



Mrs. Potter Palmer of Chicago Triumphs Over One William Waldrof Astor.

LADY MARY'S SOCIETY CHAT.

Interesting Gossip Regarding Wealthy

record one. Of course this was in con-sequence of the death of the late King of Sweden. At first it was intimated to the Astors that the Connaughts could not go. Mrs. Astor, however, wrote and said it would be a very quiet gathering, and that if the duchess wished there would be neither music nor bridge. So they went. As my friend explained to me "one was made to feel all the time that the Connaughts were doing something very wrong and were afraid of being found out." The result was that all the rest of the guests felt it incumbent on them to assume an air of dignified gravity and the host and hostess must have been thankful when the day for departure arrived and they saw their royal friends off the premises. As a rule the Connaught family, are a breezy crowd and they love Americans because of their liveliness and unconventionality. One pleasure at least Mrs. Astor had. She was enabled to exhibit her amaz-ing jewels which showed up all the more gloriously because of the black dresses she was wearing out of defer-ence to the fact that the Connaughts

she was wearing out of defer

The Scene of Last Week's Suffragette Riots. Street That Is the Hub of the British Empire Was Built By and Named After An American-Narrow, Dingy Little Cul-de-Sac is About to be Closed by the

British Government on Account of the Recent Disgraceful Scenes which are Becoming More Violent and Frequent.

Special Correspondence. ONDON, Jan. 16 .- "The most fa-

mous street in the world," as it is called here, is about to be closed to the public. This is

Downing street, which former Ambassador Joseph H. Choate once described as "the connecting link" between England and America, and which certainly is one of the most interesting streets

finally the university won. Downing College, Cambridge, now 92 years old, engaged in the settlement of Scotland and appointed his father clerk of the council of Scotland. was the result. MARRIAGE HELPED HIM. FORFEITED TO CROWN.

Downing's forward rise was much helped by his marriage. His wife was Frances Howard, sister of the Earl of Carlise. He curried favor with Cromwell and was appointed treasurer of England, and later be-came Cromwell's foreign policy mak-er. He journeyed to Holland, to Evenes Dormeyed and Portu

the other to another cabinet minister. Pitt, Lord Grey, Disraell, Gladstone and Balfour actually made it their home. Other prime ministers used it more or less merely as offices. HISTORIC MEETING.

HISTORIC MEETING. It was on Downing street, in the re-ception room at No. 14, the colonial department, that Wellington and Nel-son met for the only time. They were not introduced but merely chat-ted together, and after separation Nel-son learned Wellington's identity. In the early Reform riots a mob ran into Downing street and rushed upon the sentry at the main entrance of the foreign office, shouting "Liberty or Death!"

Death!" The soldier presented his musket and shouted. "Halt! I know nothing of liberty, but if you come a step fur-ther I'll show you what is death." At the second Reform rists mother mob came into the street and assem-bled around the prime minis-ter's residence and prepared to pull it down about his cars. The member coolir

London coal merchant who had amassed a fortune. Stuart wanted to become a great power in politics and so bought the Courier, then one of the biggest newspapers. He visited Lord Grey and offered him the sunnort of the parag

i, "but—" and there was an im-sive slience. Lord Grey rang the l and to the footman answering he d: "Take this 'gentleman' out— outh the door"

NOW AN OFFICIAL STREET.

NEARLY TUMBLED DOWN.

s were on the verge of falling. Stately buildings, the present were erected. These were designed

CHARLES BYNGHALL,

period to sightseers

STAR ACTOR IS NOW A CLERGYMAN

Lilly Langtry's Support Who Toured America is Now Shocking Staid Church People.

REFEREES BOXING MATCHES.

Also Invites Worshippers to Bring Their Pipes to His Religious Ser.

American Colony in London-Royalty Entertained.

Special Correspondence.

ONDON, Jan. 14 .- Mrs. Potter Palmer has scored over William Waldorf Astor. The wealthy Chicago widow, who spends only half her time in England, has triumphed over the expatriated American plutocrat who has sworn that he will never revisit his native land again.

