

Black Juries Hold Power of Life or Death **Over White Men in British Colonies**

New Peril Added to Dangers to be Encountered in Tropical Countries-Negroes Swayed By Sullen Hatred of Superior Race, Inflict Severe Penalities-Noted Novelist Take up Cudgels for Victims of Brutal Blacks on Gold Coast, and Declares He Will Not Rest

on white and black alike. A thousand

years of civilization have inculcated these qualities. With a jury of blacks

be the temptation to give way to a dull, smouldering, instinctive hatres against one of a superior race."

· EXTRAORDINARY, CASE.

The case under notice first came be

home secretary acting on behal

fore the public through the simple an

nouncement that Herbert .Gladston

of Sir John P. Rodger, the governor of the Gold Coast colony, had ordered the release of Vivian W. Denton. It is

doubtful whether a more extraordinar;

case has ever been brought to the a

certain aspects the story reads like a chapter from one of Rider Haggard'

hapter from one of Rider Haggard , omances, or from Seton Merriman's 'With Edged Tools'' rather than d

may be briefly'recapitulated as follows: Denton, Albert W. Watson and Leo-pold Leeder were three Englishmer

mployed by the African Gold Dredgin

and Mining company on the Britisl Gold coast, west Africa, Depton being

Leeder two of his winchmen. On Au 17 last a box of personal effects, a re

volver and \$200 were stolen from th

white men's camp at the mines, the theft being committed while the three

men were at dinner less than 30 vards

Suspicion fell on William Johnson,

black giant employed as farrier at th

camp, who was found to be missing Johnson was discovered but after con-fessing to the robbery, escaped from his

captors, swam a river and disappeared in the bush. Johnson was pursued by a party of negroes, recaptured, and it is alleged that he made a fight for liberty

and was badly beaten. No white may was present at the capture. When h

was brought in the negro promise

Watson from whom the money had bee

stolen that he would lead the white men the next morning to the place where, he said, he had "cached" the

stolen booty. After he had taken then

a long distance from the camp John

son halted suddenly and pointing to th

the dredgemaster and Watson

away. JOHNSON THE CULPRIT.

plain transcript from life.

say

what you will, there must eve

International Tennis Matches Are Suggested for Women

ONDON, Aug. 5.-"Why not a at Wimbledon. Davis cup for women?" is the question that is being asked by lady lawn tennis players in England now that the championship matches at Wimbledon are over and it has been decided definitely that the bed for one night, Leeder had to be rc-moved to the hospital, where he died of match for the "American Cup" of the lawn tennis world shall be played for erica again this year. The women champions in this country want **a** chance to prove their skill against the lady exponents of the game across the Atlantic in a series of international matches. This plan has two en-thusiastic supporters in Miss Dora Boothby, the woman champion, and Miss Morton, the other finalist in the The English championship. In about the effect of such gan talking effect of such games Miss Boothby said: "I am quite sure we could get up a strong team of English ladies to play against America or any other country if the matter was taken seriously in hand. We have frequently talked it over among ourselves, and several would go to America to play, and as gladly welcome American ladies who come to England to play against us. "I believe such an international meeting would do lawn tennis good. and as the men have their 'Davis and as the men have their 'Davis Cup' competition, why should not the ladies of the various countries have a similar tournament? The preliminaries could soon be arranged and, the financial aspect of the affair settled on the same ines as the Davis Cup. "Of course we cannot expect such a proposal to be accepted immediately; yet I think the time has come for us to have these matches; and if the ladies of America will take the matter up we might meet them either in America or England in 1910." STRONG ENGLISH TEAM. "Stronger than ever," is the verdict on the team of men who will visit the United States this year to represent England in the match for the Davis International cup. It now has been definitely decided that the match will take place in Boston some time abou Sept. 22, and the English committee has been hard at work trying to imon the team which went over in 1908. Then M. J. G. Ritchie (England) and next C. Parke (Ireland) represented the British Isles. This year the same players will be assisted by A. W. Gore, the champion of 1908, and K. Powell, a brilliant young left-hander, who is regarded as the coming champion How keen Englishmen are about "the Davis cup" is shown by the fact that the Lawn Tennis association has al-ready asked 12 of the leading players If they are prepared to go and play for the trophy in America. Gore Ritchie, Parke, and Powell-two of the veteran school and two of the younger ceneration of players-have expressed heir willingness to do so, and the final choise will remain among them. Gore, this year's champion at Wim bledon, is the veteran of the party, having been one of the crackajacks in lawn tennis for something like 20 years He won the championship for the time in 1901, was successful aga time in 1901, was successful again in 1908; and in 1909 beat Ritchie, winner

CHAMPION GORE.

