

The Barrington Review

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GLIMPSES OF ROTHSCHILD.

His Fortune Was Heavy Burden to Baron Alphonse, French Banker. The late Baron Alphonse de Rothschild of Paris, who is now to be found at the head of the famous banking house and governor of the Bank of France, was a man of great culture as well as a worthy representative of his family as a financier, says the New York Times. He was also interested in sports, particularly racing.

There have been two attacks upon the French Rothschilds. The first was in 1818, when the father of Baron Alphonse, being besieged by peasant Socialists, received them and offered to give his visitors what was due should he divide his fortune among the people. He estimated that they should receive 5 francs each. The peasants left the old Baron in peace.

The second attack was upon Baron Alphonse. It took a more cowardly form. In September, 1885, a letter was sent him containing an explosive that would go off when the letter was opened. The letter was in the hands of a Polish Jew, M. Jodkowitz. He was thrown down by the detonation, but not seriously injured. Shortly afterward, M. Jodkowitz was in the hands of Baron Alphonse de Rothschild's charitable disbursements, which benefited the deserving of all faiths.

Notwithstanding all his wealth and influence, Baron Alphonse was an unhappy man. He found pleasure in his family life, in art and in music, but the care of his great fortune was a heavy burden. A visitor once found the baron in such a moody fit that he asked if he were ill. "I am not ill; I am crazy," was the reply. "I will never believe that you are crazy until I see you throwing your money out of the window," said the visitor. "All," said the baron, exhibiting a threatening letter. "I am crazy because I do not throw my money out of the window."

The baron had one strong superstition which he could not overcome, and that was that the number 13 was unlucky. When he was married he chose as his residence the hotel in the Rue St. George, in Paris, which had been the property of M. Peconator. The residence bore the number 13. When the baron saw the number he refused to enter the house until it was removed. When letters came addressed with the old number he refused to open them, and he offered 120 francs to the municipality, to be distributed among the poor, if the number were changed. The offer was accepted, and "13" was substituted.

The baron lost an eye in 1893 while on a hunting expedition through the carelessness of one of his guests. Being a strikingly handsome man, he felt the disfigurement keenly and said he would rather have had the top of his head blown off.

HAMMERING CURE FOR FAT. How Mallets Helped Stout Man to Reduce His Weight. THOMAS BURNETT Baldwin of the Pennsylvania railroad, a member of the New York Yacht and other clubs, who formerly was very stout, returned to New York from Europe the other day looking as athletic as a football player, says the New York Times. When Deputy Collector John Caspere Williams asked Mr. Baldwin how he reduced his weight the railroad man smiled and said: "I invented the remedy myself and here is the prescription: Every night for months, when the bed is made, get out in the bed came I wrapped two or three blankets around me. Then I lay flat on my back. Near by I had two big mallets such as marble cutters use. Taking a mallet in each hand, I began to pound myself and kept it up for half an hour or more. Then I removed the blankets and went to sleep. The mallets, not the blankets, did the work. I only used the blankets to lessen the force of the blows. It is a fine remedy and is just as good for rheumatism as it is for undue fat."

Japanese Post Cards in Battle. A collector of post cards in St. Petersburg states, according to the Philadelphia Public Ledger, that all the soldiers in the Japanese army are supplied with very peculiar post cards. These cards are surrounded with an artistic mourning border, printed on a piece of white silk, and are worn by the Japanese soldiers on their chests before going to the war they write on the post card the name and address of the person to whom they wish the information of their fate to be sent. In case of death on the field of battle the post cards are stamped with the seal of the regiment, certifying the death of the bearer, and are sent to Japan.

A Novel Invention. The Easthampton (N. Y.) Star notes that an Easthampton man of an inventive turn of mind is at work upon a mechanical device which, when placed upon a moving vehicle by a tracing line on a table the contour of the road over which the vehicle is drawn. He hopes by his invention to be able to determine with accuracy the danger of traveling at a speed greater than eight miles an hour over the roads.

Watch and Canteen in a Fish. Colonel S. P. Bartlett, Illinois fish commissioner, has received a letter

from C. Burdett of Florence, on the Illinois river, in which the writer states, according to a Quincy (Ill.) dispatch to the Chicago Record-Herald, that he recently caught a catfish weighing eighty-seven pounds. The catfish, which was found a watch, two pairs of sleeve buttons and a quart coffee-pot made of tin.

A SPIRITUALIST MECCA.

It of Church Expected to Make Leroy, Ill., Headquarters of Cult. A Spiritualist church is soon to be erected at Leroy, Ill., at a cost of \$25,000, says a Bloomington (Ill.) dispatch to the Chicago Record-Herald. The money is provided for in the will of J. T. Crumbaugh, a wealthy banker of Leroy, who died recently, aged eighty-seven. The will is dated four years ago.

The bequest is in the form of 1,100 acres of the richest farm land in central Illinois, worth \$200,000, from which the income is about \$10,000 yearly. The amount remaining after the church has been built will be used for the furtherance of the spiritualist belief.

While at present there are only about 100 members of the denomination in Leroy, it is believed that the Crumbaugh church will make the town the headquarters of the cult in the United States and that finally it will become the Mecca of believers from all parts of the world. The land shall be mortgaged or disposed of, but it is left "forever and ever" for the uses mentioned.

Mrs. Crumbaugh is an ardent Spiritualist and will see that the will of her husband is carried out both in letter and in spirit. Spiritualists say that the bequest of Mr. Crumbaugh is the result of direct inspiration from departed spirits, and that the Crumbaugh will was directed, just as the Leland Stanford, Jr., university was founded, under inspiration, as alleged, of the spirit of Senator Stanford's child.