And this is how it comes about. For some years past Mr. Astor has been in the habit of giving two or three private concerts during the London season at his town residence in Carlton House Terrace. His aim has always been to make his private concerts superfor to any other that take place in England. And he generally succeeds by virtue of his great wealth which enables him to engage the best professional talent provirable, regardless of the fees-demanded.

It was natural, therefore, that after Tetrazzini had made such a tremendous hit at Covent Garden, he should seek to engage her for one or more of his own forthcoming private musical functions. Possibly he might have succreded as he never haggles over terms, but for the fact, so the story goes, he wanted the diva to agree that she would not sing at any other private concert during the season. In other words, he wanted to make a "corner" in Tetrazzini. The prima donna took umbrage at this, She is a high-spirited woman and declared that she would not amit to any restrictions as regarded or private engagements, no matter w big the fee that might be offered r.

TETRAZZINI SECURED.

Mrs. Potter Palmer, who is now in are, Potter Palmer, who is now in America, may have heard something of this. She has friends in London Who keep her posted on that is going on in the social world here, while she is filling her winter role of Chicago's footaget. A many her winter role of Chicago's fedal queen. Anyhow, she conceived the notion of getting Tetrazzini to sing for her at two private concerts which she intends giving at her London resi-dence, Hampden House, this summer. She cabled over to the Florentine night-ingale, so I am told, and the arrange-ment was made. Tetrazzini will sing twise for Mrs. Patner and will not sing twise for Mrs. Palmer and will sling twise for Mrs. Palmer and will not sing at all for William Waldorf Astor. Just now Hampden house is being made scient

Just now Hampden house is being made spick and span in readiness for the honcymoon couple, the hostess's act and his bride-to-be, Miss Kohlsaat her and his bride-to-be, Miss Kohlsaat igo. Rumor has it that Potter Palmer means to have a London house "on his own," but I cannot say M thia is true. Hampden House is such blg mansion-though externally a ideously plain one-that his mother hideously plain one—that his mother would have no difficulty in providing accommodation for both him and his wife whenever they want to take a fing in London fing in London.

AFFAIR WAS A FROST.

The party that assembled at Clieve-den at the invitation of Mr. Astor, Jr., and his wife "to meet" the Duke and Ducheas of Connaught was distin-sulahed, but I am fold that for sheer unmitigated duliness the affair was a

that the Connaugh in the world, if it be not the most fa

MANSION OVERHAULED. Since the elder Astor gave Clieveden

ence to the fa

were in mourning.

to his son as a wedding gift, the mag nificent mansion, which occupies th finest site to be found along the whole length of the Thames, has undergone extensive alterations. Outwardly it remains much as it was when it was the residence of the old Duke of West-minster, but the living apartments have been completely transformed. They are now arranged in suites somewhat after the style of fashionable flats, and for each bedroom there is a sumptuous bathroom. In the royal suite the baths

when occupied a fountain of perfumed water may be turned on, and music, to, by merely touching a switch. DIAMONDS GALORE.

At her royal dinner party the oth-er night Lady Paget's bodice, which was practically composed of diamonds, aroused more interest than the king himself. Even her shoulder straps were of diamends with just a softening of white tulle. She wore no tiara, only a eingte arises prose in her hear. She

white tulle. She wore no tiara, only a single crimson rose in her hair. She was the observed of all as she went in to doinner on the king's arm. Though still lame it is hoped she will not be so always. But I think she looks younger than before her accident. She makes no secret of the fact that she is delighted to have her 'daughter settled down and off her hands. Daugh-ters are an affliction to a really smart mother and the office of chaperone is a most trying one.

mother and the office of chaperone is a most trying one. The Duchess of Roxburghe was one of the guests at the dinner. She wore a spray of wild roses in diamonds which reached across her bodice from shoul-der to shoulder. It was a gift from her mother, Mrs. Ogden Goelet. Its effect, however, was nothing like so sensational as that produced by the diamonds of the American hostess.

KING DISLIKES FLOWERS.

