

THE LUSTY INFANT COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

THE opening of the new century probably witnessed no more important event than the federation of the six Australian states of New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, West and South Australia and Tasmania into the commonwealth of Australia, which was inaugurated at Sydney, N. S. W., on the first day of January, 1901. After many years of agitation and due and deliberate consideration the Australian ship of state was launched, its flag emblazoned with the stars of the Southern Cross and with a constitution based on manhood suffrage broader than that of any other colony recently founded by men of British blood and lineage.

Three hundred years have passed since the discovery of Australia, in 1601; 150 since it was explored by Captain Cook and possession taken by him for the British government. In 1773, while the British were fighting the rebel colonies of America, the first settlement was made in New South Wales. There is a significance in the fact that the American colonists finally accomplished through feats of arms the Australians brought about by moral suasion. It took a long while—more than a century, in fact—to bring Mr. John Bull to reason, but when finally convinced of the actual necessity for securing his distant colonies to him by bonds of love and interest instead of by

force of the globe, with a population, of all sorts and conditions, of 400,000,000. A Greater Britain has been established, girdling the globe, and the fanciful simile of Britain's drumbeat rolling around the world is no longer a simile merely, but a fact. Let the colonists have their way so long as they acknowledge the paramount sovereignty of Great Britain; let them be democrats or republicans in fact so long as they are loyal subjects of King Edward VII in name.

The change in British policy is accentuated by the fact that, while George

wealth at the threshold of his career as a semi-independent nation. It aims and professes to be independent, yet that cannot be so long as Great Britain is represented by the highest official, the governor general, at present the Earl of Hopetoun, who is practically the vicegerent of the king. However, it has a constitution similar to that of Canada, though more liberal, and two houses of parliament as a governing body. The powers of the central parliament are limited by the provincial bodies, and not vice versa, as in the Dominion constitution. Australia is still a

of the new year and century by inaugurating penny postage and keeping on in her own independent orbit.

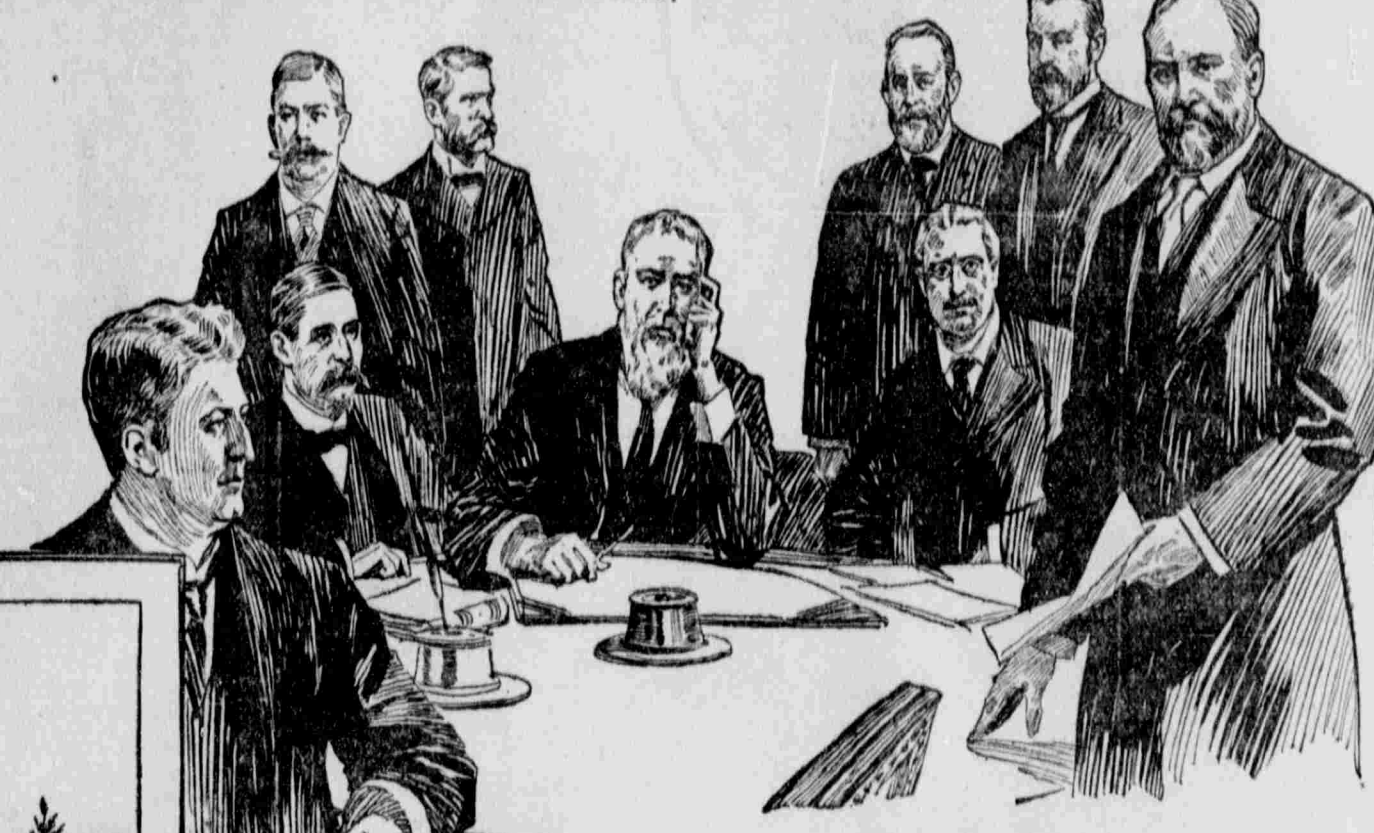
Each of these six colonies or states formerly had a distinct and costly government, which was an onerous burden even to the people of what is now collectively the richest nation, with the largest average of wealth per capita, in the world. Their last year's products amounted to \$550,000,000, of which about \$140,000,000 were from agriculture, more

