

The Call

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THE OZAR AND THE KAISER.

WHILE reports from various capitals in Europe concerning the Macedonian muddle continue to be contradictory and confusing, it is becoming more and more evident that the only unknown factors in the problem are the Czar and the Kaiser.

Reports from Russia are too vague to mean anything, and even should a definite statement emanate from that quarter it would hardly help us to an understanding of the situation, for Russian statements and Russian intentions do not always agree.

As for the Kaiser, it is sufficient to note that his Government has refused to sign the joint manifesto with Great Britain, Austria and France. Evidently, then, the Kaiser has either decided to play a lone hand, or else he is going to assist the Czar.

Just what mutual interest there may be between the Kaiser and the Czar in the Macedonian disturbance is not easy to see. The Germans and the Russians do not like one another, and their antagonisms have been increased of late by tariff retaliations.

Moreover, their Asiatic enterprises have been antagonistic. The Germans have obtained a concession from the Sultan to construct a railway from the Bosphorus to the Persian Gulf, and for the purpose of heading it off the Russians have obtained a right of way from Persia to build a branch road from their Central Asian line southward to the gulf.

For ages past the Russians have aimed at an ultimate control of the Bosphorus, but now the Germans have virtually assumed a domination over the banks and railways of the Turkish empire and have a strong interest in preserving it.

Thus there are abundant reasons for conflict between the two powers and very little in the way of a common interest.

It is of course quite possible that the very menace of antagonism between them has led the Czar and the Kaiser to arrange a compromise and an agreement in dealing with the problem. If they have done so, it will be useless to speculate as to the terms.

Those Governments are not in the habit of taking the public into their confidence, and speculation would be lost in an effort to guess by what arrangement the interests of either of the powers could be conserved in Turkey should the other be permitted to have its way.

For a long time the jingoes of Germany have been forecasting the creation of a "Greater Germany," and maps have been published to show its extent. One of the maps, recently published by the National Review, presented a vast empire made up of Germany, Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Austria and Hungary.

This empire is to extend from the Baltic to the Adriatic, and from the German Ocean to the frontiers of Russian Poland. It contains a country which at present has upward of 100,000,000 of people. It dominates all Western Europe and constitutes an empire that would serve as an effective counterpoise to Russia no matter how she may develop in the future.

Kaiser Wilhelm can hardly be suspected of planning the attainment of such an empire by giving Russia a free hand in Turkey. An attempt to carry out the scheme would precipitate one of the most gigantic wars in the history of the world. Clearly such an empire is one to be dreamed of, but not to be worked for. It may please the stalwart jingoes of the fatherland to discuss it over their beer and their pipes, but it would require something of a madman to think of it as a possibility, and for all his extraordinary speeches the Kaiser has shown himself to be anything rather than a madman.

In the meantime while speculation halts at the problem of an alliance between the Kaiser and the Czar on the Macedonian problem, the force of circumstances is steadily tending toward a point where they will be compelled to play their hands out. The Macedonians and the Bulgarians appear resolved to put an end to diplomacy in the closet, and force an open recognition of their claims. The Sultan, on the other hand, appears to be as ready for war as any of them. He has a good army well equipped that is ready to fight without pay. He whipped the Greeks very easily and he believes he can whip the Bulgarians and Macedonians with an equal facility. In that belief he is doubtless right, but the powers that left Greece at his mercy will not be so indifferent toward Macedonia. The situation, therefore, is really threatening, and will so continue as long as the will of the Kaiser and that of the Czar remain unknown factors in the problem.

The Central American states which are striving to raise the storm and stress of a war cloud over themselves should leave nature attend to their differences. The volcanoes in the pesky region seem able to do all the killing that is necessary to preserve peace if not prosperity.

DISCIPLINE AND TORTURE.

BETWEEN punishment which ends in the enforcement of discipline, and the infliction of that excessive punishment which becomes torture, the distinction is wide and plain to see. It ought not to be difficult for any one to note it and to keep it in view when giving consideration to the general subject of prison administration. It appears, however, that the recent disclosures concerning the use of the straitjacket in the State prisons have had the effect of confusing a good many people, and unless care be taken to recall attention to the wide difference between discipline and torture, we may have either a legislative restriction that will seriously interfere with prison discipline, or else none at all, leaving the way open to excessive punishments.

