



VOL. II.—No. 46.] WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1888. [ONE PENNY.

Shadows Before THE COMING EVENTS.

- THURSDAY.—LIBRARY.—Open from 9 a.m. till 10 p.m., free.
CYCLING CLUB.—Usual run to Woodford.
GYMNASIUM.—Leaders' Meeting, at 8.
- FRIDAY.—LIBRARY.—Open from 9 a.m. till 10 p.m., free.
CYCLING CLUB.—General Meeting, at 8.30.
- SATURDAY.—LIBRARY.—Open from 9 a.m. till 10 p.m., free.
CONCERT.—Queen's Hall, at 7.30.
FOOTBALL CLUB.—First XI., at Wanstead; Second XI., at Wimbledon (v. Polytechnic Football Club.)
CYCLING CLUB.—Run to Lambourne End.
CRICKET CLUB.—First XI., Leyton (v. Eton Mission Cricket Club). Last Match of the Season.
PALACE SCHOOLS ATHLETIC CLUB.—Trial Matches at Wanstead.
RAMBLERS.—No Ramble.
- SUNDAY.—ORGAN RECITALS at 12.30 and 4.
LIBRARY.—Open from 3 till 10, free.
- MONDAY.—LIBRARY.—Open from 9 a.m. till 10 p.m., free.
GYMNASIUM.—Opens for the Season.
SHORTHAND SOCIETY.—Meet at 8.
- TUESDAY.—LIBRARY.—Open from 9 a.m. till 10 p.m., free.
DRAMATIC CLUB.—General Meeting, at 8.
- WEDNESDAY.—LIBRARY.—Open from 9 a.m. till 10 p.m., free.
CONCERT.—Queen's Hall, at 8.
SOCIAL DANCES' COMMITTEE.—General Meeting, at 8.30.

Organ Recitals,

On SUNDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 30th, 1888,
IN THE QUEEN'S HALL.

AT 12.30 AND 4 P.M.

AT 12.30. ORGANIST, MR. ALFRED HOLLINS.

1. Sonata, No. 1, F minor Mendelssohn.
2. Slow movement in F Haydn.
3. Fugue in C major Bach.
4. Introductory Voluntary in A F. Turner.
5. { (a) Air, "Come unto Him" } (Messiah) Handel.
 { (b) Chorus, Hallelujah }

AT 4.0. ORGANIST, MR. ALFRED HOLLINS.

1. Introduction and Fugue in E minor Raff.
2. Slow movement in F, from the 1st Symphony Beethoven.
3. Air from suite in D Bach.
4. Two short Voluntaries in G and C Hopkins.
5. Air, "Jerusalem, thou that killest the Prophets" (St. Paul).. .. . Mendelssohn.
6. March Religieuse Guilmant.

Notes of the Week.

THE sad death of Mr. Jameson, following so closely upon the murder of Major Barttelot, induces one to speculate as to whether these exploring parties do an amount of good commensurate with the suffering they inflict and the valuable lives they waste. It is perhaps necessary that attempts to civilize Africa should be made by European Governments, but considering the treachery and great geographical difficulties that have to be faced by explorers, it is certain these expeditions should only be undertaken with the greatest caution and foresight which shall be prepared for all emergencies.

DR. OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES, author of the "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table," the "Professor," and other delightful books, selects the following as the best three books:—The Bible, Shakspeare's plays, and a good dictionary—say, Worcester or Webster. Regarding the theatre he thinks that "A young man of good taste and good principles may safely go to see a good actor in a good play." In answering the question, "Shall we smoke?" he says "Certainly not. It is liable to injure the sight, to render the nerves unsteady, to enfeeble the will, and enslave the nature to an imperious habit likely to stand in the way of duty to be performed."

MARSHAL BAZAINE, who died on Sunday last, had an exceptional career. He rose from the rank of a private soldier to be a Marshal of France, and first distinguished himself in Africa where perpetual conflicts with the Arabs were taking place in 1859. Against the Austrians in Italy his division of the First Army Corps specially distinguished itself, and on his return to France he received the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour. The catastrophe of Metz, however, somewhat damaged Bazaine's brilliant reputation, and he was afterwards charged with failure of military duty, found guilty, and sentenced to loss of decorations, rank, and death. A memorial to the Minister of War was then immediately signed, and the capital sentence commuted to twenty years' detention.

SOME excellent free popular lectures will be given on Saturday evenings at the Working Men's College, in Bloomsbury. Amongst others, Mr. Gilkes, the Head Master of Dulwich, will lecture on "Hamlet"; Archdeacon Farrar on "The Bible"; Mr. St. George Mivart on "Knowing and Doing"; Professor Lowne on "Sun Pictures and Brain Pictures," and Mr. Raleigh on "Gambetta."

THE LORD CHANCELLOR has an interesting question before him at the present moment, in the shape of a proposal to include the names of several representative working men as magistrates for West Bromwich. If the best type of working men have been found sensible, practical, upright—it is to be hoped that the proposal will not be rejected. On the other hand the tendency nowadays to think that it is the "democrat" alone who ought to be entrusted with ruling power, is a little absurd to say nothing else. Surely a man belonging to the class which has leisure, education, and superior opportunities for forming a judgment on men and affairs, is likely to be a better administrator than a mason or carpenter who has none of these advantages?

SOME amusing specimens of examination answers are given in the Annual Report on Education in Scotland. Here for instance are some queer views on the subject of sacred history:—

"Mosses was an Egyptian. He lived in an ark made of bull rushers, and he kept a golden calf and worshipped brazen snakes, and et nothing but kwales and manna for forty years. He was caught by the hair of his head while riding under the bough of a tree, and he was killed by his son Absalom as he was hanging from the bough."

"The Nile is the only remarkable river in the world. It was discovered by Dr. Livingstone, and it rises in Mungo Park."

The definitions of words are very funny.
"Blackguard—one who has been a shoeblack."
"Heathen," we are told, "means covered with heath," and so on.

The *St. James's Gazette* reminds us of one or two other good stories. For instance there was a scholar who told the surprised and amused examiners that "the Saxons retired to rest in the time of the Heptarchy in a state of nudity, and laid upon a bed of straw—they were so eminently social"; and another lad who remarked that "Nelson was buried in St. Paul's Cathedral amid the groans of a dying nation."

THE Football season, says the *Standard*, which, so far as the south of England is concerned, will open in the course of a few days, promises to be a busy and important one. Already a team of Association players from Canada has met several clubs in Ireland and Scotland, where—as in the north of England—the season begins much earlier than in the south, and there will soon be on our shores a Maori team of Rugby players. The tours of these visitors will excite considerable interest; but amongst followers of the Association game attention will be mainly concentrated upon the working of the new scheme under which the National Cup Competition is to be conducted. In place of the "weeding-out" process there will be in the future a "qualifying competition" and a "Cup competition," and the number of clubs admitted to the actual struggle for the Cup will be limited to thirty-two. In the "qualifying" competition the clubs will play in ten separate divisions; and the best club of each division will afterwards enter the "Cup competition," together with the four that took part in the semi-final round in the previous year, and eighteen selected by the Council of the Association. Rugby Union players will be curious to see how the Maoris, who are shortly to be amongst us, will figure in the contests against the crack home clubs. The twenty players who are coming from New Zealand, include seventeen Maoris, and it is said they are good "dribblers" and "tacklers," and very quick, though somewhat inefficient, in the important matter of "passing." In point of size and weight the Maoris will be formidable opponents. Two of them are over six feet in height, and each of the two weighs nearly fifteen stone, while the average weight of the team is about twelve stone and a half. Before beginning a match they stand in a group and shout a war cry at the top of their voices. Though it viewed and still views the visit of English players to Australia with suspicion, the English Rugby Union has taken the New Zealand team under its patronage, doubtless because the players only ask that they shall receive a portion of the gate money in order to cover their bare expenses. And if they really intend to play three or four matches a week it will be reassuring to them to know that there are plenty of hospitals here. Under the best of circumstances there must be an element of danger in football, and it is, therefore, all the more necessary that wanton violence and intentional foul play should be sternly repressed. It is necessary for the repute of the game that those who are inclined to display too little regard for the limbs of their opponents should be made to understand that, unless they check their natural impulses, they will be prohibited from playing for any recognised club.

HERE is a delightful story of the friendship between a pigeon and a dog. The Rev. Alfred Ainger, writing to the *Spectator* from Tullibelt, Bankfoot, Perth, says:—"At this delightful house in Perthshire, where I am on a visit, there is a well-bred pointer named 'Fop,' who, when not engaged in his professional pursuits on the moor, lives chiefly in a kennel placed in a loose-box adjoining the other stables attached to the house. Nearly a year ago there were a pair of pigeons who lived in and about the stable yard. One of the birds died and its bereaved mate at once attached itself for society and protection to the dog, and has been its constant companion ever since. On the days when the sportsmen are not seeking grouse, the dog is in his kennel, and the pigeon is his close attendant. She roosts on a rack over the manger

of the stable, and in the daytime is either strutting about preening her feathers, taking her meals from the dog's biscuit and water-tin, or quite as often sitting in the kennel by his side, nestling close to him. 'Fop,' who is an amiable and rather sentimental being, takes no apparent notice of his companion, except that we observe him, in jumping into or out of his kennel while the pigeon is there, to take obvious care not to crush or disturb her in any way. The only other symptom 'Fop' has shown of being jealous for the pigeon's comfort and convenience, is that when, of late, two chickens from the stable-yard wandered into the apartment where the dog and pigeon reside, he very promptly bit their heads off, as if in mute intimation that one bird is company, and two (or rather three) are none. The story is rather one of a pigeon than a dog; for it is quite evident that she is the devoted friend, and that he acquiesces in the friendship. On the days when 'Fop' is taken, to his infinite delight, on to the moor, the pigeon is much concerned. She follows him as far as she dare, taking a series of short flights over his head, until a little wood is reached, through which the keeper and the dogs have to take their way. At this point her courage fails her, and she returns to the stable to wait hopefully for her comrade's return. I may add that the pigeon is of the kind called 'Jacobin,' and is white with a black wing."

