

VICTORIA TO RETIRE.

BRITAIN'S QUEEN DESIRES TO END HER DAYS IN QUIET.

Rumors of a Transfer of the Crown Again Revived—Feels the Weight of Years—Condition of Her Majesty's Health Is Precarious.

Throne Will Go to Wales. The rumor that Queen Victoria intends to retire in favor of the Prince of Wales is again current in London, and it is added that court circles are greatly troubled regarding the condition of the queen's health. Such reports have frequently appeared in recent years, only to be semi-officially contradicted later. But it now seems that there may be some actual foundation for the statements made. It is added that her majesty has decided to spend her time in future at Balmoral or at Osborne, and that she will give the prince and princess of Wales the use of Buckingham palace and Windsor Castle. There is no doubt that the queen seems to feel greatly the weight of her years and bereavements, and her majesty is quoted as having repeatedly remarked during her last stay in London at Buckingham palace, upon the occasion of the recent



QUEEN VICTORIA.

marriage of Princess Maud of Wales to Prince Charles of Denmark: "This is my last visit to London."

Reigned Nearly Sixty Years. Queen Victoria first saw the light in Kensington palace May 24, 1819, and ascended the throne June 20, 1837. She is the only child of Edward, Duke of Kent, fourth son of George III., and of the Princess Louisa Victoria of Saxe-Coburg. Abraham Lincoln was then a 10-year-old boy. Gladstone ran about in pantaloons with frills to them and probably trundled a hoop, while Lord Salisbury had not as yet come into existence. The Duke of Wellington was fresh from his triumphs at Waterloo, and Daniel Webster was in the zenith of his fame.

Feb. 10, 1840, Victoria married her cousin, Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, with whom she had long been deeply in love. It proved, as every one knows, a most happy union. During their twenty-one years of married life they were blessed with nine children—four sons and five daughters. George III. is the only English sovereign who has occupied the throne for a longer period than Queen Victoria. During the fifty-nine years of Queen Victoria's rule the population of the mother country has increased from something under twenty-six millions to close on forty-five millions, and that of the colonies has steadily grown from four millions to seventeen millions. As Empress of India her rule extends over nearly one and a half million square miles with a population of 275,000,000.

Albert Edward Is 55. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales and heir apparent to the throne of Great Britain and Ireland and the Empire of India, was born at Buckingham palace Nov. 9, 1841. He studied under private tutors for several years, passed one session of the University of Edinburgh, spent a year at Oxford, where he attended lectures, and for four years pursued his course at Cambridge. In 1859 he paid a visit to the United States and Canada, where he was



PRINCE OF WALES.

received with the distinction due to his rank. Albert Edward's titles are multitudinous. He is a K. C., a general of the army, colonel of hussars, Duke of Cornwall, Duke of Rothesay, Baron of Renfrew and Lord of the Isles of Scotland, Earl of Dublin and Carrick in Ireland, and enjoys the patronage of twenty-nine livings in the church as Duke of Cornwall. His marriage with Princess Alexandra of Denmark took place March 10, 1863. He was chosen president of St. Bartholomew's Hospital in 1867. At the close of the year 1871 he was seriously ill with typhoid fever, which was about the only dangerous sickness he ever experienced. The dignity which he esteems most highly was conferred upon him in 1874 by his election as grand master of Freemasons of England.

A cornered bicycle thief, who had within two days left two stolen wheels in a shop at Providence, R. I., plunged through a large plate glass window and shot two men who stood in his way of escape. There were numerous prostrations and five deaths during the hot spell at Cincinnati. The victims were: Belle Bright, a laundry girl; Mary Brown, infant; John Crane, moulder; Browne Dickhors and John Schulte, tanners.

Lightning set fire to the barn on the dairy farm of William McGregor, west of Findlay, O., and the structure was destroyed. It contained twenty-five fine Jersey cows, and all efforts to save the animals were unavailing and they were cremated.

THE PEOPLE'S PARTY.

Brief History of Its Inception and Subsequent Growth.

