

A PLAIN WOMAN.

Matrons lifted their eyebrows and young wives "whooped" through their lips when Bertie Wyngram engaged himself to Mrs. James Taunton.

"When a young bachelor marries an old wife, who is he to expect?" observed Lady Wyngram to her daughters.

"Colonel Taunton, C. B., of the Indian staff corps, was in his regiment, a hero and a gentleman. He preserved his dignity and kind moods for his mess, and quipped the other and the knotted side of the string at home.

Bertie and she closed in and were exceedingly friendly. They ate, plotted and smoked, and schemed and considered humanity together.

"You're very good to go?" she asked. "I could find my cap to the stars, Pettitions, bazars, deputations, tributes, and all the wheels of Hansard go not and hang. And I'd be a Pagan again."

"She bade him the cheeriest of good-byes, smiling till the door closed. Then she fell back on the sofa, and cried as a child might—from the heart."

"On the morrow, then, Wyngram, in auster and soft shirt, gathered papers at Victoria bookstall while the tail-tail of the 5.20 to Queenborough."

"Oh, I must go now," she said. "Come and see the Dutch!" he said with a light laugh. She looked at him for a moment, not understanding.

"Oh, my dear, my dear, I'll go with you anywhere, anywhere," she cried. And the guard hunched into the van.

aforsaid lifting of feminine eyebrows and "whooping" through feminine lips.

There is a man in a double brass-buttoned frock coat—a costume between that of a French gendarme and a secret agent at St. Petersburg—who wears cap and carriage boots at a variety of theaters in a London square.

When, two months later, Mrs. Taunton's niece Margery came to stay with her from one of those dull, something-over-sand parsonages in Yorkshire, the two went to this theater together.

"How the people stare, Poppy," she said to her aunt. "One man is bowing to me. What am I to do? Do you think he is mistaken?"

"The girl gaped over the words, and the man stood stiff and waited. At last, with blazing signal-stem-high on the tray, she said: 'Take that to the gentleman.'"

"We will go now, Margery," said her aunt, slowly. She had read the card across the girl's shoulder.

"Alone, the elder woman came to her bed-room and flung aside her wrap. Then she stared at herself in her glass. 'I—I don't blame him,' she cried, and on her bed and sobbed.—L. P. Blake."

Manila as a Trading Port. Enormous Quantities of Goods Imported into Countries Adjacent to the Philippines.

Washington Letter in the Sun. More than a billion dollars' worth of goods are every year imported into the countries commercially adjacent to the Philippine islands.

Expansion joints are, therefore, essential to the safety of the pipe, and the English practice is to place such joints about 150 feet for the whole length of the conduit.

ENORMOUS PIPE LINE.

An Australasian Water Conduit Over Three Hundred Miles Long.

The Coolgardie project proposes the delivery of five million gallons of water per day at a point in the mining regions of Australia, 328 miles from the reservoir in the mountains near the coast.

Another reason for having it exposed is that in a pipe line of such great length, expansion is essential.

Turning now to the Coolgardie conduit, to be laid unroofed on the surface of the ground, and with a distance between pumping stations as great as seventy-five to eighty miles.

The engineering problem presented them (and one which we need hardly say is without precedent) is the design of an expansion joint for a pipe of twenty-six to thirty-two inches diameter.

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There are at present under the care of the Salvation Army shelter authorities a brace of Australasian aborigines, a black fellow and his gin.

They landed a few days ago from a Swedish vessel, which had brought them from Stockholm, and when a sympathetic Australian met them they were cruising around aimlessly in the neighborhood of the dock.

Still doubtful as to their place of origin, Sir Horace Tozer decided to put the question to a practical test. Therefore he arose from his chair, and faithfully reproducing the antics of the black fellow during the wildest periods of the corroboree, sang in a plaintive dirge.

When they had calmed her down she looked joyfully at her happy husband, and said: "This makes in plenty to-day my long white peller!"

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GREAT SALE OF DRY GOODS

The time of our annual inventory is near at hand; in order to reduce stock, we offer the people of Scranton and vicinity the opportunity of buying Dry Goods of good quality at the Lowest Prices ever quoted in this city.

Sale Commences Tuesday, Jan. 3, And continues until goods are sold.

Men's Underwear. Men's 50c Jersey Ribbed Underwear, 39c. Men's 50c. Random Underwear, 39c.

Ladies' Underwear. Ladies' 25c. fleecy-lined heavy Underwear, 21c. Ladies' 35c. fleecy-lined fine Underwear, 25c.

Children's Underwear. We offer a bargain in Children's Underwear, Cotton, Cotton and Wool and all Wool, at a big reduction from former prices.

Hosiery. In Men's, Women's and Children's Cotton and Wool Hose.

Comforts. Comforts worth 75c. for 62c. Comforts worth \$1.00 for 79c.

Blankets. \$2.25 White or Grey Blankets for \$1.75. \$3.75 All Wool Blankets for \$3.00.

Sundries. Roman stripe and check, all silk, Ribbons, 12 1/2c. and 15c. quality for 9c.

Silks. A large assortment of fine Silks in desirable styles, all at reduced prices.

Domestics. Look. We offer remarkable bargains in all Muslins, Sheetings, Outings, Calicoes, Gingham, Cotton Flannel, Shaker Flannel, Etc.

Unbleached. 5c. Good Brown Muslin for only 3c. 6c. Fine Brown Muslin for only 4c.

Bleached. 6c. Good Muslin for only 4c. 6c. Finest Muslin for only 5c.

Special. 5c. Good Apron Gingham for 3 1/2c. 6c. Best Apron Gingham for 4c.

Money Spurred by Two Pops. A nice little sum of nearly three millions sterling, belonging to the pope, lies unclaimed in the Italian treasury.

CASTORA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought

MEARS & HAGEN Nos. 415 and 417 Lackawanna Avenue, SCRANTON, PA. January, 1899.

Silks. 20-inch Black Satin Duchess, 85c. goods, 69c. 27-inch Black Satin Duchess, \$1.25 goods, 98c.

Dress Goods. Every lady in the County knows that we keep the most stylish Dress Goods.

Children's Underwear. We offer a bargain in Children's Underwear, Cotton, Cotton and Wool and all Wool, at a big reduction from former prices.

Hosiery. In Men's, Women's and Children's Cotton and Wool Hose.

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THAT DULL FEELING after eating relieved by Horsford's Acid Phosphate. Take no Substitute.