Society and Club Notes.

[NOTE.—Any Club Report arriving after the LAST POST on MONDAY NIGHT cannot possibly be accepted for the current week.]

BEAUMONT HARRIERS.

The opening run of the above Club will take place on Saturday, October 6th, from Head-quarters, "Forest Gate Hotel," Forest Gate, at 4 o'clock p.m. The Club photo will be taken that day, and it is hoped that all Members, both old and new, will get to Head-quarters as early as possible. A good muster is expected, and under the guidance of our Hon. Sec. we are sure to have a good afternoon's sport. Tea and Smoker to follow. Visitors heartily invited to both. A capital programme has been arranged by the Committee for the forthcoming season, and gentlemen wishing to join can obtain full particulars from either of the Secretaries. Visitors are welcome to all runs.

J. R. DEELEY, Hon. Sec.
E. J. CROWE, Assist. Hon. Sec.

BEAUMONT FOOTBALL CLUB.

The first Club run out will take place on Wednesday from Head-quarters—"Eagle and Child." Gentlemen invited.

FIRST ELEVEN *v.* MANOR PARK.—The above Club opened the season on Saturday last, with a match against the Manor Park, and, after a pleasant and well-contested game, were defeated by a goal to nil. It was a very even game, each goal being attacked in turn. The full-back division and the right wing forwards played an extremely good game for the Manor Park. The following also played well for Beaumonts, in fact, were by far the pick of the team—Hart and Cox. A word of praise is also due to the goal-keeper.

Team:—Jesseman (goal); Hennessey and Hart (backs); Munro, Wenn, and Cowlin (half-backs); Hendry and Cook (right), A. Hunt (centre), Cox and Sherrell (left, forwards).

Match next Saturday at Wanstead *v.* St. Pauls'. Kick off at 3.30. Dress at "Eagle and Child," Forest Gate.

Team:—Jesseman (goal); Wenn and Hart (backs); Hennessey, Cowlin, and Cook (half-backs); Hendry, Hunt, Griffett, Cox, and Gould (forwards). Reserve—Sherrell.

SECOND ELEVEN *v.* TONIC SOL-FA.—The Second Eleven of the above Club played their first match at Wanstead with the Tonic Solfa, and were defeated by two goals to love. The "Monts," individually, worked hard, but there was very little combination or passing in their play. The goal-keeper saved two or three fine shots, but made one very bad mistake. The full-backs showed up well, and their tackling now and again was very noticeable, but the left man must remain in his position on the field. The halves were very unsteady, and the centre by far too erratic. The combination among the forwards was very poor indeed. The left wing and inside left, however, played a good passing game, and broke away on several occasions. Our opponents' forwards played a good game, and their backs also deserve a word of praise. The following represented the Second Eleven:—Messrs. Mears (goal); Algar and Hawkins (backs); Cattle, Horseman, and Wendon (half-backs); W. Jesseman and Winch (right), Cooper (centre), Bell and Gould (left, forwards).

Match next Saturday at Wimbledon *v.* Polytechnic. The following will represent the Second Eleven:—Mears (goal); Algar and Hawkins (backs); Cattle (Captain, *pro tem.*); J. Munro,

A. Munro (half-backs); Moreton, Shaw, Horseman, W. Jesseman, Winch, and Hooper (forwards). Reserves—Helbing, A. Munro, and Arno.

Cheap tickets to Wimbledon can be obtained from Mr. A. Hunt, at the Schools, People's Palace, on any evening.

T. MORETON, } Hon. Secs.
E. SHERRELL, }

N.B.—Will Members who are selected to play in either teams, on any occasion, and are not able to do so, kindly send word to that effect. Reserve men are particularly requested to turn up when put down as such.

PEOPLE'S PALACE CRICKET CLUB.

FIRST ELEVEN REPORT.

Queen's weather, gentle reader—yes. Genuine Queen's weather greeted the cricketers who preferred getting a breath of fresh air in the country to staying in the city last Saturday, which proved to be the best day for cricket we have had this season. On the Palace ground, at Wanstead, the First Eleven played the return match with the Lyndurst C.C., and time alone saved the last named Club from a severe drubbing. The Palace Captain had the good fortune to win the toss, and made the best use of it by sending his team to bat first. Asser and A. Bowman started the batting for the Palace—the wicket was very fast, and the balls rose a great deal on the hard ground. The Lyndurst bowling was soon collared, and despite several changes, the score rose steadily to 28 before a good ball from Marshall bowled A. Bowman for a good 15—1 for 28. Carter joined Asser; the score was taken to 38 before Asser was bowled, the outgoing batsman having played good cricket for his 20—2 for 38. Byard joined his Captain, but was bowled after making 1—3 for 41. Knight, the next man, was soon out lbw—a doubtful decision—4 for 41. Goldberg joined Carter, the last named being contented with keeping his wicket up. Goldberg soon ran up 12, was then bowled—5 for 66. Hones joined Carter, and at 70 Carter was bowled by a shooter for a patient 13—6 for 70. Chatterton joined Hones, the former opening with a leg drive for 5, all run out. At 75 Hones was bowled—7 for 75. C. Bowman joined Chatterton, the last named punishing the bowling severely. At 95 Chatterton was caught at short leg for a good 16. The outgoing batsman had made 16 out of 20 added for the eighth wicket. Hunter and Jacobson helped C. Bowman to bring the century on the telegraph board. The innings closed for 104 runs. Parsons bowled well for the Lyndurst.

With thirty-five minutes to play, the Lyndurst started batting to the bowling of Asser and Goldberg, the first and second wickets fell for 9. Marshall was caught at short leg at 12—3 for 12, and a splendid catch by Goldberg, off his own bowling, got rid of Moore at the same total—4 for 12. The fielding and bowling of the Palace was very good, and runs were not easy to get. Gorrill joined Howe, the first named played good cricket. Amongst his hits was a drive for 6 off Asser. At 24 a good ball from Goldberg completely beat Gorrill—the ball breaking quite a foot from the off—5 for 24. Osman, the next man, was caught in the slips without scoring—7 for 28. The light getting bad, time was called, leaving the match a draw greatly in favour of the Palace. Goldberg bowled with great success, and came out with a splendid analysis. The catch that got rid of Howe by A. Bowman deserves special mention. The following are the scores and bowling analysis:—

PEOPLE'S PALACE.		LYNDURST.	
S. A. Asser b Parsons ..	20	Beckham (Capt.) c Hunter b	
A. Bowman b Marshall ..	15	Goldberg	4
T. G. Carter (Capt.) b Parsons ..	13	Parsons b Asser	5
H. W. Byard b Marshall ..	1	Marshall c Hones b Goldberg ..	3
F. Knight lbw, b Marshall ..	0	Moore c and b Goldberg ..	1
L. Goldberg b Parsons ..	12	Howe c A. Bowman b Goldberg ..	0
R. Hones b Parsons ..	5	A. Gorrill b Goldberg ..	13
H. Chatterton c Gorrill b		R. Gorrill not out ..	0
Moore	16	Osman c Goldberg b Knight ..	0
C. A. Bowman not out ..	3	Smeed did not bat ..	0
F. Hunter c Howe b Moore ..	3	F. Brewer not out ..	1
Jacobson c Beckham b			
Moore	3		
Extras	13	Extras	1
Total	104	Total (for 7 wks.) 28	

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.
S. A. Asser ..	5	0	21	1
L. Goldberg ..	5	2	5	5
F. Knight ..	1.1	0	1	1

Next Saturday the First Eleven journey to Leyton, and play their last match of the season with the Eton Mission C. C. The first match, it will be remembered, ended, after a most exciting game, in a victory for the Palace by the narrow margin of 3 runs, and a good game may be expected. The following will represent the Palace:—Messrs. S. A. Asser, A. Bowman, C. Bowman, H. W. Byard, F. Knight, L. Goldberg, R. Hones, G. Josephs, W. Goodwin, F. Hunter, T. G. Carter (Capt.). Reserve—Jacobson. Scorer—Mr. Proops. Match to commence at 3 sharp. Ground situated at the back of the "Blackbirds." Book to Leyton.

HENRY MARSHALL, Hon. Sec.

PEOPLE'S PALACE LAWN TENNIS CLUB.

The First Annual Meeting of the Lawn Tennis Club was held on Wednesday, the 19th inst., Mr. W. Marshall in the chair. The Balance-sheet, having been audited by Mr. A. V. Pyman, was read and adopted.

It was resolved that the Secretary be re-elected for the next season, subject to confirmation at a General Meeting to be held in April next, when the Committee will be elected.

A hearty vote of thanks and the sum of one guinea, as a recognition of the valuable services rendered by Mr. Hunt, was agreed to *nem. con.*

A vote of thanks was also accorded to
ARTHUR W. CLEWS, Hon. Sec.

Sir Edmund Currie has kindly promised to obtain a Court for next season, and congratulates the Members on the past success of the Club.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Subscriptions	14 1 0	Poles, Racquets, Balls, etc.	11 8 1
Fines	0 1 6	Expenses <i>re</i> Courts ..	0 6 6
		Gratuities	0 7 6
		Postage, Stationery, etc.	0 9 11
		Extras	0 2 0
		Balance in hand ..	1 8 6
Total	£14 2 6	Total	£14 2 6

PEOPLE'S PALACE PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB.

The Annual Meeting took place on Wednesday evening last, Mr. E. Howard Farmer (in the absence of Sir Edmund Currie) in the chair.

Mr. Barrett read the Committee's report, which showed that thirty-two persons had joined the Club, whilst two Hon. Members had been elected, one being Mr. C. W. Hastings (Editor of the *Amateur Photographer*) who had also been elected a Vice-President.