The Call was first to expose the cruelty of the straitjacket punishment as sometimes applied. Every charge made by The Call has been amply sustained by the evidence submitted to the legislative committee of investigation, and confirmed by the official report of that body. That there is much in the evidence to occasion profound feeling among those who have any sympathy with the unfortunate inmates of prisons is unquestionable, but now that the Legislature is called upon to deal with the subject by statute, it is necessary to remind the law makers that legislation should not be based on sentiment. Emotional enactments are never advantageous. The issue is one to be considered calmly and conservatively. In no other way can it be rightly settled.

The object to be attained is that of safeguarding the convicts against cruel punishments inflicted either in passion or from a disregard for humanity, while at the same time leaving in the hands of the prison officials ample power to make use of punishments sufficiently severe to restrain even the most incorrigible criminals. It is not to be expected that hardened and vicious criminals can be governed by gentle means. If they are to be punished at all the punishment must be something that hurts. It must be of a nature so severe that the desperate will dread it and obey the rules and orders of the prisons rather than subject themselves to it.

There ought to be no great difficulty in devising a means of preventing torture while leaving ample room for the exercise of punishment as a means of enforcing discipline. It is for the Legislature to make such provision. If the subject be approached calmly and judiciously it will be an easy task. If, on the other hand, there be an effort to satisfy sentimentalists on the one side, or to ignore the barbarities of excessive punishments on the other, the result is certain to be unsatisfactory. Either the prison officials will be deprived of powers absolutely necessary to the government of the prison, or else no restriction will be put upon them at all.

The evils that have followed the use of the straitjacket in many cases are to be deplored. Something must be done to prevent anything that may even so much as approach the torture of an unfortunate inmate of the prisons, no matter how vicious and dangerous he may be. On the other hand there must be strict discipline. There is no disputing the fact that prison administration in California is mild as a rule; much milder than that of older States; so mild in many respects that a good many habitual criminals have no fear whatever of a sentence to penitentiary. The result is that a considerable percentage of the convicts are bold, impudent, unruly, reckless and menacing. In proportion to the numbers of the convicts, the guards are few. If discipline were relaxed, and if the fear of severe punishment were wholly removed from the mass of convicts, there would be imminent danger of outbreaks that would end in murder.

Let it be repeated that it is easy to distinguish between punishment and torture, between discipline and cruelty. There should be no confusion of the two. Only by taking a conservative course can the Legislature do justice to the issue and conserve alike the spirit of humanity and the enforcement of discipline.

A New York newspaper having referred to Marconi as an "Anglo-Italian," an indignant correspondent wrote to warn the editor that if Marconi ever hears of the matter he will give the editor a thrashing, for Marconi's mother is Irish; and thus do well-meaning men get into trouble when trying to pay compliments to distinguished foreigners.

MASSACHUSETTS BIRTH RATE.

PRESIDENT ELIOT'S recent report for Harvard University is marked by two salient features. First, a plea for denying admission to professional schools to all applicants who have not taken the degree of bachelor of arts; and second, a statement based upon reports from six classes graduating from 1872 to 1877, inclusive, that Harvard men are not begetting children enough to reproduce their numbers.

The latter statement has produced the greater impression upon the public, and to some extent has been misrepresented. In the report itself President Eliot gives a detailed statement in tabular form of the number of marriages and the number of children for each of the six classes, the totals being 881 graduates, of whom 634 are married with 1262 surviving children. Commenting on the statistics the report says: "It is not probable that many more children will be born to these graduates, unless, indeed, few may have married women much younger than themselves. It is assumed that the surviving children are about one-half males; it follows that these six classes have by no means reproduced themselves; that they have indeed fallen 28 per cent short of it."

President Eliot goes on to add: "The table suggests further that the highly educated part of the American people does not increase the population at all, but on the contrary fails to reproduce itself. If many other colleges and universities publish class reports analogous to the Harvard reports, a competent statistician might establish from the assembled reports some interesting and important conclusions."

It will be seen President Eliot does not assert positively that the more highly educated classes do not reproduce themselves, but only that the Harvard graduates do not. It is quite probable that statistics of the graduates of universities in other sections of the country would show quite a different state of things. Harvard draws most of her students from New England, and it has been noted for some time past that the birth rate of the people of that section has been very low, and the fact has been conspicuous among the graduates of the common schools as among those of the universities.