tion has been born. Provincial ambitions are becoming federal, and a larger life awaits both the statesmen and the generality of the people. Considerable difficulty was at first experienced in obtaining a premier to form an acceptable ministry, but at last he was found in the person of the Right Hon. Edmund Barton, a native Australian, born in Sydney, 1849, a lawyer by profession and a politician in practice. He was educated in the common schools

Another Australian born member of the cabinet is the Right Hon. C. C. Kingston, who has been premier and attorney general of South Australia and is now the minister for trade. His address is Adelaide, where he was born in 1850 and where he was an idol of the



LORD HOPETOUN, GOVERNOR-GENERAL.



Mr. Kingdon. Mr. Deakin. Sir John Forrest. Sir George Turner.

NEWLY ELECTED AUSTRALIAN CABINET, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE, AND PRESIDENT OF SENATE

than \$100,000,000 mineral and another \$100,000,000 from the wool from the backs of 120,000,000 sheep. According to the latest consular report, the output of Australasian gold last year, including that of New Zealand, was more than 4,574,000 ounces. This insular continent, or continental island, whichever it may be termed, of Australia, with its 3,000,000 square miles of area and total population of more than 4,000,000, yields an average annual production of about \$140 for each inhabitant. Vast tracts are still unexplored, virgin forests yet to be exploited, arid areas reclaimed, and so far as natural resources go, Australia is as full of promise for the future as its inhabitants are full of energy.

To return to the federation and the political organization. While less than six months ago Australia presented an aggregation of states with no common political interest save perhaps fealty to the crown, since the year came in a na-

and University of Sydney, has been speaker of the legislative assembly of New South Wales, attorney general, a member of the federal convention and leader of the New South Wales Opposition. He is not a genius, his admirers say, but is universally popular and is alluded to as the strong man of Australian politics. He possesses no great oratorical abilities, but is an untiring worker and was the one man under whom as premier his colleagues were all willing to serve. He came into the premiership on his fifty-second birthday, and as the average age of his cabinet is 53 he regards himself as a year to the good. It was Mr. Barton who made the original draft and finally drew up the bill on which the commonwealth is founded. At the time, it may be remembered, the affair attracted universal attention, and the pen with which Queen Victoria signed the bill was presented to the present premier as a token of her high esteem.

people. Many a story is told of his fighting qualities, and one memorable instance is cited in which he challenged a political opponent to meet him on the "field of honor." He is an advanced Liberal in politics, and under his leadership his government effected the extension of the franchise to women, established the state bank of Australia and introduced the progressive system into land and income taxation and the death duties. He was president of the Australian federal convention which in 1897 and 1898 framed the bill to establish the commonwealth.