Notwithstanding that the Club had worked only during the summer months, when indoor meetings were at a discount, the ordinary meetings had been well attended and the excursions regularly held.

The Inaugural Meeting was held by an excursion to Hampstead; and after exposure of several plates, the Members adjourned to a suitable place for tea and social meeting.

Waltham Cross, Chislehurst, Chingford, Loughton, Kew, Richmond, and Broxbourne, have been visited, and by some Members the Tower of London.

Mr. Farnes had the honour of reading the first paper to the Club on "Exposure and Development" and discussions on various subjects have taken place.

The First Exhibition of Prints was held on the 12th inst., between seventy and eighty being exhibited, received from fourteen Members. Messrs. Farmer and Hastings reviewed the pictures, and awarded the prize for the best set of pictures to Mr. S. Beckett.

Periodicals had been presented to the Club by Messrs. Downing, Hastings, and Ludlow.

The Committee trusted that with the increased facilities promised some time ago by Sir Edmund Currie, that the Club would be of far greater usefulness to its Members.

The Committee recommended the purchase of sundry apparatus and accessories, but were reminded that their finances would not permit of any large expenditure, and hoped that their successors would be successful in promulgating a scheme by which the wherewithal might be forthcoming.

The Committee had pleasure in announcing that Mr. Hastings had offered for competition among the Members, the Amateur Photographer Silver and Bronze Medals for the best and second best landscape taken within ten miles of the People's Palace.

In conclusion the Committee trusted that the new officers would take up with redoubled vigour the work that it had given them much pleasure in helping to commence.

The report was passed unanimously. Votes of thanks were passed to the officers of the Club, and also to Mr. Hastings for his kind offer of the Silver and Bronze Medals for competition. The election of officers was then proceeded with, and the following duly elected:—

President: Sir Edmund Hay Currie.
Vice-Presidents: Messrs. E. H. Farmer; C. W. Hastings; Robert Mitchell.

Committee: Messrs. Albu; Beckett, sen.; Downing; Gamble; Hawkins; Lawday; Marriot.

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer: Mr. William Barrett.
Treasurer: Mr. W. Ludlow.

The Chairman made a few remarks relative to the working of the Club, and suggested the offer of a Challenge Lens for competition.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

WILLIAM BARRETT, Hon. Sec. & Treasurer,
16, Clare Road, Forest Gate, E.

PEOPLE'S PALACE DRAMATIC CLUB.

The Annual General Meeting of this Club took place on Friday, September 21st, 1888. Mr. Halfpenny was elected to the chair, in the place of Sir Edmund Currie, who unfortunately, owing to other engagements, could not attend.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and passed, the Balance-sheet was read by Mr. Karet; but owing to its not having been audited, it was proposed by Mr. Halfpenny, seconded by Mr. Karet, that it be held over to the next meeting, so that in the meantime it may be audited. Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Moody were the two Auditors appointed.

The election of officers for the ensuing year then took place. Sir E. H. Currie was re-elected as President.

Stage Manager: Mr. Orton Bradley.
Acting Manager: Mr. John Munro.
Secretary: Mr. Arthur E. Reeve.
Assistant Secretary: Mr. H. Hawkins.

Committee: (Ladies) Miss Risley; Miss R. Simons; Miss Marks. (Gentlemen) Mr. Hargraves; Mr. Avar; Mr. Lytton.

At the close of the meeting, Mr. Karet tendered his resignation in connection with the Club.

As the Management is desirous of casting the characters for the new Sections, will those Members who have not yet replied to their circulars kindly do so at once?

Members of Sections B, C and D, are kindly requested to return all play-books now in their possession as speedily as possible. There will be no rehearsal of Section A next Wednesday.

A General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 11th, for the purpose of receiving the Half-yearly Balance-sheet; when it is hoped that every Member will endeavour to be present.

Members wishing to obtain tickets for the Elocution "open night," to be held on Thursday, October 4th, can do so by applying to the Secretary.

ARTHUR EDWIN REEVE, Hon. Sec.
H. HAWKINS, Assist. Sec.

PALACE SCHOOLS ATHLETIC CLUB.

Saturday, September 15th, brought a most successful cricket season to a close.

FOOTBALL.—The trial matches are to take place on Saturday next at Wanstead. All those wishing to take part in same, please give in their names to F. McCardle or R. Hitchcock. A. HUNT.

PEOPLE'S PALACE CHORAL SOCIETY.

Members are requested to attend Special Rehearsal next Friday, for the concert on October 5th. Those who cannot attend on the 5th are asked to communicate with

FREDERIC W. MEARS, Hon. Sec.

[A REWARD of Five Shillings is offered for a Black Leather Bag, lined with red, taken in mistake from the ladies' cloak-room on the last night of the recent dances, containing an unopened letter addressed to Mr. Mears, 58, Merchant Street, Bow, and also a White Feather Fan, and sundry other things. Whoever returns same to the name stated will receive reward; and also the Black Bag taken in its place, if the rightful owner.]

PEOPLE'S PALACE SHORTHAND SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of this Society was held on Thursday last. The election of officers resulted as follows:—

Honorary Secretary: Mr. G. T. Stock.
Assistant Secretary and Librarian: Mr. H. A. Gold.
Treasurer: Mr. E. Solomon.
Committee: Messrs. R. M. Laing; T. Rowe; Whitby.
Auditors: Messrs. Gold and Conway.

The Society will meet again for usual practice on Monday evening, October 1st, at 8 o'clock.

Subscription, 6d., now due. New Members, 1s.; entrance fee in addition.

Will the old Committee and Auditors kindly meet to-morrow (Thursday), at 8.30 p.m.? Room will be announced on board at the gates.

G. T. STOCK, Hon. Sec.
H. A. GOLD, Librarian.

LADIES' SOCIAL CLUB.

The Annual Meeting of the female Members of the People's Palace was held in No. 2 Room of the School-buildings, on Friday evening, the 21st inst., at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year. Sir Edmund Hay Currie occupied the chair.

A Committee consisting of the twelve following Members was then duly elected:—Misses A. Coker, Reynolds, Rogers, Hale, M. Larter, Coleman, Simons, Levene, Cohen, Auerbach, Marshall, and Rosenways.

The next important business was to elect a Secretary. Three names were submitted, viz., those of Misses L. A. Coker, Rogers, and Marshall. The show of hands resulted greatly in favour of the first lady, who was thereupon unanimously elected. On a motion by the Chairman, a vote of thanks was then accorded to Mrs. Mellish for the admirable and excellent manner in which she had executed her duties as Secretary during the past year.

A hearty vote of thanks to Sir E. H. Currie for presiding concluded the meeting, which adjourned till Tuesday, the 25th inst.

L. A. COKER, Hon. Sec.

PEOPLE'S PALACE RAMBLING CLUB.

The Annual General Meeting of the above Club took place on Friday last, September 21st, in the Technical Schools, Sir Edmund Hay Currie in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and the next item on the agenda was the election of officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows, viz.:—

President: Sir Edmund Hay Currie.
Vice-Presidents: S. Charrington, Esq., M.P.; T. Fisher, Esq.; N. L. Cohen, Esq.; E. Flower, Esq.; Walter Besant, Esq.
Committee: The Misses A. Rosenways; S. Marshall; E. Stone-man; Harris. Messrs. F. Dunnell; J. Clenshaw; E. Donovan; W. Claridge; H. Rosenways; W. Marshall; Caldwell; J. H. Hulls.
Reporting Secretary: Mr. A. McKenzie.
Honorary Secretary and Treasurer: H. Rout.
Honorary Assistant Secretary: Mr. W. Moody.

Sir Edmund Hay Currie made a few encouraging remarks respecting the excellent way in which the Club had been managed during the past year, and it was then proposed to adjourn the meeting till an early date in October to receive the Balance-sheet, in accordance with Rule 6.

A vote of thanks was proposed to the Chairman, which brought the meeting to a close.

On Saturday last, favoured with continual sunshine, a cheerful party of twenty-six Ramblers visited Chingford. We journeyed by way of Buckhurst Hill, where we had extensive views in all directions; continuing on, up hill and down dale, here and there a pleasing diversion in searching for ripe blackberries, which, unfortunately, we were unable to find.

When we reached Chingford we halted to look at the London Rifle Brigade Volunteers go through their drill; in fact, we unintentionally joined their ranks, and this afforded us some amusement as we had to double off sharp.

Continuing on past the Railway Station we eventually arrived at Mrs. Nunn's, High Street, Chingford, where, owing to the forethought of one of our Members,—who had written to our hostess—everything was ready but the making of the tea, and while this was being done, two of the gentlemen amused the others by trying to beat record in a race round an adjacent field.

After tea we started off to Chingford Old Church, arriving there about 7.30 p.m., which was, of course, in partial darkness. Everyone enjoyed the walk very much, the moon was out in all its glory, and lit up our pathway across the fields on the return journey, not forgetting the stiles—which gave the gentlemen the opportunity of displaying their gallantry. We arrived home about 10.30 p.m.

Owing to the last of the Club Concerts being held on Saturday next, September 29th, there will not be any ramble.

F. W. BULLOCK, } Hon. Secs.
H. ROUT, }

BEAUMONT SKETCHING CLUB.

The particulars of the Competition to be held in October are as follows:—

Landscape	Open Country.
Figure	Travellers.
Design	Circular design, 6 in. diameter, from any wild flower (flower to be named).
	Any Study from Nature.

The prizes may be selected by the successful Competitors in books or instruments to the value of—

Landscape	10s. 6d.
Figure	12s. 6d.
Design	12s. 6d.
Study from Nature	7s. 6d.

Two prizes of 12s. and 9s. respectively will be given by the Head Master of the Art School (Mr. Cornish), for the best aggregate of work produced in the Club during the Session. All previous works must therefore be produced.

