

table mediocrity. This is his weakest point. His general knowledge of events and popular currents of thought throughout the world is only equalled by that of the American. He can stand up before a professional boxer, row with an oarsman, ride a steeple-chase with a jockey, and not be far behind them in their respective callings. His most valuable quality is his love of truth and justice, of which, however, he does not enjoy a monopoly, but which extends through all classes of the English people; its fruit is seen in the enduring principles of the Great Charter.

This roughing it has done much toward conserving the superiority of the aristocracy. Muffs are no more encouraged in this class than they are among coal-heavers. The boy of birth fags, resorts to fisticuffs, and is thrashed like the *proletaire*. Seeing a slight lad of twelve or thirteen (who, by the way, was an earl) mounted on a rather unmanageable horse, I asked his mother if she was not apprehensive about his safety. She answered that she wanted to have him inured to danger and exercise; that she would sooner see him maimed than chicken-hearted.

The aristocracy is being continually strengthened by what is best in the commoner. When the latter achieves distinction in any of the upper walks of life, he is lifted into the circle of the elect. This system gives vitality to the class, and keeps up its domination. Discrimination is used in making selections from the commonality, so that the balance is kept up against dead weights in the way of wooden lords, and young noblemen with much blood and little brain are given over to the horse and general dissipation.

The excellence of English servants is proverbial, and the kind of hierarchy which existed among them in this establishment was not without interest to one coming from a country where this useful body is imperfectly represented. They were divided into upper and lower servants, with classification in each. The upper began with the butler, following in the order named; the coachman, cook, grooms, and footmen; among the women, with the housekeeper, ladies' maids, and seamstresses. Almost the same distance separates the upper from the lower servants, as that between the former and their masters. They take their meals in different rooms, and it was the duty of the knife-cleaner to wait on the higher branch of service at their repasts. In France, where cooking is carried to such perfection, the cook calls himself an artist, and his place is considered at the head of the people below stairs, which seems proper in a country where gentlemen-amateurs like Alexandre Dumas and Brillat-Savarin take a hand at the spit. In the lower class were found the assistant cooks, scullions, women-of-all-work, stable-keepers, and what not. The two branches did not associate with each other. The butler had entered the service of this family when a boy, as knife-cleaner, and his case was cited in illustration of what conscientious discharge of duty and ambition properly directed would do for a person in the humble walks of life. It was understood that, in moments of unusual expansion with the housekeeper, he referred to his remarkably successful career with much pride. He always appeared a model of grave deportment and respectability, not subject to the weaknesses common to men. The world sees the outer men, but he beheld the intermediate men; for to him were confided the keys of the luggage, and he knew the condition and the quality of the guest's undergarments, together with the other articles not usually subjected to public scrutiny. Possessed as he was of this knowledge, his calm, dignified gaze was enough to disturb one's equanimity. At the expiration of a week he informed me that my linen was out, as a member would submit a bill in Parliament, and asked if he would be allowed to supply the deficiency from his own wardrobe until the washerman could be heard from, which showed him to be a man ready for all contingencies.

The moral question here did not appear to interfere with enjoyment as much as in the house of the squire. Both the squire and my later hostess walked with the theological bean in their shoes—but one was boiled. My hostess was a ritualist, with one foot in the Roman Catholic Church; of a Continental civilization, who had taught her daughters to sketch, play the piano, and amuse themselves on Sunday, which the squire, with his church views, would have regarded as enormities. The guests of the second household were mostly high-churchmen, with pagan tendencies, which came to them

from latter-day civilization. Church views are strongest in the middle and well-to-do classes, and grow correspondingly weak as one mounts the social ladder. Golden blondes, opera bouffe, the Derby, and Anonymas are pets of the aristocracy, which has not escaped the materialism engendered by the contact. There is, too, a sort of art revival in this class, a tendency to fall back on the old pagan forms, and a disposition to encourage the scientists who are developing theories inimical to accepted theological views, which is breaking down the old Puritan restraints. The examples of frailty and licentiousness in some of the leading personages of the kingdom are also contributing to this result.