The recent events at St. Louis make of interest some account of the growth and origin of the People's party. The party had its inception at a meeting held at St. Louis in December, 1889. In 1867 the farmers' movement began in this country with the organization of the grange, or patrons of husbandry. This was not a political organization, but it spread with the most astonishing rapidity through the western and southern portions of the country. The popularity of this movement caused the organization of a large number of similar societies and all of them grew numerically and acquired some political power.

An effort was made to unite all these various organizations, and at the meeting held in St. Louis in 1889 a consolidation was effected and the name of the "Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union" was adopted. This was followed by a convention called to meet at Ocala, Fla., on Dec. 2, 1890. The convention was held, composed of 163 delegates representing thirty-five States and territories, and independent political action was decided upon.

A platform was adopted which embodied the following principles: (1) The abolition of national banks and the establishment of sub-treasuries to loan money to the people at 2 per cent interest, with an increase of the circulation to \$50 per capita; (2) laws to suppress gambling in agricultural products; (3) unlimited coinage of silver; (4) prohibiting the alien ownership of land and restricting ownership to actual use; (5) restricting the tariff; (6) government control of railroads and telegraph lines, and (7) direct vote of the people for President, Vice-President and United States Senators.

This convention was followed by another, held in Cincinnati on May 19, 1891, at which were 1,418 delegates from thirty States and territories. At this meeting the Ocala platform was reaffirmed and the name of the "People's party" was given to the organization. A third national convention was held in St. Louis on the 23d of February, 1892, at which little of an important character was done. The first nominating convention was held at Omaha July 4, 1892, composed of 1,290 delegates. No great change was made in the platform, but the income tax and postal savings banks were demanded.

In the election that followed the People's party polled for Gen. Weaver, its candidate for President, 1,055,424 votes and he received 22 electoral votes. He carried the States of Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Nevada, North Dakota and one vote in Oregon. The party received almost votes enough to carry Nebraska, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming. There have been no elections since then to test the voting strength of the party as a national organization, but in the congressional election in 1894 the total vote cast for the congressional candidates of the party aggregated 1,310,397, which shows a gain of 254,973 in two years.

HOW THE PRESIDENT IS ELECTED

Members of the Electoral College as Chosen by the States.

While the people elect a President by their votes they do not vote direct for the candidate. The work is done through an electoral college. In other words, each State puts up a ticket of presidential electors and these cast the vote which finally decides who shall be President and Vice-President.

This ticket is made up so as to give one elector for each United States Senator and one for each member of Congress. The college, therefore, this year will contain 447 electors. The successful candidates for President and Vice-President will be required to secure not less than 224. The college by States is as follows:

State.	Electors.	State.	Electors.
Alabama	11	Nebraska	3
Arkansas	8	Nevada	3
California	9	New Hampshire	4
Colorado	4	New Jersey	10
Connecticut	6	New York	36
Delaware	3	North Carolina	11
Florida	4	North Dakota	3
Georgia	13	Ohio	23
Idaho	3	Oregon	4
Illinois	24	Pennsylvania	32
Indiana	15	Rhode Island	4
Iowa	13	South Carolina	4
Kansas	10	South Dakota	4
Kentucky	13	Tennessee	12
Louisiana	8	Texas	15
Maine	6	Utah	3
Maryland	8	Vermont	4
Massachusetts	15	Virginia	12
Michigan	14	Washington	4
Minnesota	9	West Virginia	6
Mississippi	9	Wisconsin	12
Missouri	17	Wyoming	3
Montana	3		
		Total	447

Necessary to choice, 224. While the territories took part in the nomination of candidates they have no vote in the electoral college.

Gold and Silver of the United States.