A prize of 12/6 will be offered by the Committee to the most regular contributor to the monthly displays. In the event of two or more Members tying in this Competition, the prize will be given to that Member whose sketches, in the opinion of the judges, bear the most merit.

If less than three sketches are received in any one of the above classes, the prize in that class will be withheld. There will be an entrance fee of 6d., and the decision of the judge is to be considered final.

All works to be mounted as per Rules, or will be disqualified. No name to appear on any sketch intended for Competition, but the Member's number to be put on the work for the purpose of identification. After the award and before the exhibition the names of the artists will be attached by the Secretary.

The exhibition will be open to Members of the Palace, from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. on Monday, October 8th, and Tuesday, Oct. 9th—evenings only.

Any subject intended for Competition must be addressed to the "Secretary, Beaumont Sketching Club," at least six days before the exhibition.

Considering that this is the first of what it is hoped will prove an annual affair, the Committee wish to see as many sketches as possible.

T. E. HALFPENNY, Hon. Sec.

BEAUMONT CYCLING CLUB.

On Thursday last twenty-one Members and several friends had a most enjoyable run to Woodford. At the "Wilfrid Lawson" a very successful Smoking Concert was held, Messrs. Giles, Kilbride, and Burley entertaining the Members. The ride home by moonlight was simply delightful; and the forest resounded with the chorus of voices singing some of the most popular airs.

On Friday a Committee Meeting was held in Room 6 (School-buildings), every Member of the Committee being present. Mr. D. Jesseman was elected as Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year. It was resolved that the Committee meet twice a month during the season, and once a month during the winter. Rule VII. was revised, the word "September" being substituted for "December."

Samples of grey cloth from various firms were then submitted for the approval of the Committee, the result being that Messrs. E. Slater and Co., secured the contract. It was also decided that the Annual Dinner take place at the Eastern Hotel, Limehouse. A Dinner Committee, consisting of Messrs. D. Jesseman, V. Dawson, L. M. Nathan, and H. Bright, were elected to carry out the necessary arrangements.

Rule III. was revised, to read: "That the entrance fee be one shilling, and subscription for active Members be half-a-crown, payable at the beginning of the season."

The meeting then adjourned.

On Saturday only a dozen Members left the Palace for Rainham. On a consultation being held, all agreed that a trip *via* Barking and Ilford to our Headquarters at Woodford be taken.

Next Thursday Members are requested to bring their music, and to turn up in large numbers, as the weather just now is very suitable for cycling.

On Friday a General Meeting will be held in the School-buildings, at 8.30 p.m., when the pattern of the new uniform will be on view.

On Saturday the run is to Lambourne End. Tea at the "Bee Hive."
JAMES H. BURLEY,
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

PEOPLE'S PALACE GYMNASIUM.

Leader's Meeting will be held to-morrow (Thursday), at 8 o'clock, to make final arrangements for the ensuing season.

J. HOOPER HULLS, } Hon. Secs.
ALBERT E. JACOBS, }

SPECIAL NOTICE.—The Gymnasium opens on Monday next, the 1st of October instead of the 8th, as stated in last week's Journal.

H. H. BURDETT, Director.

LADIES' SWIMMING COMPETITION.

On Wednesday, the 19th inst., the First Ladies' Swimming Competition was held at the Palace Bath. Lady Hay Currie, we regret to say, was prevented through ill-health from distributing the prizes, but her place was ably filled by Mrs. Hoskyns, who came from the country at some considerable trouble.

The first part of the evening was devoted to the races. The Championship award of the Palace (a silver and gold medal) was won by Miss Prior, who, previous to the opening of the Bath, had no knowledge of swimming whatever. The races were competed for amidst great excitement and enthusiasm. The Blindfold Race caused a good deal of amusement; the Plate Diving was also entertaining, Miss French picking up the greatest number of plates. A laughable tea-party was introduced amidst roars of laughter.

A display of plain and fancy swimming was then given by Miss Winifred Elcho (from the Anglo-Danish Exhibition, and Palace Swimming Mistress), assisted by her sister, Miss Lily Elcho (from the Royal Aquarium), among the most graceful of their performances being the walking in the water by Miss Lily Elcho, and the waltzing of Miss Winifred Elcho. An illustration of saving life from drowning was then given. Miss N. Connor greatly added to the pleasure of the evening by her pianoforte selections. Finally a vote of thanks was accorded Mrs. Hoskyns for presiding; and a graceful compliment was also given to Miss Elcho for her services during the past season.

PEOPLE'S PALACE CHAMPIONSHIP, 1888, RACE.

A very interesting Competition took place in our Swimming Bath on Friday afternoon last, when the boys of the Technical Day School swam the final heats of three races, viz., the Learners' Race, the Clothes Race, and the Race for the Championship of the School. The preliminary heats were finished on the morning of the previous day. The final results were as follows:—

LEARNERS' RACE.—Distance, width of Bath.—Howell, first, silver medal; McGuire, second; Francis, third; Bersey, fourth; Von Pohl, fifth; Meyer, sixth. The first three of these each receives a book prize.

CLOTHES RACE.—Distance, twice length of Bath (180 feet).—Each boy was dressed with trousers, jacket, and vest. Smith, first, silver medal; Sawden, second; Simmonds, third; Wright, fourth; Robb, fifth; English, sixth. Each of these receives a book prize.

CHAMPIONSHIP.—Distance, twice length of Bath.—Palmer, gold medal, first; Elstob, silver medal, second; Smith, third; Brookes, fourth; Robb, fifth; Wright, sixth. Each of these receives a book prize.

The race for the Championship was very keen, and Palmer had a stiff job to get ahead of Elstob, who was the favourite of the prophets for this race.

Starter, Mr. D. A. Low; Judge, Mr. Robert Mitchell; Umpire, Sir Edmund Hay Currie.

SOCIAL DANCES AND CLUB BENEFIT CONCERTS.

One or two articles were taken in mistake on the Social Evenings. I shall be glad if they can be returned as soon as possible.

A General Committee Meeting was held last Saturday to receive a financial statement of the Social Evenings, and to make final arrangements for the Club Concerts. As all the accounts are not settled, the Balance-sheet was deferred to the next meeting. A cordial vote of thanks was unanimously given to the M.C.'s, Messrs. Clews, Rhodes, Rosenways, and Wadkin, for the satisfactory manner in which they performed their duties.

I shall be pleased to see those ladies and gentlemen who have kindly sold tickets for the concerts, from 9 till 9.30 p.m., in the School-buildings, on Monday next.

A General Committee Meeting next Wednesday, October 3rd, at 8.30 p.m. sharp.

WALTER MARSHALL, Hon. Sec.

PEOPLE'S PALACE LITERARY SOCIETY.

President—WALTER BESANT, Esq., M.A.

This Society met on Friday last, at 8.15, Mr. H. Hawkins in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read, the term "Senior Sec." was ordered to be struck out, the Members proposing there should be two Secretaries.

Mr. W. King Rhodes read notices from Messrs. Wadkin, Whittick, and Masters, resigning their offices as Chairman, Secretary and Committee-man respectively.

These resignations having been accepted, Messrs. Hawkins and Whittick were severally proposed as Chairman, and upon being put to the meeting, Mr. Hawkins was elected.

In consequence of Mr. Hawkins accepting the post of Chairman, the Vice-Chairmanship became vacant. Messrs. Moody and Karet were proposed, and upon being put to the meeting, Mr. Karet was elected. Messrs. Cayzer and Taylor were proposed for the Secretaryship in the place of Mr. Whittick resigned, and the matter being put to the vote Mr. Cayzer was elected.

For the Committee Messrs. Whittick and Norton were elected, in place of Messrs. Masters and Cayzer resigned. The meeting then proceeded to revise Rule 3, and after a little discussion the Rule will read as follows:—

"That the subscription be 1s., to extend till November, and a half-yearly subscription of 6d. from March to November."

Mr. Cayzer read an essay, which being the only one received, the meeting adjourned.

All information can be obtained from

W. KING RHODES, } Hon. Secs.
B. SEARLE CAYZER, }

PEOPLE'S PALACE ANNIVERSARY DINNER.

The First Anniversary Dinner in connection with the Palace Institute will take place on Saturday, October 13th, at 6.30 sharp, at the Holborn Restaurant.

Sir Edmund Hay Currie will occupy the chair, and will be supported by several of the Trustees.

Tickets, 4s. 6d. each, to be had of Mr. Jno. R. W. Knight, East Lodge, People's Palace; Mr. W. Marshall; Mr. J. Ford, 150, St. Leonard's Road, Poplar; Mr. Rosenways, 26, St. Stephen's Road, E.; Mr. H. T. Wadkin, 26, Wetherell Road, South Hackney; or of

ALEXANDER ALBU, Hon. Sec.,
2, Great Prescot Street, E.

P.S.—All further information can be had of the Hon. Sec.

PEOPLE'S PALACE MILITARY BAND.

The above figured amongst the General Meetings of the various Clubs that took place last week.

Last Friday, at 8 p.m., nearly the whole of the Members put in an appearance to participate in the important business of the meeting.

As our President, Sir Edmund Currie, had to attend several other General Meetings, he did not arrive till about 9 p.m., and business was then proceeded with.

After the election of Mr. W. Shaw-Constable as Secretary, and Mr. W. Spiller as Assistant Secretary, and a few words from our President—who expressed his regret at not having more time at his disposal—the meeting terminated.

An informal discussion took place afterwards, which lasted till a few minutes after ten.

W. SHAW-CONSTABLE, Hon. Sec.
W. SPILLER, Assist. Hon. Sec.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS'

Swimming Competition.

On Saturday evening, the 22nd inst., the season at the Baths was concluded by a most interesting Competition.

