

According to private advice received in Sydney, Sir Thomas Lipton has intimated that he is contemplating a trip to Australia and New Zealand next year.

Some expert cragsmen, led by Mr. S. W. Herford, who two years ago made the sensational girdle traverse of the cliffs of Seafell, have successfully negotiated the central buttress of Seafell, states the "Daily Mail," which had been regarded as an impossible climb. The wall of the central buttress rises sheer for several hundred feet. It is almost smooth, and stands in a class by itself. Few climbers are likely to emulate Mr. Herford's party's feat.

A number of deer were liberated about thirty years ago on the property of the late Mr. A. Buckland, at Kaipara Heads, and the game have now become very plentiful. At the last meeting of the Council of the Auckland Acclimatisation Society a letter was received from Mr. M. Buckland pointing out that the deer were becoming a pest, and asking that the writer and his friends should be allowed to shoot them irrespective of close seasons, and also that they should be permitted to bring carcasses to the city. Various opinions were expressed as to whether an exception could be made in the case of people wanting to shoot deer on their own property, but it was decided, on the advice of the president, to refer the matter to the Game Committee for a recommendation, to be tabled at the next meeting of the Council.

Within the last few months, much space in the English sporting papers has been given to the chamois and all concerning him; and in view of the fact that he is now likely to become a permanent resident in New Zealand, it is as well to have some idea of what we may expect from him in the way of trophies. I have seen the photograph, says a sportsman, of a head secured by that notable sportsman, Mr. Walter Winans, at Obertown, in Austria, on August 12th, and though supposed to be above the average, the horns measured only nine inches and three-quarters. This is just the least bit disappointing, but they do grow a trifle bigger than that. The record chamois was shot by Baron Schonberg, in Hungary, the horns measuring twelve and three-quarters of an inch. When you come to think of it, even those would not crowd the hall; but it may be that the change to a new country will produce a more vigorous growth.

The "Pall Mall Magazine" (now twenty-one years old and extremely proud of its majority) prints in its birthday number some entertaining remarks by Hilaire Belloc, headed, "Back from Abroad." He complains that the more he knows of countries or towns, the more surprised he is at the paucity and exiguity of any descriptive writing about them. It is not for the want of travellers or of publishers. For one book describing a strange country or corner thereof available to one man's reading a hundred years ago, there are now fifty or a thousand such available to the reading of all men; but they seem to have ceased to translate the foreign experience. The writers seem to have lost the power of transferring from their own consciousness to that of others the particular emotions of travel.

A pleasing little story concerning Lord Kelburn, captain of H.M.S. Pyramus, has got into circulation, and possesses the merit of being true (says the Napier "Telegraph"). His Lordship has a charming personality, which strongly impresses itself on all who meet him. Recently he paid a neighbourly call on the captain of the American schooner, H. D. Bendixsen, also at the breakwater. Lord Kelburn, who, as usual, made himself the very essence of sociability, created a lasting impression on the Yankee captain, who was telling his experience to another friend. The honoured one said that even in America, the home of democracy, such a visit would never have taken place, naval officers believing that it would be a lowering of their dignity

to visit the skipper of a miserable wind-jammer. "Why, the captain is Lord Kelburn," replied the friend. "Is that so? Well, you bally well wouldn't think so; he's a real gentleman. He's one of the best fellows I ever met."

At the annual meeting of the Waitaki Branch of the Waitaki-Waimate Acclimatisation Society, held in Oamaru, a member, in seconding the report, drew attention to the matter of poaching, and said he was quite certain that license-holders had not done as much as they could have done to prevent poaching, although he knew from his own knowledge that there had been less poaching this season than ever before. There was yet, he said, room for improvement, and it was time to take the matter up. He hoped the incoming Council would spend money to prevent poaching. Mr. Sumpter said he knew the Kakanui to be one of the best rivers in the Dominion for fly fishing, but there were those who doubted the wisdom of liberating fry in that river, as it contained millions of spawn. What they should do was to spend their money in protecting the fish that were already there. Netting at the mouth was a great drawback, and until this was stopped the Kakanui would never be as good as it could be. It was a great hardship, he knew, to interfere with those who engaged in mullet fishing at the river mouth, but he knew that a great number of trout were netted as well as mullet.

