

Two or three simple statements of fact—in a want ad—may change and enlarge the whole outlook for you!

# DESERET EVENING NEWS.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

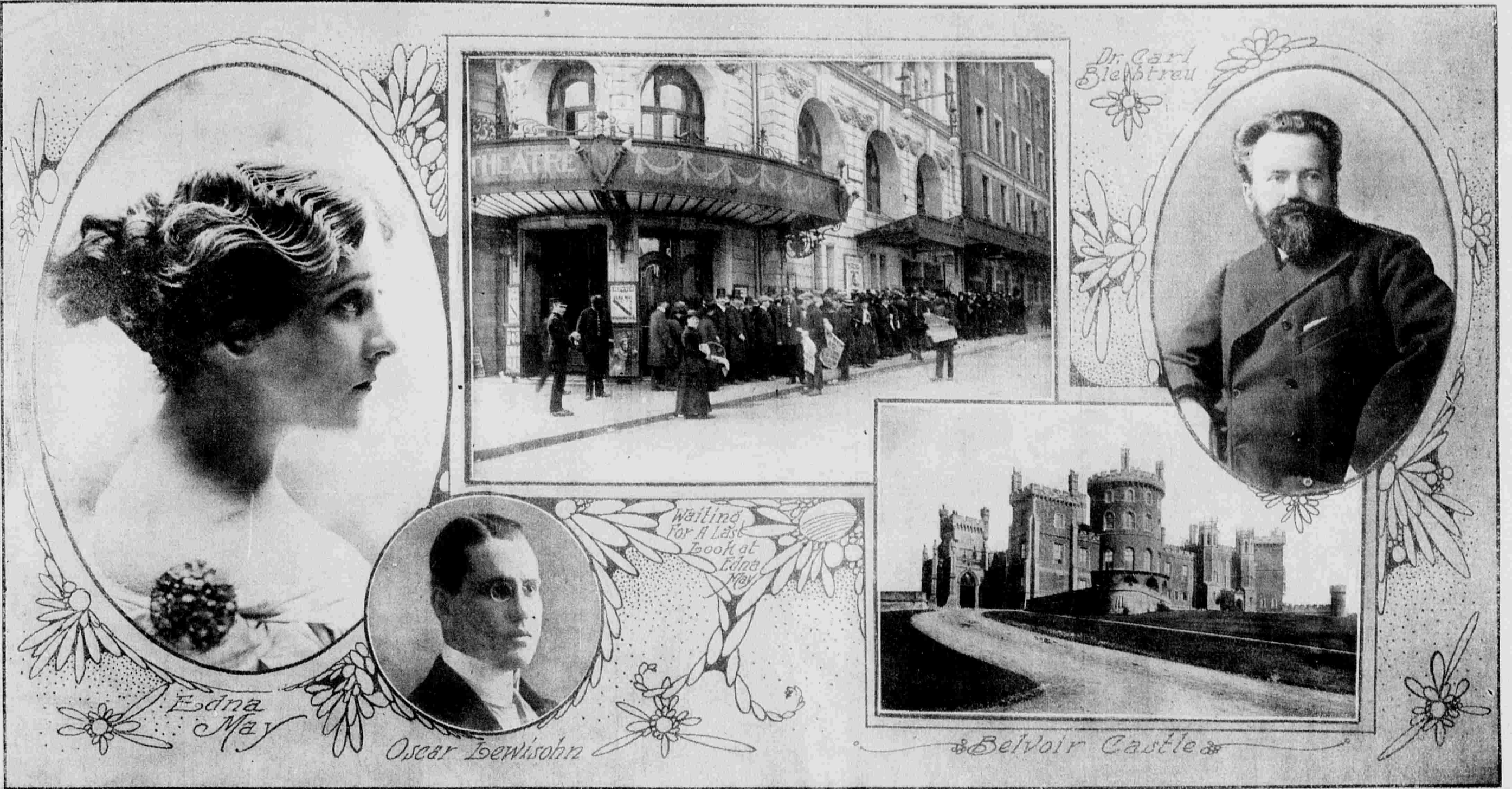
SATURDAY JUNE 8 1907 SALT LAKE CITY UTAH

Half a dozen lines of type may be the link between you and something you want.