The will also provides for the erection in Leroy of a free public library, and further provides that after her death Mrs. Crumbaugh's part of the estate, amounting to \$100,000, shall be retained to Spiritualistic uses.

TRIBUTE TO OUR WOMEN.

Physically and Intellectually They Lead the World's Civilization. Helen Jerome, special correspondent of the Age-Melbourne, one of the largest dailies of Australia, accompanied by her three-year-old daughter Carmen, recently reached New York on a mission that will take her practically around the world before it is completed, says the New York American.

Her itinerary includes a visit to the interior of Russia to learn the true conditions among the czar's subjects. She also plans a personal interview with the pope. "The people of Australia and especially the women, who now enjoy equal suffrage with the men, are greatly interested in the American women," she says. "Many conflicting stories are written about the American women—some of them are grotesque caricatures—and so my paper sent me here to study them and tell of their life and advancement, political and otherwise."

"I have written to ask that the American women be intellectually and physically the finest women of the world and slightly in advance of their sisters in Australia, who are easily in advance of the women of the remaining nations of the world. I am delighted with the results of my visit and have slowly traveled across the continent in order to study the women of different sections."

Mrs. Jerome visited Japan a year ago and is the author of "Japan of Today."

Leg Hat at Valley Forge. The Teachers of the American Revolution of Pennsylvania recently began

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

You can hardly find a home without Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. Parents know what it does for children: breaks up a cold in a single night, wards off bronchitis, prevents pneumonia. Physicians advise parents to keep it on hand.

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Without ceremony the erection of a big hut at Valley Forge on the site of one of the original huts built and occupied by Washington's army and not far from the home of Senator Knox, says a special dispatch from Norristown, Pa., to the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

The timber, some of which has been cut, will be taken from the hatched ground, much of it coming from the land donated by J. Heston Todd of Fort Kennedy to the promoters of the Washington Memorial chamber, from which it is not far distant. This hut will be built after the manner of those constructed by the New Jersey soldiers and not reared without a foundation, as were the huts of those soldiers from North Carolina, where the suffering was the greatest from exposure.

Concise Lecture on Panama Canal. A good example of conciseness and lecture is the discourse on the Panama canal delivered recently in a Vermont town, says the Boston Record. The lecturer was a summer resident, who has been holding forth at the hotel on Panama and the tropics to such an extent that the managers of a church festival hit on the brilliant idea of asking him to tell the church folk about the canal. The drummer accepted—he could not help it—and this is his lecture on the Panama canal.

"As I came into this church I noticed a ditch in the street, evidently for water pipes or something. Just imagine that ditch 200 times as wide, 200 times as deep and forty-seven miles long. And there you are. Good night."

Savory in Lunch. Electroplated lenses are among the latest French novelties, says the New York Post. The lenses are made of an electric current and are placed in a galvanic bath. Under the influence of a current of about three volts they become coated with an exceedingly delicate metal surface, the colors of which and other properties can be regulated at libitum. The coating is so fine that not the slightest irregularity can be noticed, and the lenses remain perfectly clear and bright. It makes no difference whether gold, silver, copper, bronze or other metals are employed.

Jap-a-Lac. Lamey & Co. have added to their stock of paints a complete line of Jap-a-Lac. It is made in the following colors: Oak, walnut, mahogany, cherry, malachite green, ox-blood red, brilliant black, dead black, natural ground, gloss white, flat white, emerald blue. It is sold in any quantity from one-half pint to a gallon.

Jap-a-Lac stains and varnishes by one application, and is the most durable floor finish on the market; also the best finish for all kinds of interior wood-work, where extreme durability is required. It is a great restorer of old wood-work, as it covers up all marks, scratches or discolorations, produces a brilliant and beautiful finish and can be successfully applied by an inexperienced person. It is not affected by hot or cold water, nor by soap and water, and does not mar white nor show hair marks when used on floors.

THE USE OF WORDS. Periodically some one brings up the idea that the average person uses but a very few words. Within a few weeks the collection of words which the contemporary young man has at command has been stated at sixty-five or less. There are words in plenty if people wish to master the use of them.

A very large vocabulary is not needed for fluent and correct speaking and writing. It has been said that educated people do not use for ordinary communication over ten words, and a number which looks small expressed in figures but is large when the words in common use are counted. Many, very many, words are repeated again and again in the same sentence. Ruskin said that when a person has made a choice of a word to convey a certain meaning it is all right to stick to it and use it even in frequent repetition. If an eye is fastened on a prominent large lot of words a good way is to set to work writing and memorize and then use them in writing and speaking over and over until they become fixed in the mind. It is a task of labor, but has its advantages.

Orky, the Russian revolutionary author, reads in the Russian language only, but it is said that he has read as much English literature as nine out of ten educated Englishmen have read in English. He read Shakespeare at fifteen years of age, when a cabin boy on a Volga steamer. He rejects in English literature everything tinged with asceticism or Puritanical restriction on human joyances. For Bret Harte, Kipling and Mark Twain Orky has unbounded praise.

The Chicago Examiner. THE EXAMINER, the leading morning paper of Chicago, has just announced a unique Proverb Educational Contest, in which it proposes to give away 50 prizes to successful contestants, ranging in value from \$5.00 to \$5,000. First prize, \$500.00; total amount to be given away, about \$3,000.00; contest commencing February 27th and containing one well-known proverb daily for fifty days.

This contest will create a widespread interest, and THE EXAMINER is advising that orders be given to the newsmen at once, or send one for a three months' mail subscription, and get the home and general newspaper published, addressing all orders to THE CHICAGO EXAMINER, Chicago, Ill.

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