According to the statistics of the United States mint the total product of silver in the United States in 1890 was \$150,000, while the value of gold produced that year was \$45,000,000. In 1870 the silver product increased to \$10,000,000, and gold product to \$50,000,000. In 1873, when the coinage law was repealed, the product of gold was \$36,000,000, while the product of silver reached \$87,750,000. The following statement shows the comparative product of the metals for subsequent years:

Year.	Gold.	Silver.
1880	\$36,000,000	\$39,000,000
1885	31,800,000	51,600,000
1890	32,845,000	70,485,000
1892	33,041,000	82,101,000
1894	39,500,000	64,000,000
1895	47,000,000	60,765,300

J. Israel Tarte, the new minister of public works, whose exposure of the fraudulent way in which government contracts were manipulated in Canada led to the retirement of Sir Hector Langevin from the Dominion cabinet, and the imprisonment of Thomas McGreevy, is now making a thorough investigation of the evidence Sir Charles Tupper and his late ministers left behind them when they vacated the treasury benches.

Gen. Josiah Siegried died at Pottsville, Pa., aged 66, from kidney trouble and nervous prostration. Gen. Siegried was one of the prominent military men and philanthropists in the State. He was the leading Republican politician of Schuylkill County.

Rev. Dr. Halsey W. Knapp, well-known Baptist, died at his home in Brooklyn, aged 77 years.

FANCIES OF FASHION.

GREAT VARIETY IN THE STYLES FOR THIS SEASON.

The Popular Coat Bodices Are to Be Undone—A Decided Change Soon to Come in Sleeves—Fancy Capes of Net Are Worn.

Gotham Fashion Gossip. New York correspondence:



LANES are being laid for the undoing of the now popular coat bodices. The designers claim that these bodices, at least, those that conform strictly to coat shapes, have been a disappointment, and it is certain that the women that had their wardrobes stocked with them are not wearing them a great deal. They do not prove so friendly to the lines of the average figure as the round waist does, the picturesque flaring of revers and neck affairs makes a woman look stocky, unless she is very slender and made with that adorable long line from the throat to the tip of the bust curve that makes the wearing of anything becoming. These criticisms do not apply, however, to bodices whose only resemblance to a coat is in some few slight accessories of suggestion. These are as plentiful as ever, and will be for a good while. One pretty sort is cut with skirts at the back only, and they are jauntily set out. From the hips, where the coat is very short, barely reaching the waist line, the coat slopes to points that end at either side of the front and just below the belt. This is a becoming cut, and allows a blouse effect in front that fills



COATED YET SLENDER.

In and falls over the belt or one that is drawn under the belt at the waist line.

A newer sort that has suddenly come into vogue is the short box coat that is bobbed off all around well above the waist line and that hangs without a fold and without the slightest shaping to the figure. It should give the effect of being stiff as a board, and is intended to emphasize by contrast the slenderness and the yielding curves of the figure beneath. Such a coat is usually open entirely in front, and is elaborated by much befrilled wide revers of a contrasting material, the sleeves being made to correspond with the revers. A few coats are shown made like a basque, the bodice fitting the figure to well below the waist line and sloping to a rounded point front and back. Coat skirts are set under the back, standing out well, and extending in flat hip pieces at the sides. The trouble with this coat is that it makes the whole figure seem bulky. The charm that every one tries to suggest now is that of girlishness of form, and an out-and-out coat does not do it.

This appearance of bulk is not created by many jacket and coat effects, and the number of different designs that are possible is so great that it is not yet nearly exhausted, so these suggestions of coats—some of them very slight—are still plentiful among new dresses. To-day's first illustration displays an ingenious one, which in the original was of old blue voile, which was also used for the dress skirt. It was like a bolero, with long tabs in front, ornamented by silver cord and



A COAT THAT WIDENS.

buttons. The sleeves had triple puffs and chiffon ruffles at the wrists, and beneath the jacket there was a blouse of pink and blue taffeta. It had a plain stock collar, and a four-in-hand tie was to be worn with it. Hooking at the side beneath one of the tabs was a wide girle of old blue satin.