Mrs. David Beatty's little boy,

Marshall Field's Grandson

when he came with his mother to have tea with her. He is said to have more personality for his age, which is about 5, than any child in London. Lately he has been initiated for an hour every morning into the art of shaking hands with and receiving royalty. To his teacher he said after he had been taught how to courtesy to the queen "But I don't bow like that to my mother who must be better than the queen because she is my mother.

The queen took such a violent fancy to this grandson of the late Marshall Field that she said when he was big enough she would like him to be one of her pages. It seems the idea was quite approved by the future million aire. Master Beatty is to enter the British navy when he is of suitable age. He is in love with the sea and He has a wonderful collection ships. boats, some of which are worth tov \$100 each.

Although this boy is practically given everything he desires he is never dod died. He never wears shoes or stock ings' except "when he visits royalty and then he expresses himself in un parliamentary language about the in cumbrance. One of the open air chil-dren, like the Duchess of Manchester's family, he sleeps with wide open winows in all weathers and lives in the open during the day. His food is as simple as if he were the son of a la-borer milk, vegetables and fruit chiefly constituting it.

A WONDERFUL COTILLION.

It was the determination of Baroness Eckhardstein to outdo every hostess in London, American as well as English, when she gave her wonderful cotilion the other might. And she succeeded. It the talk of London; later it will be talk at German Bads and at coun-houses. It will go down in history the most original, daring, brilliant try houses. as the most and expensive entertainment which has ever taken place in London. The Baroness Eckhardstein is the

only child of the late Sir Blundell Maple and she is still the biggest part-ner in the famous furnishing house in Tottenham Court road. After the exposure of her matrimonial troubles i which her husband played so despicabl a part, she practically retired from London society. Last month she sud-denly took it into her mind to return to society and she and her great friend, Lady Clementine Waring, put their band heads together to invent striking and picturement is trying for a cotlion. No feature which had ever been introduced mre was to be used; everything must be new and oirginal, "done exactly as Americans do these things," said the baroness. They slaved over their work. drawing pictures, etc., all one day and the following morning found the baroness on her way to buy the favors In Paris.

The figure in which the ballroom was in total darkness for nearly five min-tites was found fault with by the index. But all were lost in wonder-ment at the beauty of the vision which entered into it. It was the hostess herself seated in a Sedan chair which was a blaze of roses in electric light Inndes. every color from ivory to deepest crimson

A number of the youngest and prettiest grandmothers were in another figure driven with reins of roses by half-adozen young men from the Bachelors club: In another scene rose petals rained from the ceiling and threatened to smother the guests. Nothing caused

(Special Correspondence.) ONDON, Aug. 4.—The queen re-newed her acquaintance the other day with Master Beatty. ound a large cake out of which he ook mouthfuls when the spirit moved nim

Becomes a Pet of Royalty

There was a royal ball going on the same night given by the Duchess of Portland in Grosvenor square, but the guests who had invitations for both hurried off as soon as they decently could to the far more amusing cotillon given by the baroness. DANCERS ARE AUTOCRATIC

Every season has its novelty in the matter of artists. This year it was the Russian dancers who carried all before them. They commanded any term they chose to ask and it goes without saying Americans were their greatest patrons. Exacting and autocratic as the czar himself, they laid down the law to their would-be patrons in re-gurd to the particular room in which they would dance and in respect to the size of the stage on which they would perform, stating accurately the dimen-slons in inches. They told Mrs. Potter Palmer their requirements, but as she

was extremely busy making arrange nents for the party she forgot to se that the stage in her ballroom was what was necessary. Late in the afternoon of the day on which the party was taking place one of the prospective performers came along to note that everything was in readiness. The in stant he looked at the stage he shool his head ominously. Then out came his measure. The floor proved to be quite three feet too narrow. Most cer-tainly they would not dance, he said. Not for Mrs. Potter Palmer or the queen herself would they jeopardize their reputation. Mrs. Potter Palmer

was at her wits' end. She offered an \$500 if they would only try to meet the exigencies of the cas

would they do such a thing. Mrs. Potter Palmer saw the only way out of the difficulty was to have a stage crected in a room on the terrace overlooking the park She telephoned to a great firm of dec orators, and before an hour was over an army of carpenters was at work By rushing things for all they were worth, the stage was ready by mid-

night and the room in order No gues had the remotest idea of what the host ess had gone through in the previous hours. The Russian dancers had been put forward as a special attraction and Mrs. Potter Palmer knew if their performance fell through she might say good buy to the success of her But the worry and anxiety nearly She announced that very night that the end of the season had com for her and that she would neither en tertain nor go out again in London this

summer LATEST IN WALKING STICKS. It was Mrs. Stoddard, wife of Mr. Stoddard of Meadowbrook polo team fame, who first introduced here the new walking stick. It has to be the identical tone of the gown of the owner, which means that if she aspires to be chic she must have at least a dozen

of these fascinating etceteras. These walking sticks are dyed charming shades of blue, mauve and green, and the handles are of great beauty, gen-erally studded with the gen which cor-responds with the body color. For ex-ample, a purple stick will have ame-thysts in its top; one of blue will have turquoises, and so on. These sticks

turquoises, and so on. These sticks are now as essential as the jeweled hand bag to match the owner's gown. They are being bought up as rapidly as possible by those going abroad and for use in the country. LADY MARY.