With qualities differing from those of either of these two members of that cabinet is Sir George Turner, who was born in Melbourne in 1851 and now holds the position of treasurer of the commonwealth. He was formerly premier and treasurer of Victoria and was created a knight in 1897. He is remembered as the man who pulled Victoria through a threatened collapse of credit on account of an overblown land boom, and by putting in practice the most rigid economies in governmental business prevented a financial crisis. He received his education in the Melbourne schools, is an LL. D. of Cambridge and for many years practiced as a barrister

hoops of steel and girdles of fire he virtually acknowledged his original mistakes and bowed to the superior wisdom of twentieth century counselors. With armed Europe on the one hand threatening his supremacy at sea and even a possible invasion of his home country and with recalcitrant Columbia reaching out for his commerce, he has been in a panic of apprehension lest he might lose his hold on that portion of the globe which he has won by conquest and by other means. The result was that his statesmen bestirred themselves to base their government on broader foundations. They sent out missionaries who persistently preached the "blood is thicker than water" doctrine until today the British empire may be said to comprise one-fifth the land sur-

III sent out hapless British soldiers and hired Hessians to reduce to slavery the American colonists who strove for a measure of self government. King Edward sends his most beloved son and presumptive successor to open an Australian parliament. The ostensible object of the long voyage of 12,000 miles taken by the Duke and Duchess of York was to grace by their presence the opening of the parliament by which the commonwealth of Australia became an accomplished fact, just 50 years after gold was discovered in New South Wales.

This month of June, 1901, witnesses the consummation of that auspicious event and finds the Australian common-

colony of Great Britain, though a self governing one, for the crown appoints its governor general and still has a voice in legislation. The parliament consists of two houses—the senate and house of representatives. In the senate are six members from each of the six states, elected for a term of six years. In the house of representatives there are 73 members, distributed according to the population of each colony, with 26 from New South Wales, 23 from Victoria, 9 from Queensland, 7 from South Australia, 5 from Western Australia and 5 from Tasmania. New Zealand wished to join the federation, but considered herself too far away and so compromised by celebrating the advent

CHIEF JUSTICE FULLER—A PRESIDENTIAL POSSIBILITY.

It cannot be considered otherwise than complimentary to any citizen of the United States that his name should be mentioned as a prospective incumbent of the presidency. When, therefore, the name of so eminent a citizen as the Hon. Melville Weston Fuller, chief justice of the supreme court, is suggested by his friends as a possible nominee of the next Democratic convention, it is presumably on account of his possession of the necessary qualifications for that great office. At the assembling of the nominating convention, however, Mr. Fuller will have passed his seventieth year, and his age, even should he be considered otherwise available, may serve as a bar to his nomination. Though the friends of the chief justice realize his age is a factor that friends of other candidates may successfully use against his nomination, they claim that Mr. Fuller is in possession of all his superb faculties and in his long lifetime has accumulated wisdom which eminently fits him for the presidency.

Born in Augusta, Me., in 1833, the embryo jurist was sent to and graduated from Bowdoin college, afterward reading law at Harvard. At the age of 22 he was admitted to the bar in his native town. Taking naturally to politics, he was elected to the common council and was made city attorney the following year. Seeking a wider field, he removed to Chicago in 1856, where he put out his "shingle" as a lawyer and always took a great interest in politics. He soon acquired a reputation as an orator and is said by his admirers to have divided honors with Stephen A. Douglas, whom he followed and loved. When, in 1858, President Cleveland appointed Mr. Fuller chief justice, though many inquired, "Who is this new man discovered in Chicago?" he was widely known as a lawyer and politician. He had distinguished himself in several great cases, and in his 33 years' practice at the Chicago bar he had "risen gradually to the highest rank in the legal profession." During the civil war he had given ardent support to the Union cause and had been a member of the Illinois constitutional convention of 1862 and was a delegate to the Democratic national conventions of 1864, 1872, 1876 and 1880. "Old timers" yet recall his spirited speech when he placed Thomas A. Hendricks in nomination in 1876.