A bodice with coat suggestions that occasions no loss of slenderness to its

wearer, comes next in the pictures. It was of black taffeta, entirely covered with finely pleated black mousseline de soie, and trimmed in front with four bands of heavy cream guipure insertion, whose pattern was outlined with gold. Its stock collar was of the same lace, and had a narrow wided edge bordered with a narrow black mousseline pleating. There was no lace on the back of the bodice, but the belt was white lace and was dotted in front with lace rosettes. The coat effect came in the pleated mousseline basque. Drapery of plain flowered silk was added to the tight sleeves.

In consideration of the third picture, it should be known that it was a slender woman that was sketched, and then it will be understood how much her shoulders seemed to widen by such clothing. Women that regard themselves as too slender may still find re-



A PAIR OF STYLISH PROMENADERS.

lief in this sort of a bodice, if they have not already done so. This model was of light weight cheviot in a turquoise blue shade. It included such distinctive features of a Louis XIV. bodice as a rippled bodice, revers faced with renaissance lace and a lace-edged jabot. It fastened with four handsome gold buttons, each having a turquoise center, and had a vest, with turn-over collar, of white satin.

The bishop is the sleeve that is so generally accepted that it is on the edge of being common, and yet is safe from exciting comment. The sleeve that puffs roundly from the shoulder to just below or just above the elbow is all right; it is not new, but is pretty, and its outline is graceful. Sleeves may still be made of material and in style contrasting with the bodice, and, indeed, with all the rest of the dress. Imported dresses occasionally have several pairs of sleeves to go with each bodice, but American dressmakers are shy of anything that seems like an expedient, lest it look like an effort to save money. The sleeve that wrinkles from shoulder to wrist is again with us, and is graceful and artistic. Made of transparent material, it is beautiful and in better taste than a bare arm, but a fichu must be at the shoulder. There are rumors that tight velvet sleeves will appear on winter gowns, but women do not warm with admiration. They merely think, "Won't they be funny!" and it



AIRY ORNATENESS.

will certainly take till next spring for them to get over that feeling.

The latitude that is permitted to individual taste in the matter of material for sleeves is shown in the right hand dress of the fourth sketch. Here the fabric of the skirt is black satin covered with accordion pleated chiffon, the bodice is white silk draped with gathered white chiffon, and the sleeves are of gold embroidered beaded lace. The only item that connects them with the bodice is a yoke of the same lace. This bodice is alike in back and front, has a white satin belt and collar dotted with black rosettes, and commencing at the yoke; long black satin straps extend to the waist. It is quite as stylish a promenade rig as this one that appears beside it in the picture. Its skirt and jacket are white serge, and a blouse waist of white China silk goes with it. The bolero is cut wide enough to allow for deeply draped revers, which are embroidered with narrow black soutache. White chiffon ornaments the collar, and a wide belt of plaid taffeta ribbon ends in long streamers. The contrast between the plaid and the white is sure to give a spick-and-span appearance to this rig, which will be accentuated by the expanse of pure white, but the dress is by no means as perishable as it at first seems, because serge cleanses so nicely.

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That the earth is solid right to the center, with the exception of lakes and reservoirs of molten matter below the crust, has been demonstrated by the recent researches of Lord Kelvin and other authorities.

FOR LITTLE FOLKS.

A COLUMN OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THEM.

Something that Will Interest the Juvenile Members of Every Household—Quaint Actions and Bright Sayings of Many Cute and Cunning Children.

Some Counting Out Rhymes. "One two; sky blue; All out but you."

"Ena, mena, slippery Dick, Delia, dilla, dominick, Hitcha, pitch, domanitcha; Om, pom, pum."

"Eny, meny, miny, mo, Catch a monkey by the toe. If he squeals, oh! let him go, Eny, meny, miny, mo."

"Monkey, monkey, bottle of beer, How many monkeys are there here? You are monkeys, so are we—One is out and that is he."

"Aney, many, money, my, Testy, long, long, sty, Haldy, galdy, booh."

"Intry, wintry, kewtry, corn, Apple seed and apple thorn, Wire, brier, limber, lock, Six geese in a flock, And two flew east, two flew west, And two flew over the cuckoo's nest."

