AMERICANS' CRESTS.

WARD McALLISTER FAVORS A TAX ON COATS OF ARMS.

Mr. McAllister Also Advocates the Establishment of a Heralds' Office as One of the Government Appointments—Right of Americans to Wear Coats.

The number of persons using crests and coats of arms in this country is very large, and there is no way of ascertaining how large it is. The American who wants a coat of arms and has not got one usually adopts one which pleases his eye, without regard to any other consideration. In England supporters are seldom granted with coats of arms to any but members of the peerage. But Americans have heard everything of the kind, and therefore they usually take supporters to themselves. There is one very rich and famous family in this city, though of humble origin, which displays a coat of arms with four supporters (about of the two which usually satisfy English local vanities.

There is, however, a great deal of dissatisfaction with this irregular state of things. Mr. Ward McAllister, the arbiter of fashion, said it should not be tolerated. Coats of arms, he says, should be registered at a proper office, as they are in England and other well regulated European countries. Then we should know who were entitled to them, how they got them and so forth.

"I propose," said Mr. McAllister, "that the American heralds' office should be established as one of the departments of the federal government at Washington. This is a very practical suggestion. The government would be able to put a tax on armorial bearings and in that way raise a large revenue, as the English government does. It is one of the high prerogatives of sovereignty. I see Gilmore Ely, Members of democratic society and all the other persons named would be pleased by it, and no one, I think, can show any good reason against it.

"I know it is very fashionable with some of Americans who are business with some of armorial such things because they are relics of feudalism, but that is nonsense. They are not any more hereditary than many of our social customs. Fashion requires us to use them, and fashion must be obeyed. It is merely a matter of fashion. A man with a coat of arms is not likely to be a more dangerous plutocrat than a rich man without one. Besides, armorial bearings are economical and last well as silver and china. That is one of the best reasons for having them.

"I must say a few words as to who has the right to use them. It is not necessary that a family should obtain them by grant from the English or some other European king. It is enough if they have been used since the beginning of the country's history, or for three generations. In England any respectable person who is rated treats can get a coat of arms by paying for it.

"Unquestionably many younger sons came over to this country who had a right to bear the arms of their family. Their descendants settled in different parts of the Union and are now in the fullest manner entitled to use arms. On the other hand, many men of wealth and high social standing, but not of aristocratic origin, have adopted them since the practice became fashionable, so they have a perfect right to do. These families will transmit their arms to their descendants until they become as interesting as those of aboriginal European origin.

There are some interesting anecdotes to be told of the introduction of coats of arms into the general society of this city. Of course there are a few New York families who have had them continuously since the creation of the colony, but when the practice first became general it was received with a good deal of opposition. Gordon Hatonby used to say that his crest was useful to tell him which was his carriage. Colonel Thorne, who married Miss Janney, went to Europe 30 years ago and established himself in Paris, living as an other American had done before him. He took the British minister through his hotel, who, after viewing the interior and its stables, turned to Colonel Thorne, exclaiming, "And you say you do all this on $12,000 a year! It is marvelous." On returning to America to live the colonel turned out in the city positions with his coat of arms embroidered on the left sleeve of each postilion. This created such a tempest the population thought him as he does by, that he was compelled to withdraw them.

"Some of our best people were pilgrims and Huguenots, who on reaching this country and establishing themselves have adopted such varities as coats of arms, as a means of good institution. This was all very well in the beginning, but the true laws have failed. We no longer cultivate primitive simplicity, but with wealth and age we turn to family and find among its members the usual coats of arms. The economy and love of the American for life or some designation of distinction, gives Mr. McAllister the idea of instituting in the west and south. For 30 years or more it has been a universal custom for persons of military rank in all cases who have been above mediocrity, such as governors, generals, vacant colonels, to bring pretty frequently. Such titles can carry through life with the loss of caste for individual delinquents, which is one of our hardest characteristics. When a man wants to sell his house, back his plate or decorate his harness, he wants a crest, and as Americans are very new in the universe, this need has to be forthcoming. Of course it is easy to manufacture, but we Congressmen in Washington know all about that. And how shall they be able to keep them?

"Are we upon that entry would welcome the establishment of a herald's office for the better regulation of these matters."—New York World.

"When you walk," says a Russian proverb, "look where you are going, when you talk, think what you are saying, when you are married, pay more than."

Prompt and Effective.

Detroit has a bachelor of the compulsory sort, but Detroit won't have him long. He has been disappointed in more than one lady to whom he has addressed himself in his attentions. She is a widow and an impressionable all her predecessor in his heart. The matter was settled a week ago in a rather sudden way. They had been talking on woman in general.

"Do you think," he said, "that woman is prone to jump at a conclusion?"

"I certainly do," she responded emphatically.

"And you are like all the others?"

"I hope so."

A great thought came to him then. "Would I meet a conclusion?" he asked.

"Why, of course, if you do within five seconds after I have made mine."—Detroit Free Press.

Dancing and Party Art.

It may amuse some anyone that we record the dance as the earliest form of art, or rather, that we allow it any place among the fine arts. To many it will seem a kind of sacrilege to consider it in the same category, however broad, such surmises as a dancing mirage and a painting of the last judgment, and if the connection must be made some would choose to make it along other lines than those of art. Both, though, the dance suggests as with the key, to a epoch of the development of the fine arts.—David J. Hill in Popular Science Monthly.

In the Vegetable Garden.

Following are gleanings from The Farm Journal:

Don't plant too many varieties of beets. The old reliable turnip are best—Egyptian for very early and Dillon for main crop. All onions keep these kinds.

For heller lettuce I find the right way is to lay a board on each side of the row. It keeps the earth cool and retains the moisture a long time. Mice have gone was the marvel of the neighborhood. It grew so lovely through the dry, hot weather.

A common practice with market gardeners is to set out early cabbage in rows 2 or 3 feet apart in April, and a month later to plant the tomatoes between the rows of cabbage. The crop of the set should be done or cut before they the cabbage, so it will not interfere with the cultivation of the cabbage until late of June—too late for market apart.

Plant a few hills beans, if the family relishes them, a little later than the peas. The beans will not interfere the worst worst of mildewing.

Farmers who contract provided with to necessary correspondence by spending an hour in the mornings. Spraying for insects and fungous diseases has become important for successful results in orchard and garden.

Reports from New Orleans show that the Louisiana sugar crop reached last year 190,000,000 pounds, which the bounty will be $7,500,000, as against $6,000,000 paid in bounties last year.

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