

TITLED TRICKSTERS.

The Sporting Nobility of England Terribly Wrought Up.

CONSTERNATION AT THE CLUBS.

Two Swell British Snobs Engaged in Airing Their Grievances.

CHEWYND SENDS A CHALLENGE.

Blood-Letting Extraordinary Predicted as the Outcome.

RESULT NOT TO BE REGRETTED.

The Prospects of Salisbury's Government Involving Itself in a War Rapidly Growing Dimmer—The Holiday Trade.

English Swell Sporting Circles Shaken

Copyright 1887 by James Gordon Bennett. LONDON, Dec. 24.—(New York Herald Cable—Special to the Bee.)—The Christmas season, which is sacred to peace and good will, finds a terrible emotion going on in the turf and jockey clubs, in fact, politics for the moment are at a discount. Whether there will be a war and when Gladstone is likely to get back in office are questions which no longer attract attention. What everybody, at least in England at the West End, asks is, will Sir George Chetwynd bring action against Lord Durham, or must there be another anyling scandal placed on record against a gentleman of England once supposed to be the very soul of honor. Lord Salisbury did much to break down the popular belief that a noble sportsman can never be a blackleg. It was a dreadful revelation to many to find that cheating is not exclusively practiced by poor devils. Knowing ones said at the time that if exposure fell upon all who deserved it, Salisbury would not stand alone in the pillory. So thought Lord Durham, and, being a young man, smarting under very heavy losses on the turf, as well as from a sense of injustice, he burst out in his suspicions. He has suffered much in pocket and incurred some risks in reputation from horses not having run straight. He is not a man of many words, and the surprise was therefore all the greater when he came out with the now celebrated speech at the dinner of the Grincrack club, York, denouncing the malpractices of jockeys and that trickery which has long been permitted in connection with some well known stables. The speech was talked about in turf circles and various versions of it reached the clubs. As usual in such cases, people began fitting the cap to the heads of various persons. A good many names were mentioned and there the matter might have ended, but some good-natured friends went to Sir George Chetwynd and said: "Durham meant you, that's the man." This sort of a remark, made to a man at his club and elsewhere, leaves him no alternative but to ask for an explanation from his accuser. Sir George was not so much to blame as the papers make out for doing that which his friends almost compelled him to do. He asked and got more than he wanted. Lord Durham owned that his remarks were aimed at him.

From that moment Sir George has acted judiciously. He sent his brother, Captain Chetwynd, to challenge Lord Durham to a duel. The latter replied with a very ugly taunt about cheap courage. The jockey club is evidently inclined to give Chetwynd the cold shoulder, and the public stand wondering why the baronet does not take the only effective steps of redress which are open to him—an appeal to a court of law. Any attempt of outsiders to settle the dispute would be worse than useless, for the truth can only be known to Sir George and his trainer. The jockey's horses which ought to have won were pulled or otherwise prevented from winning. When Sir George's horses had sunk low in estimation and were nowhere in the betting list, they suddenly came out and won great races. Such is substantially the allegation, and, if it were proved, of course it would be all over with the baronet. Trainer Sherrard has never before had any accusation of this kind to face, and to submit quietly to it would be ruinous. He cannot shelter himself behind his employer. The probabilities are that an extensive business in the law courts will be the sequel to Lord Durham's after-dinner speech. If racing in England is not to receive a fatal blow the jockey club will have to bestir itself promptly. Chetwynd's friends are confident that he will be able to clear himself, though they admit he went to work the wrong way in the first instance. Actions for libel are said to be pending against two sporting newspapers which substantially endorse Lord Durham's charges. Not even Ailsbury's case has stirred up so much excitement and feeling in all directions.

Apart from this affair the world of London is thinking of nothing but celebrating Christmas in true Dickens' style—plenty to eat and lozings to drink. The retail trade is distinctly better than it was last year, though the improvement is not so much felt by small tradesmen as by the great stores, which now almost monopolize the business. Rent taxes fall as heavily upon the tradesman as ever, but his customers flock to the big stores and leave him in the lurch.

In some departments of business the prospect of war naturally gives rise to considerable activity. I understand, however, that in well informed quarters, increased confidence is felt that the storm clouds will blow over. The government can only judge from dispatches received from its representatives abroad, and these are said to be calculated to allay apprehension, but as none of the English ambassadors call away the secret intentions of the czar, or Prince Bismarck, or the Austrian emperor, our official information is not worth much. Certainly no unusual preparations are going on in our dock yards or arsenals, on every side, work having

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DONNELLY OUTDONE.

