

"The New Zealand Graphic."

Here and There.

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Free to the Ruptured

Dr. W. S. Rice, the Well Known London Specialist, Sends a Trial of his Famous Method Free to All.

There are people who have been torturing themselves for years with trusses. It is hoped their attention will be drawn to Dr. Rice's free



MR. ROBERT COOPER.

offer. An elderly and retired Gentleman, Mr. Robert Cooper, Little Plumstead, Kent, England, is one of the hundreds attracted to this generous and unimpeachable, and as a result he is now completely cured of a bad rupture. Although 50 years of age he had the courage and determination to try this new and novel method, and now he lives in peace, comfort and security. Mr. Cooper looks back to the old days of cruel suffering, and in comparison feels the wonderful method of Dr. Rice as a merciful God sent to the present generation. He will be glad to write at once to Dr. W. S. Rice, Clerk, 11, and 9, Broadwater Street, London, E.C.4, and he will send you a free trial of his remarkable home cure for ruptures. There is no pain, danger, operation or loss of time; by starting now you will be cured and well by early spring.

There are upwards of 150 raspberry plantations in the Motueka district, the largest being 25 acres.

There are now 19 motor-cars in Christchurch, and that number will soon be considerably augmented.

Life in Wellington is getting tolerably lively just now. What with burglars, sneak-thieves and pickpockets, residents and visitors have to be on their guard both day and night.

A lecturer was holding forth on the evils of tight-lacing, which he illustrated by grim diagrams. A lady fainted, and it was found that it was through extravagant tight-lacing. She was the lecturer's wife.

Sir William Steward complains that even the Government Gazette mutilates Maori names. He remarks that in the Gazette of the 12th inst. the name of Pukehikihiki, the bill on which the John McKenzie cairn stands, is spelt Pukehiviti.

At the conclusion of one of the recent seasons at Durban the stage-manager stepped before the curtain to make a few remarks appropriate to the occasion, and in the course of his speech intimated that the company "would be going away for four weeks and would return in about five." He secured by this "Irishism" the biggest laugh of the evening; and it so tickled the famous comedian, Mr. Harry Nicholls, that before leaving the company to return to England he presented Mr. Howitt with the following effusion:

In loving memory of a certain valedictory speech, delivered in Durban, South Africa, June 30, 1902.

We may part from a friend with a smile or a sigh,
Or a nod, or a wink at the bar,
A fervent "God bless you, old fellow! Good bye!"
Or an offhand "So long!" or "Ta-ta,"
But what humour and pathos that man can convey,
In the few farewell words that he speaks,
When he says, "For a month, I am going away,
And shall be back again in five weeks."

A London cable published in the American papers of March 13 says: The Earl of Epsom, who last Sunday could only be considered moderately wealthy, is to-day one of the richest noblemen of Great Britain. He has come into possession of property and money amounting to millions of pounds. His enrichment was the result of a stipulation in the will of the third and last Duke of Bridgewater, that all his canal properties should be held under the Bridgewater trust, and nursed until one hundred years from the day of his death, when they were to descend to the rightful heir. The Duke of Bridgewater was the father of canals in England. Little care was taken of his education, and he grew up to be an about-town gambler and race-horse owner. Later he settled down, developed his collieries, and his big system of canals. He died, unmarried, in 1803. His will is in the British Museum.

Mr. William Alling, a millionaire jeweller, is pondering sadly over the maxim that "no man is a hero to his valet"—or coachman, certainly if these be of British breed. Mr. Alling sent to England for a coachman who "must have driven one of the nobility."

He engaged one Alexander Gordon. The sequel has been furnished in the Newark (U.S.A.) Police Court. "Because he" served the nobility in England," Mr. Alling informed the court, "he is imbued with contempt for the democratic institutions and homes of this country. He presumes to dictate to my wife as to when she shall leave the privilege of driving out in her own carriage. His haughty ways make our lives unbearable. I paid him his wages last Monday and discharged him, but he refuses

to be discharged, or to give up the rooms he occupies at my house."

"I've not been discharged," Gordon told the Judge. "I have a contract until February 12, and I won't go till then. I'm too high priced for Alling. He has not been used to a high-class coachman. That's all that's the matter with him."

Judge Lambert informed Mr. Alling that the case was one for the civil courts.

Bishopscourt at Parnell, the residence of the Bishop of Auckland, which some time ago was in some need of repair, has recently undergone complete renovation. The place has been painted inside and out, it has been re-roofed, all the drains have been fitted and relaid, new iron fencing has been erected around the grounds, and new fittings have been supplied inside the building. The bell tower has been repaired and re-roofed. The repairs have been so complete that Bishopscourt is now in first-class order, and, having been originally built of the very best material, it will last for many years to come. Several hundreds of pounds have been spent in the renovation work.