"Hanky, panky, cranky Ann, Shot at a deer and killed a man. If she'd hit the deer and missed the man You would be the lucky man, Hanky, panky, cranky Ann."

"One, two, three, the bumble bee, The rooster crows and out he goes."

"Tibbity, bibbity, sabbity, sap, Tibbity, bibbity, knabe."

"Owney's" Trip Around the World.

Owney arrived in New York December 23, at noon. He was taken immediately to the postoffice, and after a short reception by his many friends, started again, by the New York Central, for Tacoma, which he reached five days later, having completed the circuit of the globe in 132 days—a rapid rate of traveling for a dog who attracted so much attention. Owney was visited by hundreds, young and old, and so universal was the demand to see him that Postmaster Case placed him on exhibition in a public hall, and people for miles around made his acquaintance. At the end of his trip Owney had over two hundred tags, medals, and certificates to add to his collection, and he is to-day, in all probability, the best-known and the most universally popular dog in the world.—St. Nicholas.

New York's Fire Department.

Every city in the United States shows local pride in its firemen. Each claims that its department is one of the best (if not the best) in the country. The rivalry between some of the cities is at times quite amusing, and there is much discussion upon the merits of their own firemen; but New York City undoubtedly occupies to-day the enviable position of having, all things considered, the most thoroughly equipped and most efficient fire service in the world. The apparatus is of the best. The horses, selected with care and judgment, are magnificent animals; and the men, picked from those thought to be best adapted for the work they must perform, are subjected to a most rigid physical examination before they are admitted to the service, and afterward are trained in a school of instruction at fire headquarters that is complete in itself.—St. Nicholas.

She Got the Doll.

A pretty little story comes from Baltimore. At a fair held there for the benefit of a church a little girl named Rose had worked very hard while the fair was in progress to sell various things that were entrusted to her. A doll was at one of the booths that was to be voted to the most popular little girl, and Rose's name was among others a candidate for this prize. The child was very anxious to possess the lovely doll, which seemed to her the most beautiful thing in the world. On the evening of the drawing little Rose could hardly wait, but when the numbers began to be read off it was noticed that she was not around. Someone went to look after her and found her in a part of the room where the crowd was least, on her knees saying over a little childish prayer which begged that the doll baby might be sent to her. The sight brought tears to the eyes of those who saw and listened. Just as she finished the word was sent among her friends that Rose had indeed earned the doll, and a second later, so touched was everyone with her childish faith, it was hurriedly snatched from the table and put in her arms. Happiness beamed all over her baby face as she carried her treasure around the room, and everybody who saw her was as glad as she was that she had got it.

How Lucy Trained the Potatoes.

Lucy lives in a big city in a little house back of which is a roomy yard. Last spring she told her father that she wanted to have a garden all of her own. So a piece of ground was staked off and Lucy planted her seeds. She didn't know much about gardening, and when she was in trouble she asked her grandfather to help her. One of her beds contained potatoes and when they sprouted she was very happy, indeed, and hoed them diligently. Two or three weeks after they began to blossom and it was not long before the whole bed was a mass of bright little white flowers. At this Lucy was much concerned. She knew that potatoes grew in the ground, for she had seen them dug. But how could they start if the blossoms were on top of the bushes? Unfortunately Lucy's grandfather had gone away for a visit and she couldn't ask him to explain the queer conduct of

her garden. She must meet the problem herself.

So one morning she went out with her hoe, bent over the potato plants and buried the blossoms in the earth so that the potatoes could begin to grow. Having thus trained her unruly plants she drew a little sigh of content and left them.

Fortunately her grandfather returned the next day in time to rescue the blossoms and Lucy took a little lesson about how plants grow.

"Take 'Em, Jack."

From the Temple Magazine we copy the following very pleasing incident, which occurred on one of our busy streets during the heated term—being because of the unselfish spirit displayed.