Holding as he does the most elevated position in our government next to that of the chief magistracy and which he

is conceded to fill with grace and dignity, it is not known whether the chief justice would seek the presidency. Chief Justice Chase and Justice David Davis are almost the only supreme court judges who have been credited with presidential aspirations. Chief Justice Chase, however, is on record in a letter to the chairman of the Democratic convention in 1868 as saying, "I beg you to believe me, for I say it in all sincerity, that I do not desire the office of president or a nomination for it, nor do I know that, with my views and convictions, I am a suitable candidate for any party."

The national convention of the Labor Reform party nominated Justice Davis as its candidate for president in 1872 on a platform that declared among other things "in favor of a national currency based on the faith and resources of the nation, interchangeable with 3-65 per cent bonds of the government, the establishment of an eight hour law throughout the country and the payment of the national debt without mortgaging the property of the people to enrich capitalists." In answer to the letter informing him of the nomination Justice Davis wrote: "Be pleased to thank the convention for the unexpected honor which they have conferred upon me. The chief magistracy of the republic should neither be sought nor declined by any American citizen." But after the Republican and Democratic nominations had been made he declined the nomination. If Chief Justice Fuller should hold, with Justice Davis, that no citizen is at liberty either to decline or seek the presidency, he will probably resign himself to his fate.