Almost simultaneously with the publication of the Harvard report there was published the annual report of births, marriages and deaths registered in Massachusetts. The one throws a good deal of light upon the other. A summary of the report on the birth rates says: "The rate, calculated on the estimated population of 2,870,710, is only 25.07 to 1000 of the living population, less than that of the previous year, and the least since 1882. The marriage rate of 8.67 to 1000 (or when reckoned by persons married, instead of

by marriages, 17.34 to 1000), is scarcely more encouraging, for it is less than the rate of the previous year, and shows a decrease of .42 below the average rate for the ten-year period just closed. The death rate during the year (16.82 to 1000), is the least since the year 1851, so that the excess of births over deaths (8.26) is favored by other conditions than increase in number of children. A table showing excess of birth rates over death rates in five-year periods for half a century makes a favorable showing in later years, partly through this same cause, a decrease in death rates, rather than increase in birth rates. From 1870 to 1890 the excess shows a decreasing tendency, but from 1890 on a favorable tendency."

It is noted further that in Massachusetts the children of foreign born mothers are largely in excess of the children of native mothers, so that the showing is much better than it would be were not Massachusetts helped out by immigration. From such statistics it seems safe enough to draw the conclusion that the charge of a lack of reproduction runs not against the Harvard graduates only, but against the people of Massachusetts generally. The birth rate in that State, even when helped out by counting in the children of foreign born parents, is lower than the rate of any country in Europe with the exception of France.

A lecture on the philosophy of Hindostan told a woman's club in New York the other day that in the lore of the Brahmins there are recorded eighty-seven ways by which a woman can get rid of a lover, but it is safe to say none is better than the American woman's way of tapping his pocketbook incessantly for caramels and ice cream.

ALTON B. PARKER.

OWING to the vigor with which Judge Alton B. Parker of New York is being recommended as a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency in 1904 there has developed a good deal of curiosity concerning him. Up to the time of the beginning of his boom, the Judge was absolutely unknown outside of New York, and but little known there; and as a consequence the sudden springing of his name as a Presidential possibility has been received with more of wonder than anything else. Republicans as well as Democrats are asking who is he and what has he done?

Naturally enough the Southerners are taking more interest in him than the people of any other section of the country, because the appeal for support on his behalf is made mainly to them. Over and over again efforts have been made to bring Southern men to declare for him at this early date, and it is evidently the tactics of his boomers to bring the solid South to the next convention as a unit for Parker and by that means give him a prestige at the start that will go far toward overcoming the Bryanite phalanx of the West.

Under such circumstances it is impossible to keep Parker any longer as a dark horse. Diligent search has been made of his record and his life is now being made known to the public. The Atlanta Constitution has taken part in exploiting his career by the publication of an elaborate review of his life, and we learn from it that even a favorable reviewer cannot make the career impressive. In fact, the Judge appears to have led a good, honest life, marked by a high degree of success at the bar, but without any service which has rendered him distinguished above his colleagues.

The reviewer says: "The history of Alton B. Parker's boyhood and youth reads like the history of the boyhood and youth of ninety-five out of one hundred other lads." He is now 52 years old and what was said of his boyhood might almost as well be written of his manhood, though by way of giving him something of repute the reviewer says he was "regarded as a remote possibility for the nomination as far back as 1892."

Parker was born in Cortland County, New York, and studied at Cortland Academy, afterward graduating from the Albany Law School in 1871 and beginning the practice of law at Kingston, which has ever since been his home. We are told that he once took a prominent part in a fight for the Speakership of the New York Assembly, but his candidature was defeated by an opposition candidate supported by Daniel Manning. It is added: "Judge Parker was always a strong partisan, and was chosen as delegate to several State and national conventions, in all of which he played the role of adviser rather than talker. He is generally thought to have been largely instrumental in bringing about the first nomination of Mr. Cleveland."

It is rather late in the day to boom Parker as the man who was instrumental in nominating Cleveland, and the assertion sounds much like a fish story, but it must be borne in mind that something has to be said for Parker, and as the things that can be well said are few, his friends must be permitted a large liberty in the eulogies.