All the Elementary Schools of Hackney and Tower Hamlets were invited to send in not more than six boys each to compete for certain medals offered by the Trustees of the Palace, under the following conditions:—

1.—All competitors to be *bona fide* school-boys, whose names shall have been continuously on the register of the School not less than three months ending September 22nd.

2.—Not more than six names to be received from any one School.

3.—The races to be two lengths of the Bath (180 feet), and to be swum in heats of five, drawn by lot. The first and second of each heat to take part in the Second Round, etc.

4.—No appeal to be allowed from the decision of the Manager of the Competition, and any Competitor whose time fixed for his trial to lose his chance in the Competition.

In response to the invitation 160 names were received from thirty-four Schools in Tower Hamlets, and seventeen in Hackney, some Schools sending the full number allowed, and some contenting themselves with one or two. These were duly drawn in thirty-two heats of five each, and soon after 5 o'clock, Sir Edmund Hay Currie appeared on the balcony, and addressed a few earnest words on the importance of learning to swim, and expressed a hope that this gathering would prove the forerunner of a long series of competitions for the honour of Championship of Tower Hamlets and Hackney. He concluded amidst enthusiastic cheers, and the heats were at once commenced, Mr. R. Wild acting as Starter, Mr. R. Mitchell as Judge, and Sir Edmund Currie as Referee. So admirable were the arrangements that the thirty-two heats of the First Round were decided in an hour, the first and second in each heat being entitled to compete in the Second Round.

These sixty-four names were drawn in heats of four, the first and second of which were again entitled to compete in the Third Round, the losers in the Second Round being entitled to a Bronze Medal, for having won in the First Round.

The thirty-two names were again drawn in heats of four, and so on, until there were only four boys left in for the Final Heat to compete among themselves for the honours—Champion Gold Medal, second, third, and fourth prizes.

Subjoined we give a complete list of the prize winners.

FIRST ROUND.—Heat 1: A. V. Catling, St. Jude's National, first; H. A. Roche, Woolmore-street, Poplar, second; J. Brown, Hamlet of Ratcliff, third. Heat 2: H. Hayward, Mowlem-street, Cambridge Heath, first; W. Hunt, Olga-street, second; C. Land, St. Peter's Boys, third. Heat 3: S. J. Akers, Monteith-road, first; H. Childs, Maidstone-street, Haggerstone, second; C. Wayland, Wenlock-road, third. Heat 4: J. Edermaniger, Gainsborough-road, Hackney, first; G. Bewick, Hamlet of Ratcliff, did not finish. Heat 5: A. E. Brown, St. Paul's, Burdett-road, first; J. Clement, Malmesbury-road, second; W. Cable, Glengall-road, Cubitt Town, third. Heat 6: W. A. Impey, All Saint's, first; L. Shields, Gainsborough-road, second; G. Soderburg, Highway, St. George's, third. Heat 7: W. Dutton, Northey-street, Limehouse, first; W. Dooley, Glengall-road, Cubitt Town, second; W. J. Smith, British-street, Millwall, third. Heat 8: J. W. Lewis, Collingwood-street, Ratcliff, first; E. A. Turner, St. Jude's, second; C. Keeling, Ben Jonson, Stepney, third. Heat 9: A. Husselman, Broad-street, Ratcliff, first; S. Bailey, Collingwood-street, Ratcliff, second; W. Standley, Gainsborough-road, third. Heat 10: A. Simmons, St. Stephen's Boys, Poplar, first; E. Dellar, Broad-street, Ratcliff, second. Heat 11: G. Curtis, Woolmore-street, Poplar, first; C. Widdicombe, Broad-street, Ratcliff, second; F. Rosser, Malmesbury-road, third. Heat 12: G. V. Jones, Oban-street, first; A. Drakeley, British-street, Millwall, second. Heat 13: J. Green, St. Luke's, first; A. Harvey, Ben Jonson, Stepney, second; W. Garrett, Daubney-road, third. Heat 14: K. Sergeant, Sidney-road, first; T. Scanes, Farrance-street, Limehouse, second; E. Strange, Farrance-street, Limehouse, third. Heat 15: N. Bull, Sidney-road, first; W. Bigg, Farrance-street, second. Heat 16: A. Barrell, Ben Jonson, Stepney, first; W. Bunns, Monteith-road, did not finish. Heat 17: A. Smart, Broad-street, Ratcliff, first; R. Williams, Gill-street, Limehouse, second; A. Wright, St. Stephen's, Poplar, third. Heat 18: W. Isaacs, Thomas-street, Limehouse, first; J. Rough, St. Peter's, London Docks, second; A. Wright, St. Stephen's, Poplar, third. Heat 19: F. J. Armstrong, Byron-street, Bromley, first; B. Embleton, Olga-street, second; C. Howard, South Grove, third. Heat 20: G. Wallace, Thomas-street, Limehouse, first; G. Hirsley, Broad-street, Ratcliff, second; C. T. Brame, St. Peter's, London Docks, third. Heat 21: J. W. Seabright, Dempsey-street, first; F. Killinger, Hague-street, second. Heat 22: A. Chamberlain, St. Paul's, Burdett-road, first; A. Hawkes, Monteith-road, second; H. M'Intosh, Wapping Charity, third. Heat 23: S. Winhurst, Thomas-street, Limehouse, first; P. Burrows, Olga-street, second; E. Pike, British-street, third. Heat 24: J. Weir, Thomas-street, Limehouse, first; J. Shears, Rutland-street, second. Heat 25: J. Rendall, Farrance-street, Limehouse, first; W. Creech, St. Peter's, London Docks, second; C. Wright, Nichol-street, third. Heat 26: C. E. Kingston, Rushmore-road, first; A. W. Watts, Shap-street, Kingsland, second; A. E. Spencer, Globe-terrace, Bethnal-green, third. Heat 27: A. Newlyn, Byron-street, Bromley, first; A. Reynolds, Olga-street, second; E. Cummings, Berger-road, third. Heat 28: S. Doust, Thomas-street, Limehouse, first; J. Harris, Ben Jonson, Stepney, second; W. Polybank, St. Jude's, third. Heat 29: T. L. Johnson, Northey-street, Limehouse, first; G. Wells, St. Jude's National, second; H. Banks, Byron-street, Bromley, third. Heat 30: G. Neil, Byron-street, Bromley, first; J. Jones, Berger-road, second. Heat 31: H. Munsie, Byron-street, Bromley, first; J. Hutchings, Glengall-road, Cubitt Town, second; E. C. Sarfas, Wapping Charity, third. Heat 32: T. A. Fone, Oban-street, first; C. H. Armstrong, second; E. Day, Single-street, Bow, third.

SECOND ROUND.—Heat 1: C. Armstrong, first; W. Bigg, second; A. Harvey, third. Heat 2: J. W. Lewis, first; W. Isaacs, second; B. Embleton, third. Heat 3: H. Roche, first; W. Dooley, second; W. Creech, third. Heat 4: W. Dutton, first; J. Catling, second; G. Hirsley, third. Heat 5: T. Shanes, first; T. Shears, second. Heat 6: J. Weir, first; J. Jones, second; E. Dellar, third. Heat 7: G. Wells, first; G. Jones, second; A. Drakeley, third. Heat 8: S. Winhurst, first; F. Randall, second; A. Newlyn, third. Heat 9: R. Sergeant, first; A. Smart, second; F. Killinger, third. Heat 10: C. E. Kingston, first; J. Clement, second; E. L. Deminger, third. Heat 11: T. J. Johnston, first; H.

Hayward, second; H. Childs, third. Heat 12: T. A. Fone, first; N. Bull, second; E. A. Turner, third. Heat 13: J. Ruff, first; A. Chamberlain, second; A. Watts, third. Heat 14: S. Akers, first; G. Wallace, second; A. Watts, third. Heat 15: G. Neil, first; W. Hunt, second; A. Brown, third. Heat 16: Munsie, first; Armstrong, second.

THIRD ROUND.—Heat 1: Munsie, first; Jones, second; Shears, third. Heat 2: Ward, first; Ruff, second; Clements, third. Heat 3: Sergeant, first; Armstrong, second; Isaacs, third. Heat 4: Neil, first; Ball, second; Johnston, third. Heat 5: Winhurst, first; Wells, second; Catlin, third. Heat 6: Fone, first; Lewis, second; Dutton, third. Heat 7: Weir, first; Armstrong, second; Kingston, third. Heat 8: Randall, first; Akers, second; Shanes, third.

FOURTH ROUND.—Heat 1: Neil, first; Akers, second; Sergeant, third. Heat 2: Munsie, first; Winhurst, second; Armstrong, third. Heat 3: Weir, first; Hayward, second; Ruff, third. Heat 4: Lewis, first; Bull, second; Jones, third.

FIFTH ROUND.—Heat 1: Munsie, first; Weir, second; Hayward, third. Heat 2: Neil, first; Bull, second; Winhurst, third.

FINAL HEAT.—Munsie, Byron-street, Bromley, first; Neil, Byron-street, Bromley, second; Bull, Sidney-road, third; Weir, Thomas-street, Limehouse, fourth. Munsie led from the start, and won by three yards. Time, 56 sec.

The sixty-four prizes were presented to the successful Competitors by Sir Edmund Hay Currie, concluding with the usual vote of thanks.

The whole proceedings were characterised by great enthusiasm, not only among the Competitors themselves, but also amongst a large gathering of their friends, both young and old, and we feel convinced that the Competition must have done much to implant a desire to learn to swim in the breasts of many who were present, and this enthusiasm will be communicated to many more when the boys return to their Schools, and there display the beautiful medals which the kindness of the Trustees enabled Sir Edmund to bestow on the winners.

EAST LONDON CHESS CLUB.

SUBSCRIPTION:

To Members of the Palace .. 1s. per annum.
„ Non-Members „ .. 3s. „

On Saturday, 22nd inst., the First Annual General Meeting was held and was well attended. Mr. E. Cudmore took the chair. The following report was read and adopted:—

REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30th, 1888.