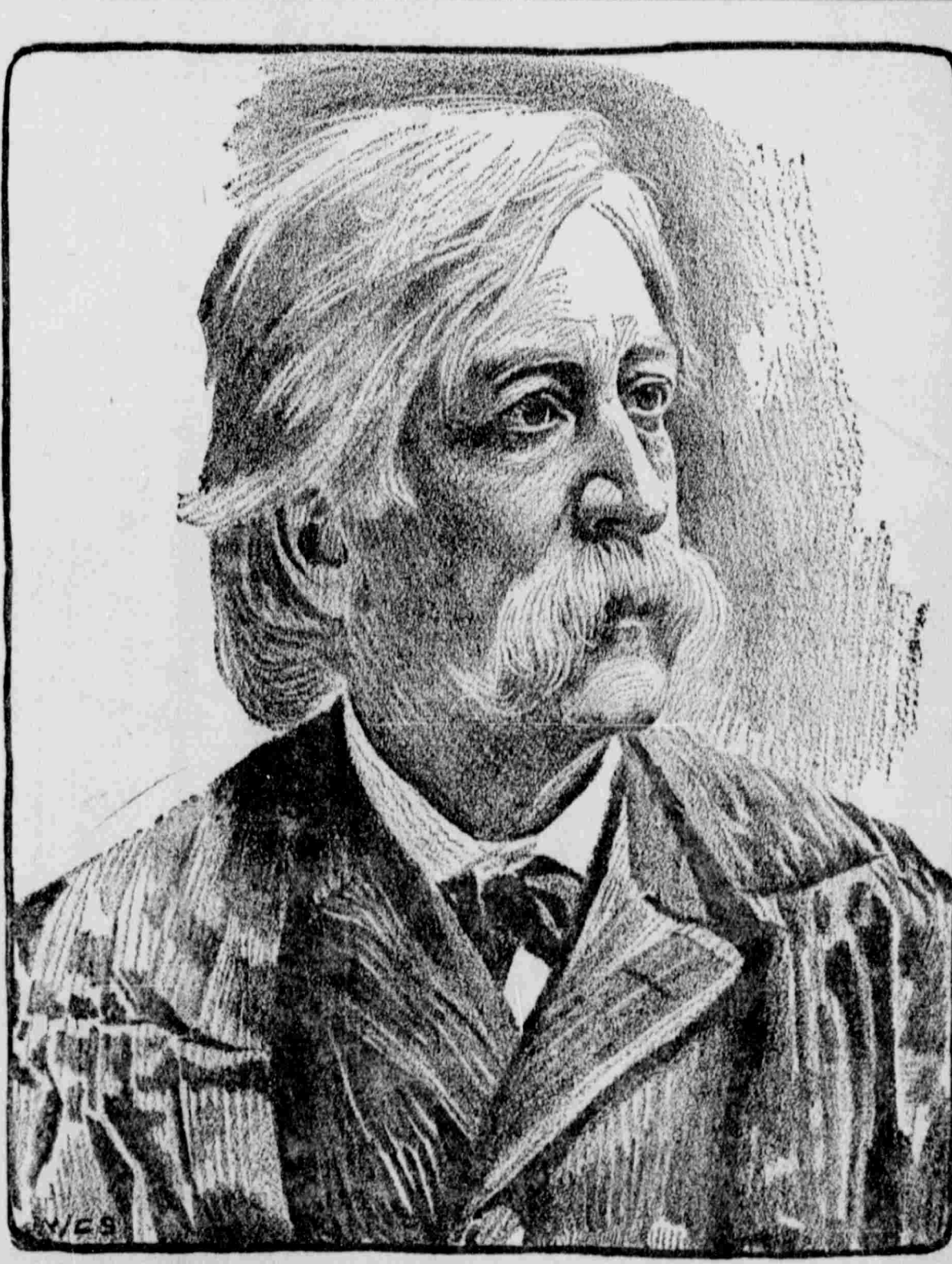
Chief Justice Fuller comes of a line of lawyers, his father, grandfather and great-grandfather having been of that profession, and he seems to possess an inherited aptitude for legal practice. It is acknowledged that he uses great tact and discretion in passing upon questions and in the assigning of the writing of opinions to the various justices, as recently evidenced in the Porto Rico cases. Said a leading attorney on this subject: "No human being can imagine what labor and strength of character are required in a successful chief justice. He must exercise the wisdom, the discretion and the judgment of a god, and he must so win and keep the affection and confidence of his associates that it becomes a pleasure for them to follow him." That Chief Justice Fuller has done this no one can deny who has ever been in the supreme

court room during sittings or who has seen the chief justice and his associates in friendly converse in the capitol corridors or on the streets of Washington.

The chief justice presides on the bench with a dignity all his own, despite the fact that he is below the medium height in stature, and his fine, strong face, with its frame of silvery white hair and flowing white mustache, betrays the scholar and litterateur. It is not generally told, especially in these latter days since he donned the gown, but he once wrote verse, and pretty good verse at that, though of late his Pegasus has been stabled out of sight or else turned out to pasture. He is very much such a man as the late William L. Wilson in appearance, habit and proclivities. Both may be reckoned as addicted to books, haunting libraries and bookstalls, as having similar dispositions and gentlemen to the core.

But, as many as are the encomiums that Mr. Fuller has won as chief justice and no matter how highly he is esteemed by his colleagues, it is in his home that he is to be seen at his best. He loves and is loved by his children and grandchildren, says one who knows him well, as only an amiable, great man is loved. Nothing delights him more than a romp with the younger scions of the house, and it is wonderful how, with all the noise and boisterousness of the many children playing about him, he finds time for work and opportunity for the concentration of thought upon the weighty problems which he is constantly pondering. The human side of all great men is the most enjoyable, even if not always most appreciated by practical people, and it may be that the writer who suggested that Chief Justice Fuller deserved the presidency because of the happy innovation the advent of his large family might make in the formal old White House was not far astray after all. At all events, an attractive wife and array of children cannot but enhance the reputation of one so richly endowed by nature even as Melville W. Fuller, with his charming personality and rare mental gifts.