The king has never cared for flower

The king has never cared for flowers on the dinner table, considering, them a huisance inasmuch as they interfere with his vision. Before all things he likes to have a good view of everyone sitting at his table. This having come to the knowledge of Mrs. Lulu Har-court, she decided to revive an old no-tion for the king's delectation. The dinner table of the American hostess when she has entertained the king was entirely bereft of blossoms. Instead there was a superb display of exthere was a superh display of ex-quisite old cut glass, the dinner ser-vice being of old Sexres. A gold cen-ter piece, of the kind in vogue among the French aristocracy about a cen-tury and a half ago was used. LADY MARY.

WAS GOOD PROVIDER.

"Though Mrs. McKinley," said a Can ton clergyman, "left an estate of about \$200,000, she was one of the most charitable women in Ohio. Her experiences in charity work were interesting. I used to like to hear her talk of them. "She once told me about a colored widow, whose children she had helped

to educate. The widow, rather late in life, married. A few months after her marriage, Mrs. McKinley asked how

she was getting on. "Two a-gettin' on flue, thank ye,' the bride answered.

the bride answered. "'And is your husband a good pro-vider?' said Mrs. McKinley, "'Deed he is a good providah, ma'am,' was the roply. 'He got me five new places to wash at dis las' week.'" --Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

mous.

Downing street is the hub of the great British empire, yet as a street it The is insignificant. In fact, it is worse;

it is the dreariest, dingiest cul-de-sac imaginable, and is dignified by being alled a street at all. Excepting the big government buildings which corner it there are but two houses. Nos 10 and 11. One is the official residence of the prime minister of England, the other of the chancellor of the exchequer. The

first of these, "No. 10," is indisputably one of the most historic buildings m existence. It is in Downing street that the British cabinet meets. It is here that the most important matters afcting the empire are discussed. min. istries made and broken and peace and war declared. and war declared. So it is rather surprising that Down-ing street should have been owned, laid out, and built by an American. Yet it is so. It was in this connection that Mr. Choate referred to it in a memor-

able speech at the London Guildhall as "the connecting link between the old world and the new."

AFRAID OF THE WOMEN. There is, of course, a sufficient reason for such a surprising step as the closing of Downing street to the pub-lic. The government scarcely would go to all the trouble of passing a special et through parliament for the purpose nless it thought the matter of sufficient importance. Governments do not always take the public into their confidence, and so the reason may for a long time be kept an official secret. Yet the open secret is that the gov-ernment is afraid—and afraid of women, too! that vast men, too! The women happen to be that vast body yclept "Suffragettes" which in various guises has been disturbing political meetings and gener-ally threatening cabinet ministers all over England the last few weeks or

There have been whispers that the suffrageites intended besieging the of-ficial residences of the prime minister and the chancellor of the exchequer, In days gone by there have been two riots in Downing street. Perhaps the government are heedful of that wise baseball saw, "Three times and out," and wish to prevent a third one. At any rate, the street is to be closed, and if the Suffragettes desire to do any riofing they must do it elsewhere.

STARTED BY AMERICANS.

France, Denmark, Sweden and Portugal, and finally, as Holland in those days was one of the most important countries, he became ambasador at Hague

When the king once more came into his own, Downing's peace was made with Charles II. by Thomas Howar, his own, brother of the Earl of Suffolk and ancestor of the man who has made Daisy Leiter of Chicago and Washing-

Datsy Leiter of Chicago and Washing-ton an English countess. The king appointed Downing as am-bassador to Holland. At the king's instigation he brought on a war with Holland. After this, when again at The Hague, he chased and captured three of the regicides, among them Okey, his old colonel, friend and pro-tector. He arreted these men. re-sponsible for the behading of Charles tector. He arroted these men, re-sponsible for the beheading of Charles I, by a trick, pretending to befriend them. Although he was generally condemned for this, the king was pleased. Downing was made a baron-et and given a grant of land in Whitehall. This is the land up Downing street now stands. upon which

CHASED OUT OF COUNTRY.