During the New York faction fight between Cleveland and Hill, Judge Parker sided with Hill and was rewarded by appointment to a vacancy in the Supreme Court and afterward to a position in the Court of Appeals. In 1897 he was elected Chief Justice of that court. Then the reviewer adds: "Aside from the judicial positions mentioned and his campaign work for his friend, Mr. Benedict, in the latter's Speakership contest, Judge Parker's active participation in practical politics has been limited to his efforts as chairman of the executive committee of the Democratic State Committee during Mr. Hill's successful 1885 campaign for the Governorship."

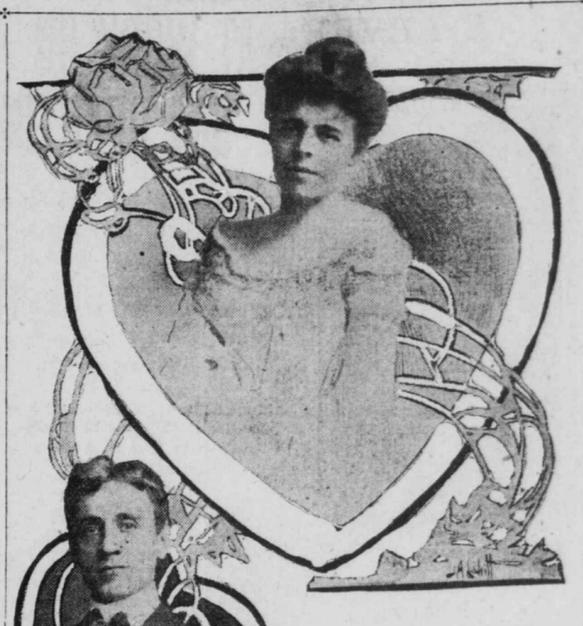
That is the total of the man's political record. For the rest we are told that his physique is splendid; that he looks not more than 40; he is at ease in any company, and has the faculty of adapting himself to any surroundings. It is a happy faculty to have, and if the Judge has any eager desire to be President, he might as well rejoice in his ability to adapt himself to defeat.

A curious illustration of the petty spite and jealousy that exist in high society circles in Washington is found in the recent report that a grand reception at the White House was made as uncomfortable as possible for everybody by the officer in charge for the purpose of discrediting the alterations made by the architect. That of course is the story told by the architect's friends. On the other hand, the friends of the officer assert that the architect has really made the building about as drafty as a barn.

The Pennsylvania Legislature is discussing the advisability of reducing the State poll tax from \$1 to 50 cents. As voters are required to pay the tax before they can cast a ballot, it is believed the bill is in the interest of economy, as it will make it much cheaper for the bosses to fit their gangs for the exercise of the franchise.

While Carnegie is dispensing millions for libraries, Croker is buying race horses, and of the two the latter is doubtless getting rid of his money the quicker and is least in danger of what Carnegie called "the disgrace of dying rich."

ETHEL KITTREDGE WEDS YOUNG BUSINESS MAN



BUSINESS MAN AND SOCIETY GIRL MARRIED YESTERDAY. PHOTOGRAPHS BY HEBENTHY.

have announced that the sale of tickets for the ball will not close until this afternoon. It was at first decided that the sale should close on Saturday, but the demand has been so great that the directors consented to extend the sale. Those having charge of the Mardi Gras ball find that the list of invitations sent out was very imperfect, owing to the fact that a number of names which should have been placed on the list were omitted. Therefore they have decided to allow those wishing tickets to put in an application at the secretary's office to be considered.

A quiet but charming home wedding was that of Miss May Palmer, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. George H. Palmer, to Dr. Richard F. Tomlinson at the home of the bride at 9 o'clock last evening. The ceremony was performed by Dr. George Adams, pastor of the First Congregational Church. The wedding was quiet owing to the recent death of the groom's father, and only a few of the most intimate friends of the bride and groom were present. Pink was the prevailing color of the decorations. The bride was attired in a beautiful gown of white crepe, over which fell the folds of a bridal veil. She also carried a large bouquet of bride roses. The maid of honor, Miss Gertrude Palmer, sister of the bride, was attired in white chiffon over pink and carried a beautiful bouquet of American Beauty roses. Dr. Nelson Crooks of Santa Barbara acted as best man. After a short wedding tour of the south the couple will return to the city, where they will make their home.