A London Critic Lets Loose His Opinion of Shakespeare.

THE BARD ONLY A SUN GOD.

He Delves Deep into Ancient Fables to Sustain His Position.

TWELVE SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC.

They Correspond With the Peculiar Spelling of William's Name.

SOME VERY FUNNY FIGURES.

Statistics Stated on Which the Writer Challenges Investigation of His Peculiar Ideas on the Great Subject.

Ignatius Must Look to His Laurels.

Copyright 1887 by James Gordon Bennett. LONDON, Dec. 24.—(New York Herald Cable—Special to the Bee.)—The prominent Christmas gift of the London public is unquestionably what may be called a literary bon bon in the shape of a Shakespeare travesty on Ignatius Donnelly. Evidently this bon bon is packed in a Christmas eve contribution by J. F. Rowbottom, a London critic. He begins by denying that there is any exact proof that the man Shakespeare ever lived. He then puts forth as the center of his bon bon this query:

"How, then, did the idea of Shakespeare arise in the English mind? The answer is plain. Shakespeare is a solar myth. He is a personification of the sun, that great luminary of the universe which has been the object of man's worship and the foundation of man's legend since the beginning of time, appearing in the mythology of past ages as a herculean, an Orpheus, an Apollo, a Samson, in more recent centuries under a more beautiful allegory as Shakespeare. Let us remark that unmistakable evidence is afforded by the name, which is parallel to the Greek Ekata Boles (meaning Parliarler) and is clearly an epithet for the sun god, who, as he flashed his rays of light to earth, was pictured to the political imaginations of our untutored ancestors as a mighty warrior who darted his arrows or shook his spears. Examine this name a little more closely, for under it lies a mystery of mysteries. The word Shakespeare (this is the old spelling), contains exactly twelve letters. Is not the reference from this plain enough that these twelve letters are the twelve months which make the sun's annual revolution, while they are at the same time the twelve signs of the Zodiac. In keeping with this is the fact that the full name of the legendary hero is William Shakespeare, a name which consists of four syllables and is therefore emblematical of the four seasons. The tale of his life forms a marvellous and cunningly contrived allegory, full of poetry and beauty. He is said to have been born on the 20th of March. How appropriate, for it is the time of the vernal equinox, when all nature has its annual birth. His birth is justly placed in the reign of Elizabeth, the virgin queen. A plain allusion to the virgin in the signs of the zodiac is made to occur in 1564, the seventh year of Elizabeth's reign. Now it is allowed in the interpretation of all legends, biblical and others, to interchange the month and day. There can be no reasonable doubt that the seventh year here spoken of is the seventh day, which is Sunday, or the day of the sun. Thus far we have found the fabled man named Shakespeare to have been born on the 20th of March in the seventh year of Elizabeth's reign, which means really that the sun god, Ekata Boles, the Parliarler, or Spearshaier, begins his annual life time. The vernal equinox, in the sign of the virgin and on the day dedicated to his honor, Sunday, then continues. The early years of Shakespeare are involved in darkness, which is the way with all solar myths, and we hear absolutely nothing of him till we find him coming into collision with a certain Sir Thomas Lucy. Here the interpretation is easy, for Lucy is evidently a corruption of the Latin, Lux, Light—and the fable of Shakespeare stealing sheep from Lucy as a poetical way of saying that the sun, the Spearshaier, robs the light of his rays and decorates himself with the spoils, show truly beautiful. The next episode in the legend—the sun mounting above the horizon and tenderly keeping watch over this globe of ours—is idealized and transferred into poetic conception, Shakespeare mounting above the footlights and becoming the manager of the Globe theater. During his management the Globe is reduced to ashes, which is evidently an imperfect version of the story of Shakespeare interpolated by some later hand. As the sun rises in the east and sets in the west, so in the legend is Shakespeare made to rise in London, the east of England, and at the East End, and settle down to die in Stratford, which, compared with London, is undoubtedly the west. Finally, as the sun's annual life is brought to a close at the end of the fifty-two weeks, so does Shakespeare, the allegorical sun, sink and die after a life of fifty-two years. Substituting the week for the year, the parable is complete. As to how the connection originated between the allegorical sun god and the plays that bear his name, there are three hypotheses possible—the first that the plays were in existence before the allegory had become crystallized into its present shape and were dedicated to the sun god under his cognomen, the Spearshaier. The second is that they were written by priests of the sun god. The third is that they were the direct production of the sun god himself. This last view is broadly hinted at in one of the plays themselves, where the following mysterious sentence is found: If the sun ever writes a book, the critics will have plenty of work in decipher-