PART TWO

FIFTY-SIXTH YEAR

## The Saturday "News" Special Foreign Service.



### RENEWS ATTACK ON SHAKESPEARE

Dr. Bleibtreu Claims That Bard of Avon Was Neither Poet Nor Playwright.

RUTLAND WAS RESPONSIBLE.

German Professor Says That the Earl Was the Real Author of Famous Classic Plays.

Special Correspondence.

URICH, May 29.—Since Dr. Carl Bleibtreu startled the literary world a few months ago with his book, "The True Shakespeare," in which he attempts to prove that the real author of the plays was Roger, Earl of Rutland, his novel theory has been vigorously assailed and subjected to much ridicule by English Shakespearean scholars. But the crude German doctor's belief that to the poet and not the plebeian belongs the credit of producing the immortal works has not been a bit shaken by these attacks.

"I have met with no objections to my theory," he told me today, "which I could not readily answer. They leave unshaken the evidence adduced in my book on which it is based. So much attention has it attracted in Germany, where Shakespeare's works are quite as much admired as in England, that the book has already reached a third edition."

"What sort of man do you picture Shakespeare to have been?" I asked.

HIS NAME WAS SHAKESPEER.

"The real Shakespeare—not Shakespeare—seems to have been the personification of Falstaff," he replied. "Even his bust at Stratford bears a strong resemblance to this type. Probably he played the part of Falstaff himself. If so, this would account for the fact that Queen Elizabeth favored William Shakespeare the poet. Of this there is no proof whatever. It probably arose out of the tradition that she laughed so much at Falstaff that she wished to see him in a new play—a wish that was gratified in 'The Merry Wives of Windsor.'"

"Of Shakespeare's capacity as an actor we can judge only by the evidence of Rowe and Betton—which is that he was a very mediocre comedian. He was so little esteemed by his fellow actors that one of them, in his last will, left to three others substantial tokens of his esteem—to Shakespeare only a trifle. What we really know of the man is his life as a financial business man. He had no less than five lawsuits involving property. As a money-lender he sometimes sued his debtors. He bought many estates in his life. In 1597 he acquired New Place. A little later he had paid the debts of his bankrupt father and obtained a coat-of-arms. And this at the very beginning of his career either as an actor or as a so-called poet!"

WHERE DID HE GET IT?

"How did he get the money? As a third-rate actor he could have earned only an insignificant income. As a poet he would have earned, as even Mr. Sidney Lee must admit, about £20 a year. His so-called managementship of

the Globe theater—of which Ben Jonson, by the way, makes no mention—would have given him greater profits only during the last six years of his life, and we know only that he sold his share to three other partners.

"How he became a comparatively wealthy man as early in his career as 1597—when he was only 33—remains a mystery. The credulity and lack of scientific research displayed by the supporters of the Stratford myth is shown by the persistency with which they quote the fable to account for it that Lord Southampton once gave him \$1,000. These 'experts' seem to be unacquainted with the original text of Rowe's biography which contains this story. It is evident from that that Rowe himself doubted its authenticity. He mentions it, as he says, only because he had heard that Davenant told it. Davenant was an inveterate liar. Apparently his concoction of the story was based on the allusion made by the braggart Falstaff in the play to the thousand pounds which Prince Hal owed him.

WAS A HORSE BOY.

"The supposition that the Stratford actor was on terms of intimate friendship with Southampton is pure imagination. It is founded on nothing more substantial than the dedication of 'Venus and Adonis' and 'Lauretta' to this nobleman. This was in 1593, before Shakespeare had appeared on the stage. The date usually assigned for this event is 1594 and even that is dubious. In 1593 he must have been, if we trust Rowe, a horse-boy! The easy, familiar style of these dedications is such as might be naturally assumed by one nobleman addressing another. It is not at all the form which, following the custom of that time, an obscure author would adopt in addressing a titled nobleman.