"It was a fatiguingly hot day, and only those whose business was urgent were found upon the scorching streets. Presently a little newsboy appeared in sight. He was not alert and bustling as is the ideal newsboy; on the contrary, he moved along as though each step he took was painful to him. Meeting an acquaintance he stopped to exchange greetings, under the friendly shade of an awning.

"What's the matter with you to-day, Jack? You get along 'bout as fast as a snail."

"So would you, I guess, Tim Ragan, if your feet were full of blisters walking on the hot sidewalk. Every time I put a foot down it's like to set me crying," the other answered.

"Tim looked down at the bare feet in question, and glanced at his own, encased in a pair of shoes that had certainly seen duty, but which still afforded protection from the heat of the dazzling pavements. Quick as a flash he dropped down on a step, and the next moment was holding out his shoes to Jack.

"Here, you can wear them until tomorrow. My feet ain't blistered. Take 'em, Jack; it's all right." And away he went crying: "Three o'clock edition of the Post" at the top of his voice, seemingly unconscious that he had performed a brave deed."

California's King of Tuns.

The Great Tun of Heidelberg, which for 150 years has been the largest cask in the world and as such has gained fame in history, has been eclipsed by the erection of a monster vat in a vineyard near Fresno, Cal., which will be known as the King of Tuns.

The Great Tun held 42,000 gallons, but for years it has not been used, as the vineyards of Heidelberg Castle did not produce sufficient grapes. The King of Tuns holds 79,000 gallons, being almost twice as large as the Great Tun.

In the construction of the California King of Tuns enough lumber was used to erect a mansion, and two carloads of steel were required for the hoops. The giant cask stands 30 feet high, is 26 feet in diameter and will hold thirty carloads of wine. In addition to this monster, there are three other tuns in the same vineyard, which are larger than the Great Tun, but they are dwarfs alongside the big fellow.

The King of Tuns is built of the native redwood of California. The lumber was cut especially for it, and but one piece in ten would pass the required inspection, as not a knot or a flaw was allowed. The wood was seasoned for two years before the cask was built. The St. George vineyard, in which the largest tun in the world was built, produces annually a quarter of a million gallons of wine.

This enormous vat was not built as a curiosity, but for service, and will be filled each year. George H. Malta, one of the owners of the St. George vineyard, explains that in order to insure a sufficient supply of wine that will be of uniform quality it is necessary that it shall be mixed together. Two vats filled at the same time and treated as nearly alike as is possible will be found to have a different flavor.

The King of Tuns is one of the most prominent objects in the Fresno valley. It towers high over all the other buildings, and can be seen for miles in any direction. It is so substantially built that it is expected to last for centuries. Longfellow mentions the Great Tun at Heidelberg in his "Hyperion." Perhaps some future novelist will weave a romance about the King of Tuns at Fresno.

Rome's Water Supply.

The city which has not only the best water supply in proportion to its population, but also the largest water supply of any city in the world, is Rome. This is owing to the fact that the ancient Romans built enormous aqueducts which poured into the city, in the time of the Emperors, 330,000,000 gallons daily, amounting to 100 gallons for each inhabitant. The amount of water now supplied is 200,000,000 gallons daily, amounting to 670 gallons a day for each inhabitant! The reason of the great increase of the amount per inhabitant, is, of course, that the population is very much less now than during the empire. The "vast aqueducts striding on huge arches across the Campagna and still bringing copious supplies of water from the Apennines and the Alban hills, are among the most striking features of modern Rome." Compared with Rome, all other great cities are but poorly supplied. Chicago, Sidney and Buffalo have about 120 gallons daily per inhabitant, New York 70, Marseilles 50, Paris 30, London 38, Hamburg 12. Manchester obtaining its water from Lake Thirlmere, and Glasgow from Loch Katrine can both boast an inexhaustible supply of the sweetest kind.

Repartee!

Servant (from the door)—Herr Mayer sends his compliments and would you please shoot your dog, as it won't let him go sleep.

Neighbor—Give my respects to Herr Mayer and tell him I shall be much obliged if he will poison his daughter and burn her piano.—Lyndon Unl...