The remedy is that an individual traveller should not be ashamed of setting down the thing that struck him first and most vividly when he

Journey," and Venice in one or two other novels. With Domini, in "The Garden of Allah," many readers first realised the desert. "Lady Betty Across the Water" sees New York sky-scrapers appearing, "bright and vivid now, as giant hollyhocks growing in irregular rows." The rose fields of Rumania blossom in a novel by Dorothy Gerard; Dutch life stands translated in Una Silberrad's "Good Comrade." And the reading, but non-travelling, public, unfed, as Hilaire Belloc complains, by the writers of fact, buy ravenously the travels of fiction.

Lloyd's List, as a daily newspaper of the shipping world, is to be printed and published by the Corporation of Lloyd's from the 1st of next month. It is 218 years since a little two-page mercantile newspaper was "printed for Edward Lloyd, coffee-man, in Lombard Street, London." About 30 years ago Lloyd's List was united to Messrs. Spottiswoode's Shipping and Mercantile Gazette, and the return of of the former to Lloyd's marks the termination of the corporation agreement with that firm. The new paper will be issued from a special department of the great marine corporation at the Royal Exchange. It will consist of 24 pages. For the purpose of their paper Lloyd's calculate upon the arrival daily of some 4000 separate items of shipping news from all over the world. The scope will include matters connected with all general commerce, freights and cargoes, insurance, maritime and commercial law, and full space will be given to Parliamentary news. Articles will be given on topics of current interest,



WELL-KNOWN IN AUCKLAND RACING CIRCLES.—MESSRS. GORTON, HILL, Senn., and SPENCE.

saw a new land. For instance, Mr. Belloc knew, from many writers, all the correct things to be felt and known about Italy, but what struck him the first time he saw Italy was the colour of the houses. No book had prepared him for the astonishing effect produced to the eye by the absence of white. "Most French houses are dead white; most English ones grey on whitish, but here in Italy I saw whole streets and frontages along the sea bright green, bright yellow, bright red, and bright blue—as one used to see the world in childhood when one looked through coloured glasses to make it seem strange." Other petty matters had not been sufficiently dwelt on. "The loud noise of the crickets; the sight of a scorpion upon a marble floor; the permanent heat of the air; and even the waters of the sea; the openness of everything—an openness which made churches and palaces into thoroughfares."

As a matter of fact, it is the value of the individual impression that is making the fortune of the more astute novelist. He had the sense to perceive the trivialities which the writer of travels ignored, and through his characters, he may convey to the untravelled just the impressionist sketch desired. Hawthorne struck the right line in "Transformation." Who does not remember, through him, the smell of new bread in Rome? Howells gives us Niagara in "Their Wedding,

for Lloyd's intend to cater for commercial life as understood in its widest sense. The corporation's private signalling organisation, by semaphore, telegraph and wireless, augmented by arrangements with foreign Governments, will serve the newspaper.

Ten miles out of Peshawar, across the plain littered with the half-completed railway which we so politely abandoned at the wish of the Amir, stands the fort of Jamrud, which guards the great square mud-walled serai; where the caravan that is to march through the Khyber to-day, says E. F. Benson, in the "Pall Mall" magazine, was shut up last night for safety against excursions of marauding tribes; it guards, too, the entrance to the pass itself, which winds upwards for twenty-one miles through the barren hills till it reaches the boundaries of Afghanistan. For five days in the week the historic road lies empty and deserted but for the passage of native tribesmen and their herds, who live in the villages that are scattered by the roadside, or who burrow into the cave-dwellings with which they have honeycombed the porous rock, and on those days anyone who traverses the road, be he European or Afghan or Hindu, walks there at his own risk of any bullet that may come from behind the boulders of the hillside, for the Khyber is officially closed and the English guarantee nothing with regard to it. But on two days of the week, Tues-

day and Friday, when the pass is open for the caravans to go up from India into the unknown land beyond, bearing sheet iron and copper and petroleum for the use of the Amir and his subjects, and bringing back the balms and the fruits and the carpets of Central Asia, the pass is guarded throughout its length by pickets and outposts of the Khyber rifles, and though a man carried on his person the flower of Golconda diamonds and the cream of the pearls of Ceylon he would walk up the Khyber road in no less safety than he would make the noontide saunter down Piccadilly. The Rai has guaranteed the safety of the merchants that come from Afghanistan, and from end to end every yard of the road lies under the protection of keen eyes and loaded rifles.

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