On one occasion the English language was a subject of discussion at dinner in this hospitable house. Where was it spoken best—in England, Scotland, Ireland, or America? It is generally conceded that the best French is spoken in Touraine, the best German in Hanover, and the best Italian in Florence; but there is not general accord as to where the language of Shakespeare is the purest. As a rule, the untravelled man considers the language purest to which he is accustomed. The man of culture, in which travel is implied, speaks pretty nearly alike in the four English-speaking countries. The parson thought Oxford was the mother of good English. Another thought it was as well spoken in Dublin as elsewhere, while I submitted the claims of Boston. It was generally conceded that he whose nationality could not be detected from his speech spoke the best English, which led to remarks on the differences between American English and English English, when I produced a memorandum of certain differences I had observed during my sojourn in England, which were as follows:

American.	English.
Vest - - - -	Waistcoat.
Pantaloon or pants - - -	Trousers.
Suspenders - - -	Braces.
Elevator - - -	Lift.
Railroad - - -	Railway.
Street railroad - - -	Tramway.
Buy a ticket - - -	Book.
Conductor - - -	Guard.
Baggage wagon, - - -	Luggage van.
Switch off - - -	Shunt.
Car - - - -	Carriage.
Scratch (in billiards) - -	Fluke.
Horrid - - - -	Beastly.
Splendid - - -	Jolly.
Yes - - - -	Aye.
Yes? - - - -	Indeed!
Wont - - - -	Shant (Italian A).
Smart - - - -	Clever.
Spruce - - - -	Smart.
Fleshy - - - -	Stout.
Thank you - - -	Thanks.
A piece - - - -	A bit.
Guess - - - -	Fancy.
Just think! - - -	Fancy!
I reckon, or I venture - -	I dare say.
Frozen to death - - -	Starved.
Cuss - - - -	Beggar.
Gamey - - - -	High (culinary).
Reliable - - - -	Trustworthy.
Claim - - - -	Affirm or state.
Go hunting - - -	Go shooting.

This, as far as it went, showed a tendency of the English to adhere closer to the Saxon element than the Americans. One of the dames observed that the word "fleshy" was vulgar, and I could not but agree with her; she was good enough to explain that she, being of an opulent nature, felt a special interest in the word. Another thought it was suggestive of a meat market. This led to talk on Americans, which created some merriment. America's humorous dialect amuses the English much. I was pressed for phrases. I objected on the ground that they might be too coarse for the ears of our fair companions, when I was accused by the latter of American prudery, upon which I gave a few that occurred to me at the time. The parson, who was the philologist of the table, took up several American words to illustrate his pet theory that we were returning to the speech of the ancient English, citing Shakespeare and other of the older poets where the Transatlantic words occur, and dwelling particularly on our constant use of the word "sir."

It was generally conceded that the American slang was more striking and original than the English. Words like skedaddle are born only on American soil. The difference is seen when equivalent slang is compared; as, when an attempt is made to humbug an Englishman, he says to the tempter, "Walker;" an American says, "Too thin." The best known words of Transatlantic birth are as familiar to the English as the American ear; but when a word is in full vogue in England it is

in its decline in America, and when it declines in the former it is dead in the latter country. Thus, the cradle of dialect seems to be on this side. The inventive faculty with which the American is born has been greatly trained, as shown by the contents of the Patent Office; he applies it to creating phrases as well as machines. This inventive trait is one of the greatest differences between the two nations. Every third American has invented something; not one Englishman in twenty has.

A common habit in England is to exclaim "Oh!" on receiving a response; as "How far is it to Pall Mall?" "Six miles." "Oh!" It has gone across the Channel, and the Parisians give it in their burlesque imitations of "milord." The variation of tone in English conversation is another feature peculiar to England.

The language in the United States does not present this variety, but usually travels on a dead level, which is often monotonous. On the other hand, the American pronounces all his syllables, which the Englishman often does not. The former has not developed the riches of the Italian A, while the Briton goes to extremes in the use of it, and infringes on the prerogatives of O.

Worcestershire is a difficult word, and to pronounce it Woostershire may be excusable; but to say Pell Mell for Pall Mall is an injustice to the letter A which may not be condoned. Such words as bloody, beastly, nasty, brute, are much employed, and strike the American ear as coarse. For example to say to a horse, "Get up, you nasty brute, out of that beastly walk, or I'll knock your bloody head off" is a common form of speech, and indicates fairly the heavy, blunt nature of the Briton. On the other hand, his leaning to Saxon words makes his language stronger than ours; using, for instance, a strong, simple word like "lift," where we dilute it into the Latin "elevator." With us the disposition to shine induces us to select a word like "commence" and to reject a good one like "begin." American prudery also has its influence, using limb for leg.

In America the orator is dying, but in England he is dead. In the country of Columbus, the South and West still furnish the burning, diffusive blather-skite on the stump and in the national councils. In the British Parliament of to day the magnificent, glowing sentences of Chatham would be received with a general smile. Parliamentary speeches are now direct business talks, in which allusion to the roar of the British lion is carefully avoided. Gladstone is a model—hard, dry, augmentative, and free from bombast. If an ameliorated boor gets into the House and attempts to light a pale reflection of traditional fire, he is silenced with ridicule. Dislike of highfalutin is one of the strongest antipathies in the kingdom.