Until the System is Changed.

(Special Correspondence.) ONDON, Aug. 5 .- Americans who lowest and most drunken ruffians in seven dials (one of the roughest East End districts of London) than I would have lived in the southern states or who have enjoyed any sort of submit to trial by a negro jury. Th English white man administers justic with equity and even with benevolene colonial experience, will appre-

ciate the apprehension that has been caused in England by the discovery of a new danger to white men in the English colonies in the tropics. It has been described as "the new black peril" and is no other than the new onack period and trial of a white man by a jury com-posed exclusively of blacks. That it is far from imaginary is proved by the fact that two English-men were recently tried and convicted on the West African rold coast under

the West African gold coast under these circumstances and one of them is serving out his three years' sentence today in Portland prisoh with no ap-

parent prospect of release. The other Englishman, after under going six months' imprisonment, only released a few weeks ago, thanks to the determined efforts made on his behalf by Sir Gilbert Parker, M. P. the novelist. A third Englishman would almost inevitably have shared the same fate as the other two had he not succumbed to blackwater fever or very eve of the trial. he most amazing feature of this

The amazing case is that the men were no even present when the offense for which they were tried was committed and the question of their being accessories to it was not even raised.

CASE CREATES SENSATION.

If the reader can imagine how the news of the trial of a white citizen of the United States by a jury of negroes in the south would be received in America he will gain a faint idea of the extraordinary sensation that has followed the discovery of the gold coast incident. So astounded and con-cerned is Sir Gilbert Parker, despite his gold wide colonial experience, with the con-dition of affairs disclosed, that he has brought the whole question of the trial of white men in British West Africa to the attention of the house of com mons, and the government has ordered an enquiry to be made. An amazing situation is revealed for the first time by the replics made to Sir Gilbert in parliament by Colonel Seely, the under secretary of state for the colonies. In the gold coast colony apparently it rests entirely with the court to decide whether or not a white prisoner shall he tried by a jury of whites, a jury composed of four blacks and three whites, or a jury composed exclusively of negroes.

BLACKS TRY WHITES.

"Since this astounding case was brought to my attention," said Sir Gilbert to the writer, "I have learned certain facts which give me reason to be-lieve that the practise of trying white men by black juries in British colonies is not confined to the gold coast but obtains as near America as the West Indies. I shall bring the whole question before parliament again and shall not rest until such proceedures have

"I think I may claim to know a little about the colored man," he said. "I have studied the aboriginal in Aus-tralia, and Haussa, the Malaan, the tralia, Asiatic Indian, and the negro in South Africa-the black man, in short, in all parts of the world. I say deliberately, however, that I would ten thousand times rather be tried by the severest by a Frenchman who had died of

judge living, by a jury drawn from the t blackwater fever. After sleeping in the

blackwater fever within a week.

TWO DECLARED GUILTY.

Denton and Watson were tried at Sekondi on Sept. 7 last, before the same white judge who tried Johnson and by a jury of seven blacks jury had been out hardly 10 minute when they returned with the verdict of "guilty!" The sentence was three years' imprisonment. After spending several weeks in Sekondi prison, both men were sent home to England, to free from the additional cruelty of pri son life in a malarial country. Severa weeks more in Plymouth prison fol-lowed. Then Watson was transferred to Portland prison and Denton to Parkhurst, where he has just been releas Sir John, Rodger, having, commuted his sentence to six months in view of the fact that he was not present when the alleged assault, was committed.

Denton, who is the son of a Trinity House pilot, is a short, clean-shaven, clean-cut man of 31. He looks little the worse for his extraordinary experie saw nim just after his release at his house at Gravesend.

"I'm not easily moved," he said. "but I hope never to repeat such an experience as that of hearing the verdict o seven negroes. What is more, I neve wish to see the Gold Coast again."

WORKING FOR WATSON.

The release of Denton spurred th friends of Watson to fresh efforts behalf of the man still languishing in jail Stopford Brooke, M.P., the son of the famous literary critic, and chap-lain-in-ordinary to the late Queen Victoria, at once took up Watson's case He has secured from the colonial of fice the promise of an interview with Sir John Rodger, who is at the presen time in London on furlough. During his stay in London Sin

John with Lady Rodger, have been occupying unpretentious rooms in ; boarding house in one of the side streets off Piccadilly, almost nex to the house in which the door countess of Yarmouth (nee Alice Thaw) lived during the second trial of her brother for the murder of Stanford White. Here, despite the unassuming character of his lodgings Sir John maintains the reticent aloof ness of the governor of a British crown colony, denying himself to al interviewers and refusing to see any except immediate friends.