The man's actions in arresting the regicides so angered the Dutch that a mob went after Downing and he a mob went after Downing and he fled from The Hague. On arrival in England he was clapped into the Tower for leaving his post without leave. He remained there only a month, though, remained there only a month, thouga, for that doll-faced Frenchwoman, the Duchess of Portsmouth, one of the king's mistresses, interceded for him. Soon after Downing was restored to favor the king made him the chief treasurer, Downing gave the profligate king all the money he wanted and in several pamphlets defended his royal master. He also saw that the king's master. He also saw that the king's three chief favorites, the Duchess of Portsmouth, Lady Castlemaine and Nell Gwynn, had their share of dips Nell Gwynn, hid their share of the into the English treasury. He was such a great sycopbant that he ob-tained a grant of \$400,000 from the king. He served in all the parlia-monts and was known as "the house bell to call all the courtiers to vote."

So much for the founder of Down street. His abilities were proved his career, but his reputation was ing street. stained by servility, treachery and avarice. Pepys in his diary tells of Downing's niggardly habits and how he ill treated and starved his mother, who died long before her time from want of the comforts of life.

REPROBATE SON.

Downing left a son to succeed to his title and estates and this son married the eldest daughter of Lord Salisbury. TARTED BY AMERICANS. The and estimates and this soon maried and the soon maried be done to the soon t

three houses came into the possesion of the government.

OFFICIAL RESIDENCE.

King George 1 knocked Nos. 9 and 10 into one residence and presented it to Baron Bothmar, the Hanoverlan minister, for life. On Bothmar's death George II. offered the house as a gift to Sir Robert Walpole then minister, Walpole refused it for himself, but accepted it as the office of the first lord of the treasury and perpetual official residence of the prime

And thus it came about that Downing street is "the most famous stree in the world." Although all the proc amations and official papers of land are dated from "Our Palace of St James," They really emanate from Downing street. For two centuries the British empire has been run from the dingy house in this narrow, dull cul-de-sac, and probably will continue for centuries of the future.

Naturally the scenes and incidents that the street has witnessed in the past 250 years are vivid with interest. Here the gay Lady Castlemaine wandered from her walk in Whitehall Gar-dens to chat and intrigue with the man who guarded the nation's gold. Here the dainty Duchess of Portsmouth ais which during buchess of Portsmonth also visited Downing's mansion secretly to intrigue with and cajole the American who handled the treasury. And here, no doubt, other fair ones whom the rollicking king had made great ladies of title came to get their share of the golden stream.

In the came to get their share of the golden stream. In the time of James II, as now, the position of -master of the horse was one of the most important at court, and in Lord Litchfield's mansion there were held numbers of secret councils where conspiracles and plots were harched

Great men not only lived there, but died or were born in this street. Au brey de Vere, last Earl of Oxford, die there over two centuries ago. Lady Walpole and Lord Iddesleigh also died at No. 10, Herbert Gladstone, son of the Grand Old Man, was born there and although he is only home secretar sterelary of the present government and indeed of the present government and inde-is shortly resigning, yet his home now at No. 1), yielded to him by th chancellor of the exchequer, whose o ficial residence it properly is. Others who have lived in the stre-are the two Pitts, Lord Grey, Sper cer Perceval, Lord Liverpool, Camin, Lord Milbourne Sir Robert Peel, 100 whose of

the street d Melbourne, Sir Robert Peel il, Gladstone, Lord Sall ar, and a score or more w orld, It known throughout the

down about his ears. The premier coolly looked on at the antics of the mob from one of the upper windows. Troops arrived before any real damage was done HIS WORK WAS COARSE. It was in the old cabinet room on the

to be thrown out said, "but-" an

through the door."

pressive

vices-Idol of the Slums,

Special Correspondence round floor of the prime minister's house where occurred the dramatic scene between Lord Grey and Stuart, a

OVENTRY, England, Jan, 16 .-Not since Coventry was rent in twain over the burning question of how much or how little clothes "La Milo" should wear when she impersonated Lady Godiva in its historic pageant, has this ancient town

newspapers. He visited Lord Grey and offered him the support of the paper. The government stood then in need of support of the press and the premier was delighted. But Stuart was unlike the modern newspaper proprietor. He had no diplomacy. He blurted out that in return he wanted the treasury pat-ronage—that is the dispens ng of all the offices in the gift of the prime minister, Lord Grey was furious. "You deserve to be thrown out of the window," he said, "but—" and there was an imhad such a sensation as has been created by a new curate, the Rev. Everard Digby. Some three months ago he was given charge of St. Michael's mission and since then things have been happening, the like of which, declare the unco guid," was never before witnessed in a place of worship.