Mrs. A. S. Baldwin gave a luncheon yesterday in honor of her niece, Miss Porter. The house was beautifully decorated for the occasion with daffodils and ferns. Those present were: Miss Julia Garber, Miss Frances Harris, Miss Harvey Anthony, Miss Amy Porter, Miss Della Mills, Mrs. Charles Lyman Bent, Miss Charlotte Ellwood, Miss Lottie Woods, Miss Maude Woods, Miss Helen Allen and Miss Alice Willis.

The Misses Mary and Gertrude Jonsely gave a very pretty luncheon to a number of their young friends at their home yesterday. Among those present were: Miss Ruth McNutt, Miss Buckley, Miss Allen, Miss Emily Wilson, Miss Maud Bourn, Miss Mary L. Ford, Mrs. William Dean, Miss Katherine Herrin, Miss Elsie Sperry, Miss Moore, Miss Genevieve King, Miss Hazel King, Miss Spreckels and Miss Jolliffe.

Mrs. George Habenthy will entertain at euchre this afternoon complimentary to Miss Mazie Crowley.

Mrs. Marcus Daly, widow of the well-known millionaire of Anaconda, Mont., has taken apartments at the Palace, with Mrs. H. Carroll Brown, wife of a prominent banker of Baltimore.

Miss Lily Knoll of Los Angeles is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Alton R. Vaughn at their home, 2725 Pine street.

The national president of the Woman's Relief Corps, Mrs. Ludusky Y. Taylor, of Minnesota, will be the guest of honor at a reception at Utopia Hall to-day from 3 to 6 p. m.

Mrs. Joseph Masten will be at home on Thursday and Friday of this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Levene announce the engagement of their daughter, Lena, to Daniel Harns of this city.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Spreckels have taken apartments in the Oliver Hotel.

The reception given last Thursday afternoon by Mrs. E. C. Prier and her daughters, Miss Linda and Miss Lucy, at their residence on Scott street, was most successful and enjoyable. The hostesses were assisted in receiving by Mme. Tojetti, Mrs. C. Schilling, Mrs. J. W. Stetson, Mrs. L. Jockers, Mrs. W. Winterberg, Mrs. A. Runyon, Mrs. J. Brandt, Mrs. O. Schiller, Miss McKeown of Victoria, Miss de Frenere, Miss Edna Volkman, Miss Ella Hess, Miss Hochstein, Miss W. W. Stetson, Miss O. Epstein, Miss de Boom and Miss Kreutzmann. Among the guests were:

Mrs. Charles Hildebrecht, Mrs. E. Roelker, Mrs. C. C. Morse, Mrs. Mark Sheldon, Miss Shields, Miss Lavinia, Mrs. Blom, Mrs. John Farnham, Mrs. William Abbott, Miss Louise Hepper, Miss Mabel Phillips, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. A. Jackson, Mrs. Charles Bunduchi, Mrs. Ernest Denicke, Mrs. M. F. Hay, Mrs. Sexton, Miss Musto, Miss Elise Roelker, Miss Alma Callahan, Mrs. Keyston, Mrs. J. Fay, Mrs. C. Bertheau, Miss Paula Hoff, Miss Adelaide Samuels, Miss M. E. Donnelly, Misses Zwinge, Mrs. L. Ford, Mrs. William Dean, Mrs. Newton Rosecrans, Mrs. R. Carmany, Miss Jean Peter, Miss M. B. Bann, Mrs. Bann, Mrs. George Meyer, Mrs. Reuben Hale, Miss Helen Speyer, Mrs. Root, Mrs. F. Hess and Miss Lillian Quinn.

The directors of the Mardi Gras ball

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

CONSPICUOUS IN A BALLROOM. Flakes of Dandruff on the Collar and Shoulders of a Gentleman in Full Dress.

This is the thing you quite frequently see in the ballroom—a man's black dress coat literally covered with dandruff. It must be annoying to the wearer, and certainly not a pleasant thing to observe. But dandruff can be eradicated. It is a germ disease that will some day cause baldness. Newbro's Herpicide kills the hair-destroying germ and stimulates the hair to a rich, abundant growth; it does more—keeps the hair soft and pliant. Furthermore, Herpicide is a most pleasant toilet accessory; pleasing of odor and cooling to the scalp. Sold by leading druggists. Send for stamps or sample to The Herpicide Co., Detroit, Mich.