ing, which, however, is not conched in these very words but under the following: If the sun plays the fool then knives may find employment." But many other reasons besides go to support the theory. On no other supposition can we account for the reported references—20 in number—to the sun alone, to the various, stellar and meteorological phenomena. Allusions to day, night, heat, cold, snow, stars, moon, sky, clouds, occur over and over again. The four seasons are continually mentioned, and the two leading ones—summer and winter—have two whole plays play dedicated to their service—a "Midsummer Night's Dream," and a "Winter's Tale." The signs of the zodiac emit still more illustrative notes. The sign of the Twins is palpably the foundation of the "Comedy of Errors." The sign of the Scales furnishes the catastrophe of the "Merchant of Venice." Most honorably is the Crab alluded to in "Two Gentlemen of Verona," under the allegory of "Launce's dog Crab, while the Lion is actually brought on the stage along with the moon and other celestials in the interlude to "Midsummer Night's Dream," where the stage-organ plays the lion part, etc., etc. Out of the mass of facts here adduced, it is quite possible for a practiced critic to invalidate or explain away some half dozen Orso, but all getting tampering with the position will be entirely nugatory, since I now proceed to greater heights of discovery and bring forward three irrefragable, unassailable facts. The first fact is that the total number of words in the plays are exactly equal to the total number of miles in the sun's diameter, being precisely 883,000. The second fact is still more convincing. Take the plays in any order, and count the words from the beginning to the middle he will find the two central words—that is to say, the 441,500th and the 441,501st—to be the sun. Thirdly, and as accurately following the statistics would be a little more troublesome to test, we give notice that whoever has found us right in the two preceding calculations may spare himself the pains of verifying the following, since it is quite as correct as the former. The total number of letters in the plays is 5,000,000. Now, according to the legend, at the time of his marriage he was nineteen years old. Multiplying this by the number of words, and the result is 95,000,000, which is exactly the distance the sun is from the earth, calculated in miles."

LITIGATION ENDED.

Judge Waterman's Final Order in the Storey Will Case.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—(Special Telegram to the Bee.)—Today the final touches were given to the Times deal. The will made in 1879 by Wilbur F. Storey was, by mutual consent, shattered to atoms in Judge Waterman's court. The following order was entered by Judge Waterman: "An appeal by Anson L. Storey from the order of the probate court, admitting to record a paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Wilbur F. Storey, has been coming on for a hearing and being submitted to the court for a decision, the court do find that the paper writing dated August 16, 1887, bearing the signatures of J. E. Chamberlain, C. E. Snowden and John E. Sherridon as witnesses, and purporting to be the will of Wilbur F. Storey, deceased, is not the last will and testament of the said Wilbur F. Storey, and is ordered not admitted to record as such will, and that a copy of this order be certified and sent to the probate court."

"The order of Judge Waterman," said Mr. Snowden to a reporter, "practically settles the whole litigation over the Storey estate. The will of 1879 was admitted to probate by Judge Knickerbocker. The will of 1887 was brought in by Anson L. Storey and was refused probate by Knickerbocker, admitted by Rogers and Knickerbocker by the appellate and supreme courts. Anson L. Storey then brought this appeal against probating the will of 1879. This is now allowed to be vacated by common consent. Our money will be divided satisfactorily among the contesting parties and we take the property and the work on our shoulders. I think we will go right into possession this afternoon, though I thought last week we would not do so till January 1. I think I may safely tell you that Mr. J. J. West will be appointed receiver in place of Mr. Harbut and the entire property will be put in his hands after the order of the court is entered. He will assume all the liabilities, I presume, of his predecessor."

"Then the whole thing will be settled, and the Storey litigation brought to an end?"

"Practically, yes."

Mr. J. J. West, when asked about the matter, said that so far as he understood it, the litigation was all over. As regards himself and Mr. Snowden, all they had to do was to turn over their money to the heirs and they (Messrs. Snowden and West) then stood in lieu of the heirs, while the latter could divide the money as they pleased."

The Times to-morrow will say, "The first steps were taken yesterday in the transfer of the estate of the late Wilbur F. Storey, including the Times, to the people who recently purchased it. James J. West, one of the purchasers, was appointed receiver as part of the plan for the ultimate transfer to the Chicago Times Company. As soon as the necessary legal forms are complied with, the new owners will assume editorial control of the paper."