Mr. Digby has turned a one time Baptist chapel into a combined church, gymnashum, smoking hall and pugilist-

ic arena. He has made himself the It was at the beginning of the nine-teenth century that Dewning street be-gan to be wholly an official street. At that time the only official residence on it was the prime minister's. Buildings were taken for the foreign and colonial terror of the conventionally plous and the idol of the slums. He is all things to all men. He eats, drinks and smokes with publicans and sinners and were taken for the foreign and colonial offices, for the judge advocate and for the chancellor of the exchequer, and lastly the whole row of lodging houses at the end. These were portioned out among the Scotch and Irish members of parliament as lodgings. In one of these Smollett tried to establish himself as a surgeon. Henzein, at that time the greatest African explorer, lodged there with his wife on his return from Nubia. Eight years later, in 1828 to be exact, the government decided to demolish the old buildings. The first to go was "The Cat and Bagpipes," a saloon and chop house on the corner, It was fanous for its mution chops and tank-ards of musty ale. Boswell constantly s ready at any moment to discuss religion with the most learned theologians. He referees a boxing contest or presides over a Mothers' meeting with equal ardor and enthusiasm. He has his own ideas about the saving of souls and is as indifferent to criticism as is your own great revivalist and erstwhile hero of the baseball filed, the Rev. "Billy" Sunday. There are strong points of resemblance as well as of difference but they are like in this. Each holds that to get results is the main thing and that ethods are of minos importance. ards of musty ale. Boswell constantly patronized it.

WAS AN ACTOR.

The Rev. Everard Digby is the most inconventional priest in holy orders who ever occupied a Church of Eng-and pulpit. He is thirty-two years old. After spending one term at Ox-ord he took the stage when twenty-me and speedily "made good." He as played leading marks at various But the government worked very slowly at the demolition. For years the very important business of the for-eign office was curried on in a mean, unsightly double row of buildings. These became so tumbledown that the off or resilement was buoched by ford he took the stage when twenty-one and speedly "made good." He has played leading parts at various London theaters and in 1902-3 toured the United States and Canada with Mrs. Langtry. He has appeared be-fore the king and queen and the Prince of Wales. He has starred through the English provinces in Shake-spearean drama, playing Macbeth, Othello, Falstaf, Mark Antony, etc. In sbandoning the stage for the church he has left behind him both fame and luers. His pay as a curate for a year is considerably less than he could earn in a month before the footlights. It was in January, 1905, that he "got religion" at a mission neeting in a Worcestershire village and declied to become a minister of the gospel, but outstanding contracts, prevented him putting himself in training for Holy orders until the end of the year. In less than nine months he satisfied bis These became so tunbledown that the sid of parliament was hivehed by pri-vate members. The only aid given, however, was to show the buildings up with beams and girders, and it was two score years ego that the governit departments were hastly removed as Whitehall and the buildings torn of the flight was due to a continu-rain of bricks and mortar the two Royal academicians, Sir Digby

ones, were erected. These were designed by two Royal academicians, Sir Digby Wyatt and Sir Gilbert Scott. Downing street as it is today, there-fore, is but 33 years ofd. Its glorkes will not dim though it has been mod-ernized. No romances, such as those of its long past, may be enacted, but it still will remain the headquarters of the rulers of the British empire. Cabi-nets will continue to sit there, the prime minister will continue to live there and all the diplomatic business of the nation with the United States will continue to be transacted there. The public slone will be debarred from entering the street. There is hope for the American tourist, however, for in the summer time, when the holidays come and the government and the prime minister forsake London, Downing street again will be opened for a brief period to sightneers. es than nine months he satisfied his ecclesistical preceptors that he was fit and proper person to undertake te saving of souls, but he speedly unde it evident that it was from his nide if evident that it was from his towiedge of the world, the ficsh and a devil, and not from his theological udles, that he obtained his insufration s to the methods that would prove out effective with the masses.

ATTRACTIONS BILLED. After overlooking the building which

(Continued on page fourteen.)