enough scope to show the progress of the naval side of the Spanish war; constructing warships of tin and the bark of the pine tree is not difficult; every country boy living on the salt water can whittle out a ship with his jack-knife as easily as a factory can make a match, and when the daily newspapers come, what a delight they take in changing the positions of the squadrons, according as the news warrants it! This is both constructive and applied geography, and makes the maps and letter-press of the textbook much more interesting and more easy of comprehension. Principal Gibson's novel school yard attracts many visitors.—Baltimore Sun.

Roman Medical Instruments.

In the Roman hospital recently excavated at Baden in Switzerland many medical instruments and utensils have been found, among them probes, tubes, pincers, cauterizing instruments, safety pins, medicine spoons of bone, silver measuring vessels, jars and pots for medicines, some containing traces of

LIVERPOOL DOCKS.

They Are Annotated One of the Wonders of Modern Commerce.

The Liverpool docks, justly accounted one of the wonders of modern commerce, extend along the Mersey a distance of six and a half miles, says Cassier's Magazine. They afford a spectacle unrivaled in the world, and focus upon the visitor a lasting impression of what the commercial and maritime supremacy of Great Britain really means. Nowhere else can there be found crowded together a succession of sights of such varied interest and activity. The great piers, London, New York, Hamburg and Antwerp, possess each in its own way the fascination which attaches to scenes of concentrated activity and the picturesque attractiveness of crowded waterways and masses of shipping, but the great port of the English manufacturing north and midlands stands in many respects absolutely without a compeer, not merely because of its noble river, whose tidal movement is four times the outfall of the Mississippi, but because its dock system is, in point of extent and importance, indisputably the first in the world. This arises, to a great extent, from the character of the Liverpool trade. Measured by the values of exports and imports, the trade of Liverpool and that of London are about £200,000,000 a year, but judged by bulk, the merchandise dealt with on the quays of Liverpool is vastly greater in value than that dealt with at Blackwall and London docks, for cotton and grain, timber and tobacco, textiles and machinery are, bulk for bulk, of much less value than tea, silks and French wines, or even articles "made in Germany." To gain an idea of the great currents of trade with North and South America, the West Indies, the Mediterranean, West Africa, India, China and the east, which are concentrated at the Liverpool docks, a visit thereto is absolute necessary, and is an experience at once interesting and profitable. The construction of the Liverpool overhead railway has rendered such a visit pleasant, expeditious and easy. Until the railway was built in 1889, the only means of locomotion along the line of docks was by broad-wheeled omnibuses, which were specially built to run on the low-level dock railway, and were slow and cumbersome. That the overhead railway met with a great want is proved by the fact that while the old bus service sufficed for about 2,500,000 passengers per annum, the traffic on the overhead is now nearly 9,000,000, and is steadily increasing.

UNIQUE CHURCH IN HONOLULU

Owes Allegiance to No Sect or Denomination.

The Central Union church of Honolulu, to which the Rev. William M. Kincaid of Andrew Presbyterian church has accepted a call, is a unique religious body, possibly the only one of its kind in the world, says the Minneapolis Times. It is founded upon the most liberal basis, five simple facts forming its creed. It owes allegiance to no denomination or sect, but is an organization by itself. Among its members are included families from the Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian churches. It is the oldest and largest church in the Hawaiian islands and, in fact, has founded nearly all the other churches there. In its membership are included 500 families, practically all the English-speaking people in Honolulu and all the government officers. The church is a remarkably strong and aggressive body. Mr. Kincaid says that its organization is the best that he has ever known. A new church building, with a seating capacity of 2,000 has recently been completed at a cost of \$130,000, all of which has been paid. The church is free from debt. An idea of its strength and liberal policy may be gained from the fact that in the last year \$9,000 was raised for the expenses of the parish and \$39,000 for charitable and mission work. The Central Union church owns a steamer, which goes out every year to the Caroline and Philippine islands and among the other islands of the Hawaiian group, carrying missionaries and supplies for the work in those islands. A large number of missionary workers are entirely supported by this church. The loss of Mr. Kincaid will be keenly felt by his Minneapolis congregation as he had become personally endeared to them by his long and faithful service and also because it will be difficult to find another man to carry on the work of the church on the same liberal policy and with equal strength. A meeting will be held shortly, at which an effort will be made to decide upon Mr. Kincaid's successor. No one has yet been suggested for the place. Mr. Kincaid was largely influenced in accepting the call to the church at Honolulu by the poor health of his son, the doctor having shortly before the call was received ordered him to try a warmer climate. The new opening consequently came at a most opportune time.