Clinton J. Snowden, who is associated with Mr. West, stated this evening that there had been as yet no change in the working force of the paper except that of C. R. Dennett, night editor, and one of the editorial writers had at once quitted their places. Mr. F. C. Cowley has taken up the duties left fall by Mr. Dennett.

News By Steamship.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 24.—(Special Telegram to the Bee.)—Advises received by the steamer Mariposa today state that King Kalakaua has vetoed two bills recently passed by the new Hawaiian legislature. That body denies the right of the king to use his veto power under specific pledges made at the time of the revolution, and will insist on the king reconsidering his vetoes.

Advises from Thursday Island report the capture of a schooner-cruised craft at Maracaibo bay by natives and the massacre of her crew.

Claim Agents Busy.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 24.—(Special Telegram to the Bee.)—Advises from Philadelphia say the injured by yesterday's wreck on the Wisconsin Central railroad are all doing well. No further deaths have occurred. The claim agent is busy engaged in adjusting damage claims.

Death of a Union County Pioneer.

CAROLINA, Ia., Dec. 24.—(Special Telegram to the Bee.)—Judge I. N. Berry, an old and prominent citizen of this place, died to-day of softening of the brain. He was one of the pioneers of Union county and took a leading position in social and political affairs.

Eight Persons Frozen to Death.

FOUR WYOMING, Tex., Dec. 24.—(Special Telegram to the Bee.)—Reports received from the Pan Handle to-night state that eight persons were frozen to death in Carson county during the recent cold.

CHRISTMAS CHIMES.

They Will Ring Merrily in the Capital of Germany.

FESTIVITIES IN THE FATHERLAND.

Berlin Preparing to Enjoy the Day Quietly.

POLITICS TEMPORARILY SHELVED.

Prince William Distributes Presents to the Soldiers.

SOCIETY SHOWS UP A SCANDAL.

A Young Army Officer Publishes His Engagement Before Securing the Consent of His Intended—Princely Prayers.

Christmas in Germany's Capital.

Copyright 1887 by James Gordon Bennett. BERLIN, Dec. 24.—(New York Herald Cable—Special to the Bee.)—Berlin will to-morrow enjoy Christmas without much worry about politics, clouds or actual bad weather. About twenty thousand Christmas trees have been sold, which fact speaks for itself when considered. The week, almost constantly rainy, made shopping very unpleasant work. There has been little of novelty in goods, certainly nothing new enough to be worth wading the streets to obtain. One advertiser secured a rush of business by promising to each purchaser who successfully answered a riddle a reward of 500 marks.

The numberless public celebrations began early so as to allow distinguished personages an opportunity to enjoy Christmas itself. The quiet simplicity of these celebrations is well shown by that at Potsdam barracks of the privates of the regiment on duty. These were drawn along the sides of their drill room fire by trees of blazing candles. The room itself was decorated with evergreens. Presents for the whole regiment were laid out on long tables. Prince William, with the princess and the heir's two eldest sons, brought with them a number of the nobility and several visiting princes. "Ein Fest bei unsor Gott" was sung with a fest which made the walls shake. Prince William followed with a speech, in which he warned his men that serious times might be before them for the fatherland. Each German soldier must face manfully the uncertain future. Then came the distribution of presents to the trumpeted accompaniment of "Frederick the Great's" march.

Outside of Berlin the whole country is covered with snow, so that vagabonds are driven into the city in great numbers. They get hard up, break a pane of glass and are carried over the winter by a sentence of four months in jail.

In society there has been this week a scandal which has interested many people. An officer whose name is given as Lieutenant von Alvensleben announced in the aristocratic organ, the Kreuz Zeitung, his engagement to a wealthy young lady—Frau Emil Thorsig, of Naumburg. Almost before his friends had time to congratulate him the Military Gazette contained a notice of his resignation from the regiment. The gossip alleges that the Lieutenant is a mere casual acquaintance of the lady and attempted to use the notoriety of the Kreuz Zeitung engagement to force her into an engagement with him. Her mother, however, appealed to the regiment commandant for protection against the intrigue. It is now stated that the officer loses his position and prospects.

The student, Oscar Neumann, of Berlin, who last week killed another student, Hugo Marx Lippmann, in a duel with pistols at 25 paces, has been released without a trial.

A cleverly forged German bond has just come to light