The advent of Chief Justice Fuller and his family at Washington in 1888 was a social event of great importance. The "Fuller family" consisted chiefly of girls, and several years ago, on the eve of a presidential campaign, a certain paper advocated the nomination of the head of the family from this fact alone. There were "right fair reasons," the writer said, in the persons of his eight fair daughters, why Chief Justice Fuller



CHIEF JUSTICE MELVILLE WESTON FULLER.

should become not only the father of his country, but its prospective father-in-law! Since that time the number of eligible daughters has been depleted by

marriage, but several "fair reasons" still remain. The unwritten traditions of our people are not in favor of a chief justice

vaunting from the supreme bench into the presidential chair, but perhaps these traditions might be safely departed from or ignored.

TACT OF QUEEN ALEXANDRA.

Many stories have been related about the grace and wisdom of England's popular queen consort, but the following characteristic episode is probably new:

During the state visit of the German emperor and empress to London in 1891 a performance was given at Covent Garden in honor of the imperial visitors, and the

French artists then singing at the theater were on the programme. Rochefort went in hot haste to Lassalle, the French baritone, to describe the wound which would be inflicted upon French feeling by French artists appearing before the German emperor. Lassalle yielded to the arguments laid before him, stipulating only that he should be allowed to make a personal explanation to the Princess of Wales, who, he said, "has always shown to me a goodness which I would not slight for anything."

On being admitted to the presence of the princess Lassalle made his explanation. "Rochefort," he said, "is against our singing before the emperor. What are we to do?"

"Do as Rochefort advises you," was the tactful reply. "In a matter of this kind he is probably a better judge than either you or I."

The French artists declined to appear, and the late Sir Augustus Harris rebuked Rochefort for spoiling his programme. He took his scolding in silence, but when it was over he said quietly, "Now, sir, will you go and repeat what you have said to me to the Princess of Wales?"

LUCKY STONES.

It is said that the agate quenches thirst and, if put into the mouth, allays fever.

Amber is a cure for sore throat and glandular swellings.

Catseye is a charm against witchcraft.

Coral is a talisman against thunder and evils by flood and field.

The onyx is said to cause terror to the wearer as well as ugly dreams.

Sapphires impel the wearer to all good works.

BITS OF WORLDLY WISDOM.

All the conductors of the Brookfield (Mass.) trolley line have been appointed special officers.

Before the war the mines in South Africa gave work to between 60,000 and 70,000 men.

In setting and distributing type a compositor's hand travels on an average

11 miles a day. Leaving Sundays and holidays out of account, this means about 3,000 miles a year.

It has been demonstrated by actual test that a single towboat can transport at one trip from Pittsburgh to New Orleans 29,000 tons of coal loaded in barges. The boat and its tow, worked

by a few men, thus carry as much freight as 2,000 cars and 100 locomotives manned by six men.

The railways in this country support about 4,000,000 persons and their families.

The total receipts of taxes by the city of New York last year was \$72,294,295. Many Chinese temples are provided with a bell at the entrance, and when

the worshiper enters he gives the rope a pull and rings the bell in order that the deity may be notified of his coming and be on hand to attend to his business.

Cardinal Vaughan is now in his seventieth year, having been born at Gloucester, England, on April 15, 1832. Of that period 47 years have been spent in the sacerdotal office and 25 years in

the episcopal. Ordained when but 23, his eminence was consecrated bishop of Salter at the age of 49 and administered that busy and populous diocese for 23 years, when in 1892 he was chosen to succeed Cardinal Manning in the archiepiscopal see at Westminster.

Glasgow's penny electric tram cars, owned by the corporation, have begun running. They are overhead trolley cars and double deckers. Glasgow owns her own telephones and has thus reduced the annual rental of a house telephone to something like \$25. Glasgow lights its own streets with electricity and gas and sells light cheaply to its citizens. The plan of corporation ownership is to have a fair and notable trial.

Out of the 120,000,000 English speaking people in the world 80,000,000 are in America.

Orthodox Mohammedan Turks shave the head with the exception of a tuft on the crown, which is left to insure a tight grip on the angel of the resurrection when he comes to pull them out of the grave on the day of judgment.

The Women's Trades Union league of Great Britain has 4,000 members