The only person from the outside world who has been able to see Watson since his imprisonment is the min-ister of the East Side Baptist church which Watson attended before he accepted the ill-fated offer of employ. ment on the Gold Coast. Watson wa interviewed by the minister in Port land prison- a few days ago ,under strikingly dramatic circumstances Throughout the interview the minis ter stood in what he described after-wards as a long horse-box protected by iron bars. Watson standing in an-other, but separated by a third, in

When informed that his friend Denton had been released Watson broke down completely. The prisoner who inquired anxiously after his wife and two children in London remarked to the minister that though physically in good health he should not live to

hatically that it would have quite possible to have had white men on the jury as there were enough eligible white spectators in court t have made up the entire, jury.

AN ADDITIONAL PERIL.

Apparently neither Stopford Brooke nor any other of Watson's friends entertains much hope of the im-equator.

is a player who Improved slowly. He was 33 years old when he became champlon in 1901, and he ex-pects to pay his second visit to America as one of the chosen representatives of British lawn tennis at the age of 4i years. He spends laborious days as a wine merchant in the city of Londor and lawn tennis, strange to say, is the only game that has any fascination for him. He has a terrific drive. As an him. He has a terrific drive. As a old Cambridge Blue he has a weaknes for wearing light-blue socks in his championship matches.

ONE OF THE OLD GUARD.

M. J. G. Ritchie, too, is one of the M. J. G. Ritche, too, is one of the old guard. This is plainly evident in his play, which is founded on the "base-line" system. He has been in the front rank of players for years and has won most of the Continenta championships; yet, until this season he has always fallen just short of the highest English honors Probably there is no man in the world who plays more lawn tennis than Ritchie. During the English season he takes part in all the leading tournaments, finding relaxation by spending his Sundays on the river. He has a houseboat at Walton-on-Thames and rows in several of the Thames regattas.

As soon as the English season is over Ritchie hies himself off to the conti-Ritchie hies himself off to the conti-nent, where he is a familiar figure at Ostend, Vienna, Hamburg, Cannež Nice and Monte Carlo. He has gained prizes at every one of these tourna-ments, and has won the German cham-pionship five times in the last six years. The leading American players ore femilian with his stele. Describ are familiar with his style. Recently, however, he has become a convert in a slight degree to the American service of Beals Wrights, while retaining all his old driving power, and soundness in his base-line play.

PARKE HAS SOBERED DOWN.

J. C. Parke, the Irish champion, proved a disappointment in last year. He was dashing and erratic, but since then he has sobered down a lot. His service in particular shows increased certainty, while his speed to the court has also to be reckoned with. Parke is so anxious to play in Boston again that he replied to his invitation by return of post. He wants hi venge on the men who beat him. He is one of the finest rugby footballers in the British Isles, and has played for Ireland against England, Scotland and Wales.

LEFT-HANDED POWELL.

Kenneth Powell, the youngest of the quartet, is a left-hander. He was cap-tain of the Cambridge university team while in residence there; and is a strong advocate of having lawn tennis played at the English public schools just like cricket and football. This, by the way, is done now in Germany and Austria. He is a capital doubles player, and for this reason will prob-ably be put into the team for the doubles match, in which he will have either Gore or Ritchie for a partner, Powell is really a fine all-round athlete and made a name for himself as hurdler at Cambridge. He ran for the British Isles in last year's Olympi games at the Stadium, London. Olympic I. RICHARDS.

serve out his sentence. He declared | trisoned man being released before he expiration of his sentence, two lears hence. Meanwhile Englishmen, especially those with colonial experiadded to elephantiasis, sunstroke yellow, malarial and blackwater fevers, as well as the host of other evils which threaten English life near the equator, R. N. GASK.

which the warder stood. WATSON BREAKS DOWN.

ground declared that if they would dig there they would unearth all the booty. Laborious digging, however revealed nothing more valuable than a big bull-frog. Johnson was taken to Axim and tried by Justice G. K. T. Purcell, one of the pulsee judges at the Gold coast. Although it was proved that Johnson, in addition to having

On Aug

was an escaped convict he was let off-with one day's imprisonment.

WHITE MEN ARRESTED. Immediately afterwards Denton, who had been a witness for the prosecution, and Watson and Leeder, were charged with brutal assault on the negro. warrant for his arrest found Leeder 6 miles or more from Sekondi, where the trial was to take place. Leeder had to be taken over 50 miles up the river in an open canoe, with the rain coming down in torrents all the time. Whe he arrived at Sekondi prison, he

lodged in a cell which had been vacated