There are differences of dress as well as of speech. Two marks of American nationality are, the goat beard, and the Great American Frock Coat, worn open with the corners dangling down in front an inch or two longer than behind. In the provinces, when the American citizen wishes to adorn himself, he dons this garment, and he is correctly dressed. If there is too much of the American coat, there is too little of the English, which is generally a little, cut-away garment, looking as if its maker had fallen short of stuff. In the Briton there is also a tendency to tight trousers, which, aesthetics aside, probably arises from his being a horse-rider. The extremists in this respect are the grooms, from whom it travels upward. The great stoggy, thick, solid, nailed shoes are another of the Briton's peculiar features—a necessity of his climate. In this rig, with a stout stick, and a few miles of open country before him to walk in, he is content—not chippy and buoyant like a Gaul, but self-contained and satisfied.

The Englishman moves in a wider groove than his Transatlantic kinsman. His more complete animal life makes his mental life fuller and healthier. A valiant soul in a traitorous body throws a shadow over existence. The English mind has a faithful ally in the sturdy body which carries it safely—successfully enduring its jerks, depressions, and overwork—into the evening of age. The American mind imposes greater burdens on a body less able to carry, and it frequently breaks down. The Englishman's food is hygienic, adapted to his climate and recreation—his rowing, yatching, fox-hunting, cricketing, and the like. This exercise is the safety-valve against excessive feeding. His organs, thus strengthened, are kept in healthy action. There is less disposi-

tion to shine in England than America. With us there is a national panting after notoriety or celebrity, as seen in the newspaper publicity given to social entertainments, where names and personal descriptions figure, in the exterior of houses overloaded with decoration, in the public life at hotels, in the love of orations and speeches, in the eagerness of politicians to "put themselves on record." It is living in a house of glass. In England, barriers are thrown around life. Something of the old feudal privacy remains, and the house, to some extent, is a castle whose gates are not opened to all the world. Money is spent freely for comfort, but not for lavish display. A writer of average essays does not claim the laurels of Macaulay, an ordinary member of Parliament those of Pitt; no running about the highways and byways to proclaim self-excellence.

The American has more natural refinement than the Englishman—more tact, adaptability, originality, quickness, and audacity. The Englishman is noble in simplicity and faith, affection and justice; accompanied with brutal instincts which break out at times into drunkenness, gluttony, and wife-beating. Natural politeness is uncommon, and impertinent and incongruous things are often said unconsciously. Nothing, however, of the monkey; no capering and grimacing, but a stern manhood, which, however unpleasant for social commerce, is clothed with a certain dignity.

[CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK.]

A New Road Across the Continent.

The Chesapeake and Ohio road, in connection with the Louisville, Cincinnati and Lexington, the Shelby road in Kentucky, and the Lexington and Big Sandy road (projected), have been consolidated and passed under the control of the managers of the leading roads west of the Ohio river and St. Louis; only a short line (from Shelbyville to Danville) is to be completed, to form a complete main trunk road from the Atlantic to the Mississippi. This same combination have in contemplation the construction of a Pacific Coast road, from San Francisco to San Diego, thus laying the foundation for another transcontinental railroad from the Atlantic to the Pacific, on the parallel of the 38th degree of latitude. At present, the Central Pacific holds the key to all roads west of the Rocky Mountains. The extension of the Southern Pacific to the Colorado would indicate an intention to hold the position. The time is not distant when there will be six distinct lines of rail from the Atlantic to the Pacific—one passing to the extreme north through the English possessions, one from Lake Superior to Puget Sound (the present road), one along the route referred to in this article, and one along the thirty-fifth and one along the thirty-second parallel of latitude. The road from San Francisco to San Diego and one extending from our city to Puget Sound make San Francisco in reality the terminus of all the roads, and distributing point of all the trade west of the Rocky Mountains. San Francisco having obtained the lead will be likely to retain it, and it will be found very difficult to establish for her a commercial rival on this side of the continent. The rivalries on the Atlantic commenced before the era of railroads, at a time when Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Charlestown were each of them, for a certain locality, convenient distributing points. It must be a long time before a ship, with a general and miscellaneous cargo, will find it more convenient and economical to enter the mouth of the Columbia or the harbor of San Diego than to discharge at San Francisco, especially if we have railroads running direct to either place.—*San Francisco Chronicle*.

It is said that one of the most powerful remedies for bots in horses is a strong decoction of sage tea, made very sweet. It dislodges the bots almost instantly.

The Litchfield (Ct.) *Sentinel* says: The price of hay in many towns is no longer quoted, because there is no longer any hay. Hundreds of cattle are living entirely on the dead grass and bushes.

A party in Pontiac, Mich., out rowing one Sunday, was too heavy for the boat, and one of the number was drowned. A local paper thereupon remarks:

"Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy, and don't overload your boats."