

Democratic Matchman

Bellefonte, Pa., May 31, 1907.

Experience of an American at an English Royal Levee.

A RAPID TRANSIT FUNCTION.

He Was In and Through and Out Before He Really Realized What Had Happened—The Way His Difficulty About a Costume Was Overcome.

A six foot American who had secured a "command" to one of the English royal levees recently found himself in a pretty predicament.

On his notification paper was the hint that levee dress was indispensable. In the guileless innocence of his democratic soul the American took this to mean that frock coat and shiny

gaiters were in the act of looking over his shoulder that nature when a more lively friend called and caught G. in the act. The friend made haste to warn the misguided Yankee that the dress involved silk stockings, Method leaves, black sword and other to which mention ensued. It continued when owing to his height and Mrs. McKinn's borrowable suit was discovered a tailor could be found who would make one before the next after-linger? Just a stage levee dress was deferred to His Majesty's theater, gone a had done duty in "The Last Other andies."

from the levee was over the American. It confessed that he hardly knew what had happened. When he reached the place he was first surrounded by the yeomen of the guard, who started him upstairs with great dispatch. In the course of his progress upstairs the yeomen disappeared, and he found himself in a lane of tin plated life guardsmen.

Again the scene changed, says Town and Country, and there was a lane of royal footmen and next a large room filled to overflowing with admirals, generals, diplomats, peers, chamberlains, soldiers and sailors of all degrees of commissioned rank and a great host of men attired like himself in levee dress. One by one they were singled out and ushered into the royal presence in the adjoining room, where stood the king surrounded by his suit.

The work of presentation was so rapid that the American found himself out and in another room before he knew what had happened. His overcoat was on his back in the same rapid, mysterious fashion, and the next thing he knew he was outside in the courtyard. But he was actually "presented" and is now forever Hof fahig, or eligible for presentation at any court in the world, provided he behaves himself.

All this was preliminary to the presentation of the man's wife and daughter at the drawing room. Men are presented at the king's levees, and the women undergo the same ordeal at the courts or drawing rooms, which are by far the more imposing functions. It is probably no exaggeration to say that every time a drawing room is held \$100,000 is spent by the people who go to court.

None but a very old habitue of the court—and then she is never below the rank of a countess—would dream of appearing at court in a costume that she had worn there before. The item of fowers alone is one of vast importance. If it were not for the drawing rooms the large florists could not exist. Every woman who is presented goes armed with a bouquet, whose value is at least a pound, and some of them are worth ten times that sum. Then there are the bookmakers and the hosiers and the milliners to consider, to say nothing of the people who lend carriages. Suppose there are at a low estimate 500 people on the presentation list. Of these every mother's daughter has herself photographed in her court costume, and London court photographers are notorious for their stiff prices.

St. James' park on the night of a drawing room is filled with Londoners who wander up and down the double line of carriages stalled in the mall, peering into the windows and criticising the costumes of the matrons and their debutante daughters. It is a legitimate privilege of the populace to consider those waiting for presentation as objects of interest, and there the latter have to sit, some of them over an hour, subjected to the gaze of London's citizens. You see half a dozen shogirls flattening their noses against

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THE REGISTRAR, State College, Centre County, Pa

the window of a motor brougham and carrying on a rapid fire conversation about the dress of milady and her daughter inside.

"Ain't she beautiful, Mary Ann?" or "Wot do you think of this un? Oi don't like 'er gown at all."

All this has to be borne with Spartan fortitude so long as there is no rowdiness; but, strange to say, there never is.

A good many people starve themselves for months so that they and their offspring may have the money to enable them to go to court. There are many half pay colonels who live in the country whose one object is to come up for a drawing room.

Generally they have influential and wealthy friends who make it easy for them in the matter of lodging in town and lend them their horses, carriages and footmen; otherwise it would be impossible for them to go. There seems to be a tradition that if a man's daughter has not been presented at court her way to a successful marriage will not be so smooth. That of course is a fallacy, but the tradition never dies, and so people stult themselves and endure endless sacrifices that they may put the hall mark on themselves and their offspring.

Superstitious. A well known New Yorker, while dining at his club one evening, observed that his order of oysters on the shell was not complete, there being only eleven bivalves instead of the dozen it was his custom to order. On reflecting that his waiter, an Irishman, was a newcomer, he decided to let the matter pass, but when on the next evening the same thing occurred he became a trifle impatient.

"See here," exclaimed he to the waiter, "what do you mean by bringing me eleven oysters when I order twelve? This is the second time that this thing has happened."

"Sure, sir," quietly responded the Celt, "I didn't think you would want to risk being thirteen at table, sir."

When Life is Wasted. Life is wasted every time one gives away to gloomy, selfish angry or revengeful thoughts; when resentment or a grudge against man or fate is allowed to find root in the heart; when the temper is let fly loose over a trifle; when one goes to pieces nervously when obliged to repeat a remark and the voice is allowed to rise in anger; when one forgets that a loose temper is a sign of vulgarity and lack of culture.—Philadelphia Press.

Julius Caesar. The consensus of learned opinion is to the effect that history's all around greatest man was Julius Caesar, the originator of Roman imperialism. Caesar was great as a general and great as a writer and speaker, but greater as a statesman. Could he have been spared the assassin's dagger and been permitted to live ten years longer he might have set civilization ahead a full thousand years.—New York American.

Misled. Mrs. Gadsby—I'll get even with Mrs. Gable. Mrs. Gibly—What has she done to you? Mrs. Gadsby—She told me that Mrs. Guffy wasn't at home, so I hurried over to make a call on her, and she was at home, after all.—Cincinnati Leader.

Friends Now. Tom—Have you had any spats with your girl lately? Dick—No. We're great friends now. Tom—How's that? Dick—We've broken off our engagement.—Philadelphia Press.

The growing child has to be doubly nourished—once for the ordinary needs of the body and once for growth. A great many times there is not enough nourishing food taken to provide for the needs of growth: the body is poor, the blood thin, and every condition is suitable for the lodgment of disease in the enfeebled system. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery is a food medicine. It furnishes the body through the blood with all the elements needed to make sound flesh and sturdy muscle. Don't let your child be handicapped in the race of life. Give it "Golden Medical Discovery" and that will give it strength.

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Forgetful. Hostess—Oh, professor, haven't you brought your wife? Professor—There! I know I'd forgotten something!—Punch.

Pearls of Great Price. "Your wife's teeth are like pearls." "They ought to be. I paid for them at that rate."—Tattler.

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POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

There is a little wolf and a little rabbit in every man. One way to be unhappy is to envy the happiness of others. A lucky man always points with pride to his good judgment.

How many things there are in a grocery store you never will call for! If you want to oblige a friend, do something for him his way instead of your own way.

A great many people see themselves as others see them, but they don't believe what they see. Ever occur to you that many of your sorrows are silly sorrows—that is, sorrows that are not important?

Education is a great thing, no doubt, but the best housekeepers didn't get their knowledge out of books.—Achtson Globe.

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