No Doubt True

Wheeler—"I wonder what has become of Walker; I haven't seen him for a week." Ryder—"I saw his wife yesterday. She said he was learning to ride a wheel." Wheeler—"How's he getting along?" Ryder—"On crutches, I believe."

Testing Paving Bricks.

Bricks for paving are now tested by tumbling them about in a vessel or drum about one-seventh full of the bricks. Periodically they are weighed, in order to determine how rapidly they wear out.

The Forgotten Dead.

Teacher—"Well, Johnny, who was the best man that ever lived?" John-



LIVE STOCK

Live Stock Improvement.

The hard times and low prices of sheep and cattle of a few years since proved potent factors in the securing of a united effort towards improving herds and flocks, says the Rocky Mountain Husbandman. When it was hard to make ends meet in these pursuits owners sought to make their stock profitable by breeding the best in order that they might get top prices, top prices having always been remunerative. When wool was lowest it was sought to make up for the loss in price by the increase in pounds, and the same has been the case in the production of beef and mutton. During the past ten years there has been a marked improvement along this line, and as the years advance herds and flocks will steadily decrease in size and improve in quality. We are aware that the idea is prevalent among many people that if one attempts to do anything with cattle he must have two or three hundred head, but this is a mistake. A nice profit can be made from forty head of cattle, or even less. The farmer, for instance, with a dozen milk cows, who can fatten five or six beef steers every winter, will find that it will pay, and the time is coming when, instead of a man standing aloof from sheep because he cannot own two or three or a dozen flocks and land in princely possession, but owners of single flocks of not more than 2,000 head will multiply rapidly. There are hundreds of places where this number of sheep may be summered on the high mountains, and dozens of small ranchmen produce enough feed on 300 acres of land to winter such a flock. It is true in the days of small herds and flocks, which must come sooner or later, it will be different from the small owners of ten years ago. Then all sought to keep their increase and become large owners. The man with a few milk cows husbanded his herd until it became large, and the small owner of sheep so manipulated things as to keep his increase and soon own a number of flocks instead of one, but in the new era men will follow the industry of raising cattle and sheep and will dispose of their increase every year. They will, in fact, be so situated that they will not have the facilities for caring for increased numbers, and will therefore be content with just what they can care for. But even then the pursuit will pay and their bank accounts will grow even more rapidly in proportion than when all their profit went into their increase. Just now, of course, there is a strong tendency towards large flocks and herds, but this will be of short duration, and in the new order of things, of small flocks and herds, we may look for better breeding and far better results, since stock handled in a small way have better attention than can be given when one has vast possessions to see after and more profit will accrue to the country.

A Merino-Persian Cross.

At the agricultural department of the University of California an attempt is being made to establish a new breed of sheep by crossing Merino rams on Persian ewes, says an exchange. The object is to produce a breed with good mutton qualities and having a heavy fleece of fine wool. The experiment has been carried on only three years, and those who are engaged in it are not yet prepared to announce results, though they are hopeful of complete success. It has been claimed for some breeds that they are equal to the South Downs as mutton sheep and to the Merino in quantity and quality of wool production, but probably few dealers are prepared to admit such claim. If the California experiment should result in establishing a distinct breed possessing and capable of uniformly transmitting the two valuable characteristics sought it will bring an improvement extremely valuable to the sheep industry, but the probability is that a long course of selection and breeding must be followed before the essential faculty of prepotency is established.

Feed Lambs Early.

The farmer who raises a lamb crop for the mutton market will find it a good investment to begin feeding the little fellows as soon as they will eat, says Texas Stock and Farm Journal. They will generally eat a little meal when they are only two or three weeks old. The ewes should be on feed enough to suckle the lambs well and all should have good pasturage. Half a pint a day of a mixture of corn meal, bran and cotton-seed meal will be enough to give the lambs, if they have also good pasturage, a very vigorous growth. They should be fed this so that the ewes cannot get at the feed. This can be arranged by having a small pen under which only the lambs will be able to creep while the ewes can be fed outside. Lambs raised in this way can be made ready for market earlier than those raised without such a stimulant to their development, and will be so superior in finish and quality as to secure the best prices in the market. There will be an advantage also in the weight and quality of fleece that will return part of the expense in perfecting the lamb.

A fortnight ago several pairs of half bred French Coach geldings were sold in the East Buffalo market for from \$400 to \$500 each.

The life of a tradesman is about two-



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