The East London Chess and Draughts Club has now passed through the first year of its existence. In spite of the difficulties besetting the starting of the Club, it has been able to make substantial progress. These may be referred to briefly.

Last year the Club started too late in the season to get a team together strong enough to engage in matches with other clubs.

Then there was the unavoidable difficulty of finding proper settled accommodation, which prevented Members from meeting for practice at regular times. This is now removed, as two or three rooms will be at the disposal of chess and draughts players.

Next comes a point of the greatest importance to the vitality of the Club.

The impossibility of getting efficient good chess players when the age is limited, as it is to Members of the Palace, has been recognised by the Trustees, and they are now prepared to admit chess players who are not Members of the Palace, without putting any limit as to age, on payment of a small extra subscription. This gives us a very wide field to work upon.

The Trustees are desirous of making the Club a strong one, and having offered us these facilities, for which our best thanks are due to them, it lies with us to turn them to good account.

With regard to the coming season, several good matches have been arranged (Mr. Gunsberg, the winner of the recent Masters' Tourney at Bradford, will play 24 games simultaneously on October 20th), and an indoor competition will be started among the Members.

In conclusion, your Committee have no doubt that each individual Member will take the interest of the Club to heart, and endeavour to make a good position for it in the chess world.

The Rules were then examined and revised, the chief alterations being as follows:—

1.—The Club nights to be Tuesday and Saturday, at 7 p.m.
2.—The Committee to consist of four Members of the Palace, and ten per cent. of Non-Members, the whole not to exceed eight.

3.—Non-Members of the Palace must be fairly good chess players, and their election will be passed by the Committee. The cash accounts were examined and passed.

The following officers were then elected:—

President: Sir Edmund Hay Currie.

Vice-President: J. E. Shaw, Esq.

Secretary and Treasurer: E. J. Smith.

Committee: Members of Palace.—Messrs. A. E. Hopwood; J. T. Hill; A. G. Sowter; A. de Winter; Non-Member, E. Cudmore. These will have power to elect the three remaining Committee-men from Non-Members.

It was decided that the question of a Cup Competition be referred to the Committee, who will report to a General Meeting convened for the purpose.

The proceedings then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

A list of fixtures for the season will be published shortly.

E. J. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

"Such a Good Man."

BY
WALTER BESANT AND JAMES RICE.

(Reprinted by kind permission of Messrs. CHATTO & WINDUS from the volume of collected stories, entitled "Twas in Trafalgar's Bay.")

CHAPTER II.—Continued.

STEPS outside. Lovers like a peaceful solitude. When they hear steps they start asunder, like a couple of spooning turtle-doves.

Ten o'clock is striking as a footman brings in breakfast. He is a very big footman, and of majestic deportment. We are not early people at Sir Jacob Escomb's, because there is so much to do at night that we get to bed, as a rule, late. But we are punctual. Prayers at a quarter to ten, conducted by the chief, no other; breakfast at ten.

Perhaps, when Charles Plush, the big and solemn footman, opened the door, he saw something which awakened his suspicions; perhaps it was an accident. In either case the fact remains that the fall and smash of a cup and saucer caused that couple to separate hastily. Rose thought she had been discovered, when Charles opened the door, arranging flowers in a vase; Julian, that he had been found reading the morning paper. The best of us are but purblind mortals.

In a certain hotel in a certain watering-place, whither newly-engaged and newly-married couples do much resort, and where, such is the contagion of the atmosphere, people often get engaged, it is said that the waiters have strict orders *always, and without any exception whatever*, to announce their presence outside the door, and before opening it, by dropping a plate. It is a thoughtful rule, and has saved many a blush to the cheek of the young person. Perhaps Charles had been a waiter at that establishment. If not, the expedient did equal credit to his head and to his heart. The damage done to the crockery in the hotel of which I speak is always charged in the bill, and no objection has ever been raised to the item, except once, by a Scotchman who was dining with an aged aunt. He paid it, however, after grumbling, with the remark that it was "just too redeeculous."

Breakfast brought in, Sir Jacob and Mrs. Sampson followed.

"Not at prayers, Rose," says the good man severely, as she salutes him.

"Not at prayers, my love?" echoes Mrs. Sampson, her companion and chaperon.

"No, uncle, I came in from my ride, found Julian here, and did not know it was so late."

"Good morning, Julian. You, too, might have remembered the hour for family worship."

Julian said nothing.

Sir Jacob looked through the papers during breakfast often, to see whether his own speeches were properly reported. This morning he was gratified in finding his remarks at the Hammerers' dinner reported in full, with a leading article on "English Benevolence." There were no debates, and the columns were open to philanthropic outpourings, to correspondence, and to general palaver. The papers despatched, he turned to the letters, of which a pile of thirty or forty lay at his elbow. Those which related to business he laid aside, to be taken into the City; those which were concerned with the "doing of good," he kept before him, and read one by one, with verbal comments.

"We take holiday, Mrs. Sampson," he says—"thank you, a slice of toast—but the good work never ceases. Always demands for money—money—money. Lady Smallbeer, her Nursing Institute. General Screwloose, his Home for the Healthy. A lady once in easy circumstances, a new church, new organ for old church, surplices for choristers, Pensions for Evangelical Parish Clerks' Society, the Beadles' Benevolent Build-

ing Society, Protest of the Aborigines Protection Act against the thrashing of a Fantee by a sergeant during the late Ashantee War—Well, well, these are the daily letters of a philanthropist. The luxury of doing good is tempered by its labours. I have a platform at twelve, a luncheon at two, a committee at four, a dinner, unless I can get off it, at seven."

"We all know, Sir Jacob, the enormous, the incalculable claims upon the time of a public man, who is also a philanthropist."

"It is true, Mrs. Sampson," said Sir Jacob, laying his hand heavily on the table, partly, perhaps, to attract the attention of Rose and Julian, who were talking in low tones at the other side of the table, "most true, Mrs. Sampson; and yet you would hardly believe it, madam, I was yesterday solicited to stand for Parliament."

"Nay, Sir Jacob," said Mrs. Sampson, "not the Lower House? I trust you know your own worth too well to become a member of the Commons."

The compliment went home. The Baronet bowed, because he had nothing to say, and was, indeed, too much pleased to find immediate words. He returned to his tea and toast and letters. The Lower House! The Upper House! Why not? Sir Jacob Escomb, Baronet, owner, nay, creator, of the great works of Dolmen, in Ravendale. Why should he not become Baron Dolmen of Ravendale? The thought was new and for the moment bewildering. Jacob, first Baron Dolmen of Ravendale! with, unfortunately, no sons to inherit. But the title might be passed on to Rose and her husband, and their children.

He looked at Julian Carteret and smiled.

"Your speech of last night, Sir Jacob," said Mrs. Sampson, glancing through the paper, "has given rise to much comment."

"Ay, ay; and yet a simple speech."

"There is a leading article upon it here, I see. Respectful in tone, even if hardy, or rather audacious, in its criticism. For the kind of thing, Sir Jacob, perhaps it might amuse you."

Mrs. Sampson spoke as if the paper which would venture to criticise Sir Jacob was presumptuous beyond expression, and as if the only right thing was for writers of leading articles to receive humbly the crumbs of wisdom which might fall from such a great man, and to go lowly, upon hands and knees, before this Golden Calf and other Golden Calves.

Sir Jacob took the paper from her, and read the article.

Mrs. Sampson, the lady who occupied the position of—not housekeeper, not matron—say, President of the Domestic Department to Sir Jacob, was a person apparently about forty years of age, young-looking for her years, with a soft voice, bright eyes, and a full, comfortable figure. She was doubly a widow, having lost two husbands, and she looked as if she was ready to imperil the life of a third. A pleasant, good-natured, happy-tempered widow. She thought, quite honestly, that Sir Jacob was the best and wisest man in all the world.

Before breakfast was finished, a card was brought to Sir Jacob.

"Mr. Bodkin," he read, through his double eyeglasses; "Mr. Theophilus Bodkin." He laid wondering emphasis on the Christian name.

"Henry Theophilus Bodkin, Sir Jacob," said Mrs. Sampson, with a sigh. "You have seen my old friend, Henry Bodkin—his second name is Theophilus—an admirer, from a distance, of your philanthropic devotion."

"Henry Bodkin? I believe I do remember him. Charles, I will see Mr. Bodkin here."

If anyone, that morning, had been asked to describe Mr. Bodkin, he would begin by comparing his face with that of Swift's mute, who, the more his master raised his wages, the jollier he looked. There was an

enforced and compulsory gravity, battling with a strong, natural disposition to laugh and be happy, which showed that something good, something unexpected, had happened to the man. He was dressed in a suit of solemn black, of almost clerical cut, and looked a clergyman very nearly, save that he wore a black tie. He was apparently between forty and fifty; his face was clean shaven, and his hair was turning a little grey.

He made a deep bow to the philanthropist.

"Sir Jacob Escomb," he began, with a voice of great solemnity, "I have come thus early in the hope of seeing you without wasting your time." Then he saw Mrs. Sampson. "Lav—, I mean Mrs. Sampson, I hope you are well. Miss Rose, I am your most humble servant. Mr. Carteret, I trust you, too, are in good health."

"Have you taken orders, Bodkin?" asked Julian. "The last time I saw you I think you were—"

Mr. Bodkin waved his hand with a deprecatory gesture.

"Never mind the last time, Mr. Carteret; we must not waste Sir Jacob's moments. He is not interested in the circumstances of that interview."

"Certainly not," said Mrs. Sampson. "Let me give you another cup of tea, Sir Jacob."

"I come here, Sir Jacob," Mr. Bodkin began again, "as a delegate. I am, in fact, commissioned by Lord Addlehedeh—you know his lordship?"

"Surely; we all know that excellent nobleman."