ALHAMBRA RINGS WITH SCOTLAND'S SWEET MELODIES

Even to the whiskies on the programme of the "Kilties" concert yesterday everything was the bravest of brave Scotch. Mascagni Sunday, and William F. Robinson, Gordon Highlander, with a regiment of bonnie Scotchmen at his heels yesterday at the Alhambra—so the baton wags. And 'twas a piquant and suggestive contrast. Pantomime comes as hardly to the true Gael as it comes easily to the Latin, and their regimental ethics would blackball a Robinson a la Creator. Still, one would gladly welcome a crease or two in the regimental starch, and it's there behind scenes, for the zip and spirit of the performance amply proves that Mr. Robinson does take off his coat to very good purpose on occasion. But 'tis oh! and it's oh! for a bit of the Creator's ginger.

It is no true "hot man" who will miss hearing the "Kilties." One gets almost the scent of the heather, the babble of the wee bit burnie, the sweep of white cloud-topped hills, even the tatty tang of the oat cake as one listens to the Scotch air.

Forty men at least there are in the band, in the full glory of the Gordon Highlanders' regimentals. They make a brave show as they march on with military precision, with their tartans and kilts of Gordon plaid, their calmgrogs and their phibags adorning their hands and waists six feet. A great drum major, maybe a pompadour short of 7 feet, and the longest gentleman in Canada, leads the regiment.

The "Kilties'" virtue in chief is precision; that they reach to a most creditable degree. There are many excellent executants in the band, playing with full, sweet, sure tone and large technical facility. The clarionets are strong, there are two fine cornets, good trombones, and in fact, there is full weight for your money in the "Kilties." Wisely, their programmes are distinctively Scotch, though it is true that the Rossini "William Tell" opened yesterday's list. But it is in the Scotch melodies, "Ye Mins and Braces," "Dunrobin Gray," "There is no Luck About the House," and so on that the band particularly shines, and these are indeed worth hearing. Still, there was a splendid rendering of "King Dodo" scenes that went with any amount of vim and clean, snappy accent.

The "Master" programme does not depend wholly on the band, however. There is Pipe Sergeant Ferguson on the pipes, and with a virtuosic handling of the drone that should lure a true Scotchman as far as the Fied Piper drew the children. Master Eugene Lockhart, an agile small boy, does a Highland fling to admiration, and David Ferguson sets the feet a-tingle with his quicksilver hornpiping. Harry Hawes in an effective trombone solo, J. Coates Lockhart, a tenor of rather innocent attainment, and the "Kilties'" choir that marched only to the tune of "Annie Laurie" constituted the rest of the attractions. The band will play all this week, both afternoon and evening. BLANCHE PARTINGTON.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Dr. D. Smith of Livermore is at the Palace. L. L. Green, the Oroville banker, is at the Grand.

Dr. R. F. Winchester of Santa Barbara is at the Palace.

A. W. Fergusson, a large landowner of Colusa, is at the Grand.

Louis Conrade, a mining man of Marysville, is at the Russ.

S. Potter, who owns a large ranch near Martinez, is at the Grand.

W. C. Ruddle, a cattleman of Lovelocks, Nev., is at the Russ.

A. T. J. Reynolds, a fruit grower of Walnut Creek, is at the Lock.

A. W. Fergusson, executive secretary for the Philippine Islands, and his wife and son arrived from the East yesterday and are registered at the Palace. Mr. Fergusson left the Philippines on October 1, returning home by way of the Suez canal, and has been in Washington for several weeks. He is now on his way to Manila.

William A. and Robert A. Pinkerton, the well known detectives, are due here in a few days. The former, accompanied by E. H. Moon of St. Paul and several others, including Joseph Eppinger of this city, will leave for the Orient on the steamer Siberia on March 11. They expect to make a tour of India before returning to this country.

Miss M. White, who is said to be one of the wealthiest young women in New South Wales, is a guest at the Palace. She is the daughter of H. C. White of Sydney and niece of Sir James White. Both father and uncle are largely interested in various enterprises in the colonies and have great reputations as the breeders of fast horses. Miss White is quite famous in her country as an athlete and is regarded as an expert horsewoman. She is traveling for pleasure.

Ex. strong hoarhound candy. Townsend's. Townsend's California glaces fruit and candies, 50c a pound, in artistic fire-stitch boxes. A nice present for Eastern friends. 629 Market st., Palace Hotel building.

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