There were many unfinished phrases in the maiden speech with which Mr. Disraeli made his parliamentary debut, but one of them has become famous in the annals of oratory. "When the hurried Hudson rushed through the chambers of the Vatican, with the keys of Peter in one hand, and in the other—" the speaker began, and at this point the noise drowned his voice and the rest of the sentence was lost. Mr. Disraeli, whose reference was to a King's messenger named Hudson who was pursuing Sir Robt. Peel with a letter from the King summoning Peel to form a Government, had no chance of informing the House what Hudson had in his other hand, and the point has often been speculated upon. Even the well-informed Sir M. E. Grant Duff has ventured a theory on the subject, forgetting or not knowing that the matter was really cleared up in the lobby after "Dizzy" had sat down. "Though the speech was a failure, it was at least a brilliant failure, and congratulations poured in upon the young member from all sides. One of those who encouraged him was the Attorney-General of the time, who, though he had never seen Disraeli before, spoke to him with great cordiality and asked him to fill in the missing word. "Could you tell me just how you finished one sentence in your speech," said the Minister—"in one hand the keys of St. Peter, and in the other —?" "In the other the cap of liberty," Sir John," replied Disraeli, and the Attorney-General confessed that it was "a good picture." "But your friends will not allow me to finish in the pictures," said Disraeli, whom Sir John promptly assured that "there was the liveliest desire to hear you from us. It was a party at the bar, over whom we had no control; but you have nothing to be afraid of."

Last week the Premier received from the secretary of the Mallee Farmers' Relief Committee, Swan Hill, a letter which stated that owing to the drought farmers in Shire Castle and Donnington have been unable to harvest a single grain of the crop. The fund organised in Melbourne had enabled the committee to support over 200 families, but although the Government was advancing £100,000 for the purchase of seed wheat and fodder, it would not nearly suffice for the 3400 square miles that had to be sown. The committee accordingly solicited a contribution of seed wheat from New Zealand, and expressed its willingness to pay freight and Customs charges on any that might be sent.

The Premier replied:—"I may say that there is some misapprehension. The New Zealand Government never offered to subscribe seed wheat to individual parties or committees. New Zealand did, however, make an offer to the respective State Governments of Australia to interest itself in obtaining contributions of seed wheat and fodder. The replies generally were that the necessity for such help did not exist, the drought being broken up, etc., and there

the matter ended. I have given publicity to the application made, and should local authorities or private parties take the matter up I shall be glad to help in either carrying five of cost on our railways, or in any other way which seems meet."

The Auckland Harbour Board on March 31 adopted the recommendations of the Board in committee as follows:—"That the secretary be instructed to inform the Government that the Admiral has in writing notified the Board of his inability to make use of Admiralty House; that therefore the Board is of opinion that the house is not required for the purposes of the Admiralty House Act, 1898. The Board therefore, subject to the consent of the Governor, offers the house to the Government upon such terms as may be mutually agreed upon, a copy of the Admiral's statement to the chairman of the Board to be enclosed."

One of the most remarkable contrasts between society at the beginning of the nineteenth century and at the dawn of the twentieth is to be found in the ball-room of the period. The arts and graces of daily life, which were cultivated to such perfection—an almost too elaborate perfection—by our Georgian ancestors, disappeared apparently with the swords and ruffles and satins and brocades which then made men and women picturesque. To-day we see them only on the stage, divorced alike from chamber and salon, and even then they are so obviously artificial that they make us blush for shame at our own physical delinquencies. What would the young men and maidens who danced the minuet, the gavotte, and those other quaint old measures of pre-Victorian days with such ease and precision (remarks A. S. Cook-Suggitt in "Public Opinion") think of the wild horse scrambling to which the dancing of the present day has been degraded? What would they think of the clumsiness of the average man's waltzing, of the riotous confusion evolved from lazy reminiscences of the lancers, of the contempt with which the quadrilles are thrust aside and ignored, or of the mad stampeding cultivated in the barn dance (so-called, perhaps, because the rough floors of village inn club rooms, and the hob-nailed boots of shock-headed rustics supply the conditions under which it is most advantageously performed)? The astonishment and bewilderment with which the spectacle would fill them may be too easily conjectured.

The law, turning harsh looks upon all forms of gambling, particularly enacts that any person using a place for the purpose of betting with persons resorting thereto shall be liable to a deterrent penalty. Now what does this mean? Will the mere fact that bets are made at an hotel with people coming there constitute the offence, or must it be shown that the defendant has some sort of interest in the "place" before he can be said to be using it in the sense meant by the Legislature? These were the facts: One Scriven was the licensee of an inn in a picturesque part of England. Tromans was a professed bookmaker and Inault was his clerk. Tromans was in the habit of frequenting the bar, where he carried on the business of ready-money betting with anybody who chanced to be there. The circumstance of Tromans visiting the bar was known to the licensee; and there was some sort of understanding on the subject between Scriven and Tromans and his clerk. It was not shown that Tromans, or the clerk, had any refreshment at the inn, or was a customer, or, indeed, had any kind of interest in the hotel as such, or in the business carried on there, in any shape or form, nor did he occupy any specific part of the bar. Neither was there any proof that any of the persons who betted with Tromans took refreshment at the inn. The court, however, held that the lack of proof on these points was not material, and that the offence aimed at by the statute was complete upon evidence that Tromans frequented the bar for the purpose of betting. It may be assumed that the conviction of the defendant (which the magistrate had entered) might not have stood if it had been shown that the licensee had not tacitly or otherwise allowed the "use" of the premises by Tromans and his clerk. (Tromans v. Holzkison.)