"He is the President of our new society—my new society," he looked at Mrs. Sampson with something like a wink, "for the General Advancement of Humanity. Of this noble society I have the honour to be the secretary. Lord Addlehedeh came to the office this morning—in fact, before canonical—I mean office hours. Fortunately, I was there. He held in his hand, Sir Jacob, a copy of this morning's paper, in which is reported your speech at the Hammerer's Company."

"Ay, ay?" asked Sir Jacob. "Yes; they are reported. And yet my words were hardly intended to go beyond the circle of their hearers."

"Sir Jacob's words," murmured Mrs. Sampson, "are too precious to be lightly heard and tossed away. They must be treasured up."

"You are very good to say so, Mrs. Sampson. Pray go on, Mr. Bodkin. Will you not take a chair?"

"Thank you, Sir Jacob. As a delegate or deputation, it is perhaps more fitting that I should stand. Lord Addlehedeh called my attention to the startling fact that you had actually alluded to the newly-formed Society. 'You must instantly, Bodkin,' said his lordship, 'secure Sir Jacob. Go to him with my compliments. Catch him before he starts for the City. He must be had before we move a step further.' So, Sir Jacob, I am here—"

"Yes," Sir Jacob spoke slowly. "To give the weight of my name, if indeed it has any weight"—here he smiled, while Mrs. Sampson and Mr. Bodkin murmured. Julian and Rose, breakfast finished, were standing among the flowers in the conservatory—"since, then, it has some weight, it is a serious and even a solemn thing. You propose a Society for the General Advancement of Humanity—an advance along the whole line, I suppose. But you will have to select points at which to commence."

"Lord Addlehedeh has suggested the British cabman. We are to begin the improvement of humanity by improving the cabman."

"Yes," Sir Jacob still spoke thoughtfully. "Who are on your committee?"

"At present, Lord Addlehedeh only; but here is the general prospectus, with a few suggested names." Mr. Bodkin drew a paper out of a well-stuffed pocket-book.

"Yes—yes. The Bishop of Cackle and Mull—a

good man. Sir Chirpington Babble, a sound speaker. The Hon. Gushington Gatheral—I have frequently stood on the same platform with Mr. Gatheral. Major Borington—I think you have made a mistake here, Mr. Bodkin," said Sir Jacob. "Major Borington is a man who uses, I fear, philanthropy for purposes of self-advancement. He has pushed himself into a—certain kind of notoriety by platform oratory."

"Indeed, Sir Jacob—really—had Lord Addlehedeh only known it. But it is not yet too late. The Major has not been formally invited. Lord Addlehedeh thought he was a leader among the philanthropic world."

"It is not too late," said Sir Jacob thoughtfully. "There are many men, I am afraid, like Major Borington, who climb the ladder of reputation by an assumption of benevolence."

"Surely, Sir Jacob," Mrs. Sampson expostulated, "there cannot exist such men. Pray take another cup of tea."

"Ladies, madam, are not versed, naturally, in the arts of ambitious men." He spoke as if his own reputation for philanthropy were founded on a solid and disinterested basis quite beyond suspicion of selfish ends. "However—about the management of the Society, Mr. Bodkin."

"We have secured a first floor in a commanding position in Queen Victoria Street. Lord Addlehedeh has signed the agreement. We have furnished our two rooms solidly. Lord Addlehedeh has bought the furniture. We have had our brass plate put up at the door. Our prospectus is in the press. We begin with a hundred thousand, and keep the type standing; and while I am here five-and-twenty girls are writing addresses for us on wrappers at sixpence a hundred."

"That looks well. And what will your own salary be?"

"I am to begin with—ahem!—with five hundred a year, paid quarterly, in advance. Lord Addlehedeh has advanced the first quarter's stipend."

Mr. Bodkin slapped his pocket with a cheerfulness which was undignified, but which he could not wholly subdue.

"Ah! It is moderate for an energetic man. And are there any other—advantages in the position?"

"We have agreed, Lord Addlehedeh and myself," Mr. Bodkin replied, with a little hesitation, "on a commission—merely nominal—of seven and a half per cent. on all donations. We expect very large support. It is nothing less, Sir Jacob, than an organised attempt to civilise the world. Nothing like organisation in all charitable and benevolent attempts. As you yourself said, Sir Jacob, in your admirable speech of last night, 'Let the men of wealth assist the good cause—with a cheque.' To you, no doubt, it would be revolting to witness the depths from which we propose to rescue the British cabman. You, Sir Jacob, could not be expected, as our agents will have to do, to follow the cabman from the mud of the rank to the mire of the mews: from the mire of the mews to—alas!—to the public-house: from the public-house to his stably home above the mews."

"Certainly not," said Sir Jacob with dignity.

"And, therefore, Sir Jacob, I am deputed by Lord Addlehedeh to invite you to join him in forwarding the Society."

"You may put down my name, Mr. Bodkin."

"Certainly, Sir Jacob." The Secretary produced his note-book and pencil. "Certainly, Sir Jacob. For how much?"

"As one of the Vice-Presidents, Mr. Bodkin." Sir Jacob gathered up his papers. "I shall, perhaps, not return to dinner, Mrs. Sampson, unless I can escape my engagement. Good-morning, madam. Good-morning to you, Mr. Bodkin."

"Lavinia!" escaped from the impassioned lips of the Secretary, almost before the door was closed.

(To be continued.)

THE Women of Mumbles Head.

(By kind permission of the author, CLEMENT SCOTT, ESQ.)

BRING, novelists, your note-book! bring, dramatists, your pen! And I'll tell you a simple story of what women do for men. It's only a tale of a lifeboat, the dying and the dead, Of a terrible storm and shipwreck, that happened off Mumbles Head!

Maybe you have travelled in Wales, sir, and know it north and south; Maybe you are friends with the "natives" that dwell at Oyster-mouth!

It happens, no doubt, that from Bristol you've crossed in a casual way,

And have sailed your yacht in the summer in the blue of Swansea Bay.

Well! it isn't like that in the winter, when the lighthouse stands alone,

In the teeth of Atlantic breakers, that foam on its face of stone. It wasn't like that when the hurricane blew, or the storm-bell tolled, or when

There was news of a wreck, and the lifeboat launch'd, and a desperate cry for men.

When in the world did the coxswain shirk? a brave old salt was he! Proud to the bone of as four strong lads as ever had tasted the sea, Welshmen all to the lungs and loins, who about the coast, 'twas said,

Had saved some hundred lives apiece—at a shilling or so a-head!

So the father launched the lifeboat, in the teeth of the tempest's roar,

And he stood like a man at the rudder, with an eye on his boys at the oar.

Out to the wreck went the father! out to the wreck went the sons! Leaving the weeping of women, and booming of signal guns,

Leaving the mother who loved them, and the girls that the sailors love,

Going to death for duty, and trusting to God above!

Do you murmur a prayer, my brothers, when cosy and safe in bed, For men like these, who are ready to die for a wreck off Mumbles Head?

It didn't go well with the lifeboat! 'twas a terrible storm that blew!

And it snapped the rope in a second that was flung to the drowning crew;

And then the anchor parted—'twas a tussle to keep afloat!

But the father stuck to the rudder, and the boys to the brave old boat.

Then at last on the poor doom'd lifeboat a wave broke mountains high!

"God help us, now!" said the father. "It's over, my lads! Good-bye."

Half of the crew swam shoreward, half to the sheltered caves,

But father and sons were fighting death in the foam of the angry waves.

Up at a lighthouse window two women beheld the storm,

And saw in the boiling breakers a figure—a fighting form,

It might be a grey-haired father—then the women held their breath,

It might be a fair-haired brother, who was having a round with death;

It might be a lover, a husband, whose kisses were on the lips

Of the women whose love is the life of men going down to the sea in ships;

They had seen the launch of the lifeboat, they had heard the worst,

and more;

Then, kissing each other, these women went down from the lighthouse, straight to shore.

There by the rocks on the breakers these sisters, hand in hand,

Beheld once more that desperate man who struggled to reach the land.

'Twas only aid he wanted to help him across the wave,

But what are a couple of women with only a man to save?

What are a couple of women? Well, more than three craven men

Who stood by the shore with chattering teeth, refusing to stir—and then

Off went the women's shawls, sir; in a second they're torn and rent,

Then knotting them into a rope of love, straight into the sea they went!

"Come back," cried the lighthouse-keeper, "for God's sake, girls, come back!"

As they caught the waves on their foreheads, resisting the fierce attack.

"Come back!" moaned the grey-haired mother, as she stood by the angry sea,

"If the waves take you, my darlings, there's nobody left to me."

"Come back!" said the three strong soldiers, who still stood faint and pale,

"You will drown if you face the breakers! you will fall if you brave the gale!"

"Come back!" said the girls, "we will not! go tell it to all the town,

We'll lose our lives, God willing, before that man shall drown!"

"Give one more knot to the shawls, Bess! give one strong clutch of your hand!

Just follow me, brave, to the shingle, and we'll bring him safe to land!

Wait for the next wave, darling, only a minute more, And I'll have him safe in my arms, dear, and we'll drag him safe to shore."

Up to their arms in the water, fighting it breast to breast, They caught and saved a brother alive! God bless us, you know the rest.

Well, many a heart beat stronger, and many a tear was shed, And many a glass was toss'd right off to "The Women of Mumbles Head!"

Palace Notes.

THE Swimming-bath was the centre of attraction during the latter half of the past week. On Friday afternoon in the presence of the whole of the Technical Day School boys—some 400 strong—the People's Palace Championship, 1888, was competed for amid a mighty enthusiasm. Sir Edmund Currie and Mr. Robert Mitchell were present—the latter gentleman officiating as umpire; Mr. D. A. Low (Head Master) acting as starter. The arrangements were under the direction of Mr. A. Hunt—the well-recognised Superintendent of Sports. The dripping forms of the swimmers, clad in old cast-off clothes, afforded much amusement to the spectators. This was a well-contested race, and resulted in a victory for Smith; Wright and English coming in second and third respectively. This in turn was followed by a Learners' Race, with Howell first; Maguire second; and Francis third. At the conclusion of this race Sir Edmund Currie mounted the gallery and addressed the boys. After expressing his satisfaction at the afternoon's work: he went on to say that he hoped during the forthcoming winter to see the Palace Technical School well represented in the Junior Football teams at Wanstead Flats—special arrangements having been made with the railway company for the conveyance thither. He believed in the lad who was not afraid of his shins; and after recalling some pleasant football reminiscences of his early days at Harrow, announced the Palace Championship Race for 1888, which would terminate the afternoon's proceedings. The excitement as the competitors made ready for the plunge knew no bounds; encouraging shouts being delivered to the favourite of each boy. It was an admirable race and close almost to the finish; indeed, the certainty of Elstob winning was taken for granted, but his plucky opponent gained on him, and the result stood for Palmer (first), Elstob (second), and Smith (third).

On Saturday again, a still greater crowd collected together, for the purpose of witnessing the Hackney and Tower Hamlets Championship Race. As a detailed account of this competition may be found on page 658, I purposely refrain from particularising.

THE Second Great Dog Show (under Kennel Club Rules), to be held on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the 8th, 9th, and 10th October, promises to be a great success. Already the number of entries has excited much surprise; and I have been requested to add that, for the convenience of intending exhibitors, the time of entry will be prolonged until to-morrow (Thursday) evening.

MR. HASLUCK's sixth (or seventh) Elocution "open night," due to-morrow (Thursday) evening, will be postponed until Thursday, October 4th, when an attractive programme will be provided.

THOSE Members of the Institute who know him will be glad to hear that Arthur Clews—whose failing health has for some time past been the cause of much apprehension—has just departed on a three months' cruise in the waters of the Mediterranean. He has done much good work in the Institute; and that he will return thoroughly restored to health and strength is the wish of the
SUB-ED.

Marvellous Mode of Advertising.—No doubt the majority of persons who read the following startling offer will at first scarcely credit it, but, nevertheless, it is an absolute fact that a well-known manufacturer of infants' and invalids' food is prepared to send free, on application, post paid, a genuine silver brooch, manufactured from a very pretty design. Persons are advised to apply at once, in order that the stock on hand may not be exhausted when their application is received. Address, G. Mellin, Infants' and Invalids' Food Manufacturer, Marlboro' Works, Peckham, London, S.E.

Uncle Joe's Capture.

I SUPPOSE my worthy uncle, Joe Stoggers, is not the only man in the world who has laboured under the firm conviction that he has mistaken his avocation in life, and that if he had pursued some different calling to that whereby he has earned his daily bread for years, he would have risen to eminence.

However limited your circle of acquaintances may be, you will surely find some amongst them who will assure you, with a sigh and a long face, that if they had only taken up with some other trade or business than that in which they are engaged, they would certainly have done much better.

It is, or at least it was, Uncle Joe's conviction that he ought to have been a detective. He believed devoutly that he possessed all the cuteness, quickness, cunning, and remaining attributes requisite for that difficult and sometimes dangerous profession. As it was, however, Uncle Joe was destined, fairly early in life, to become a 'bus-driver, and a 'bus-driver he is likely to remain to the end of his days. The adventure I am about to relate, in which he played so conspicuous a part, occurred some few years ago when the news of a particularly atrocious murder, committed in a railway carriage, created an unusual amount of public excitement.

Portraits of the suspected criminal were posted up at the police stations, and found their way into several of the newspapers. Uncle Joe was intensely, alarmingly excited over the case. The old longing to be a detective revived so strongly within him, that both his wife (my good Aunt Sarah) and myself feared that it might lead to serious consequences. He seemed to think of nothing but the murder in the railway carriage, and the criminal at large, and talked of nothing else.

One morning, about a week after the murder, while Uncle Joe, my aunt, and I were having breakfast, my aunt endeavoured to change the subject, which had taken such a hold upon Uncle Joe's mind.

"I wonder," she said, "if Tom will really cross the water this year, and pay you a visit?"

Tom was my brother, who had been in Canada for three years, and who had written, not long before, to say he should perhaps pop in upon us some day unexpectedly.

"They ought to be ashamed of themselves, that they ought," was my uncle's disconnected reply.

"Who ought to be ashamed, Joe?" asked my aunt, unguardedly.

"Them there detective coves. They ain't worth their salt. A week! A whole blessed week, an' they ain't noddled the red-'anded villain yet. Lor' bless me, if I'd been on his track I'd 'ave collared him long ago. It's 'ard, uncommon 'ard, that a man with my abilities should be lost to the world on the box of a Hatlas 'Bus."

Uncle Joe rose, heaved a deep sigh, lit his pipe, put on his great coat, kissed Aunt Sarah, and asking me if I was ready to make a start of it, led the way out of the house.

We lived in the Abbey Road. A more comfortable home one couldn't have wished for. By letting, my aunt more than cleared the rent. The only skeleton in the household cupboard was Uncle Joe's spirit of discontent.

I was employed at an establishment in Oxford Street, and it was my regular custom to journey thither on one of the first Atlas's that left the Swiss Cottage. I naturally chose that which my Uncle drove. In the evening I almost invariably returned by my Uncle's 'bus.

"Jack, my lad," said Uncle Joe, as we rumbled along down Baker Street on this particular morning, "don't you s'pose because I ain't in the profession as I don't keep my eye skinned. From this helewated position I makes regular and constant observations, an' you see if I don't bring this 'ere criminal to justice afore them as whose dooty it is so to do."

Mindful not to irritate my uncle by casting any doubt on the probability of his accomplishing his wish, I said that many things were more unlikely than that, and listened with assumed interest to all he had to say on the subject for the remainder of the journey.

After leaving business in the evening, I had got as far as Orchard Street before my uncle's 'bus came along. It was rapidly growing dark and rain was falling. One passenger only occupied the box on Uncle Joe's left. I took the unoccupied seat on his right.

I at once discovered that he was in a state of suppressed excitement.

Stooping over to me, and disregarding for the moment the conductor's bell, he whispered hoarsely, "Hold your tongue and listen, or I'll send yer flyin'. I've got 'im!"

The conductor's bell sounded again, and this time Uncle Joe pulled up. He took the opportunity of whispering to me once more:

"If the cove what's settin' next to me gets down, I gets down arter him sharp, an' you must take the reins; so be on the look out. He's the man, the murderer, an' I've got 'im! Hush! not a word!"

My uncle's words and manner alarmed me. I feared his mind must have given way. It was quite natural to suppose so, knowing how he had harped so continually on the one subject.

"Stranger to these parts you says, eh?" he said, addressing the passenger as he spoke, and giving me a nudge in the ribs as he spoke.

"Almost entirely so," replied the passenger, who sat with his coat collar turned up to his ears, so that only the upper part of his face was visible. And from the little one could see, it appeared to be a long thin face.

"Almost entirely so, eh?" said my uncle. "Pretty well a stranger to London altogether, eh?"

"No, hardly that, considering I was brought up in it."

"Born an' bred in it, so to speak. Occasional trip to the the seaside p'r'aps? Run down to Hastings, or Margate, or—or Brighton, eh?"

As he mentioned the last-named place, Uncle Joe gave me another nudge in the ribs. The unfortunate victim of the murder had been killed whilst returning to Brighton.

"I've been at Margate, but never at Brighton," replied the passenger.

"Ho! never to Brighton, young gentleman, eh? Never?"

"Never," reiterated the passenger, who looked up at my uncle as if surprised at the tone of mingled sarcasm and scepticism in which he had spoken.

"You don't know nothin' in partic'lar about the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway, eh?" said Uncle Joe.

"No; do you?"

"Oh dear no! I knows nothin', I don't!"

Seriously, at this stage in the conversation, I became more convinced than ever that my uncle's mind must be affected, and if the passenger were the criminal he thirsted to bring to justice, he could not possibly be pursuing a better course to put him on his guard, and give him a chance of making his escape.

After a brief silence the passenger asked to be put down at the nearest point to the Abbey Road. The Alpha Road was the nearest point, but my uncle assured his unsuspecting fare that the Swiss Cottage was the best spot to alight at. I must own that the enunciation of this falsehood relieved me greatly on one score at least. The reins would not be delivered up to me, and I should not be left in an awkward and false position, while my deluded uncle went in pursuit of his passenger. But still I awaited with much anxiety our arrival at the Swiss Cottage.

Little more was said on our way thither. Just as Uncle Joe pulled up at our destination, he whispered me to "get down sharp on the off side." As I was doing so the passenger rose to get down on the near side.

"Excuse me," said my uncle, addressing him in a voice rendered husky with excitement, "this 'ere side if you please: arter me!"

Uncle Joe alighted. The passenger, obeying his instructions, came down after him. The moment his feet touched the ground, Uncle Joe pounced upon him with a yell of triumph.

"Murderer! Scoundrel! I've got yer! I've got yer!" he cried.

In a moment a small crowd had collected, and a policeman was on the spot.

"Got who?" asked more than one.

Uncle Joe explained that he had captured "The Brighton Murderer." The passenger never attempted to contradict him until, under the guidance and protection of the policeman, he got within the doors of the Swiss Cottage. Then, turning down the collar of his coat, and looking up into Uncle Joe's face, he burst out laughing.

"Why uncle," he exclaimed, "have you forgotten your nephew Tom?"

In very truth it was my brother Tom, home for a pleasure trip from Canada.

Never from that moment have I heard my uncle express the opinion that he ought to have been a detective. I firmly believe the adventure herein related has taught him a truth that many who are discontented with their lot would do well to take to heart—the truth that they are ever in the right and the best place when they are doing honest work in the position, be it what it may, in which Providence has placed them.

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