"That the Stratford actor was a friend and partisan of Essex is another fable. It originated in the allusion to Essex in the prologue to 'Richard II' in its first revolutionary form, was performed for the benefit of the conspirators before the outbreak of the Essex plot. Now we know a man in Shakespeare's circumstances—always cautious and business-like where money was involved—have risked offending his gracious queen by a subtle veiled attack on Lord Leicester in 'Hamlet' (which embodies the secret family tragedy of the house of Essex) and the glorification of Southampton's forbidden marriage—a distasteful to the queen in 'Much Ado About Nothing.'"

THE RUTLAND THEORY.

"But all these things become easily explicable on my theory that the Earl of Rutland was the author of the plays and poems. Rutland was the bosom friend of Southampton and the stepson-in-law of Essex. The Rutland theory accounts, too, for the intimate knowledge of court secrets revealed in veiled form in 'Midsummer Night's Dream'—Leicester's ambiguous double courtship of the queen and the dowager countess of Essex.

### Edna May's Farewell To The Public

When Actress is Married Here's What She Will Do: Seven Months' Honeymoon Tour Of the World, and Then Going to Settle Down in the Most Beautiful English Country House That Can Be Had.

Special Correspondence.

LONDON, May 29.—"When you are married, why, what will you do?" So might the playgoing public on both sides of the Atlantic demand of Edna May just now, paraphrasing the famous ditty from her first and biggest success, "The Belle of New York."

For, as everybody knows, Edna May is going to be married soon, and not to any foreign "nobleman" either, though there is little doubt that she could have been a countess, or marchioness if not a duchess if she had so chosen, but to a plain American, at least, an American millionaire. In fact, it is just possible that before these lines are printed the erstwhile Belle of New York and Belle of Mayfair will have become Mrs. Oscar Lewisohn, and that the son of the American copper king and his fair bride will have set off on their honeymoon trip, which is going to be one of the longest and probably one of the costliest that ever a young married couple took.

At present, however, the date of the marriage is set for the end of next month—June—though the scene of the ceremony has not been and will not be made public. For should publicity be thus given one can imagine the mobbing there would be. The ceremony will be performed in London, and there is little doubt that the public here would crowd in thousands to witness the union of the most popular London stage idol of the day to her American millionaire. Only it remains to be seen whether, and even the probability, that these two young people, who are evidently very much in love with each other, will not be able to wait until the date they themselves have fixed, but even intimate friends have been assured that it will not take place until the month of weddings is nearly over. Whether the knot will be tied in a synagogue, in an Episcopal church or at a registry office, however, not even the nearest friends of the "parties" are able to say.

And when Edna May is married, well, "what will she do?" What manner of life, in fact, has been planned by this girl, who up to now has had to work hard in spite of having been for nearly 10 years a popular star, but who now will be the mistress of millions? Is she eager to be free of society and a real entertainer, a grand dame in England and on the continent, or does she prefer to lead a quiet life and to find happiness in her domestic joys that were denied her in her first brief and rather painful matrimonial experience?

SHE WILL LIVE IN ENGLAND.

To these quite natural questions there have been no answers as yet, despite the many interviews with Miss May that have been published since in public at the Aldwych Theatre a fortnight or so ago. It has been announced, of course, that England will be the future home of Edna May and her husband, and that is natural enough since both have spent many years in this country. Oscar Lewisohn, in fact, though he went to Yale and knows his own country thoroughly, knows Europe quite as well. He was the constant companion of his Jewish father, who traveled in search of health all over Britain and the continent. I am able to describe here the life which he and his famous bride have

planned to lead together, but in doing so I am deterred from putting a single word of it between inverted commas, or in the form of an interview with Edna May. She and her future husband, in fact, are reticent to the point of hypersensitiveness, so far as the mention of their future plans in print is concerned, and when I asked Miss May's permission to tell about them as coming from her she refused, kindly but firmly. All that she would consent to authorize, in fact, and this she did most willingly, was the publication of the little "goodby" message from her to the American public which is printed herewith just as she wrote and sent it to me, and which has very real and personal interest of its own. The rest of this article, telling what Edna May is planning to "do" must be taken only as coming from one who knows the facts.

THE SIMPLE LIFE.

She and her millionaire husband



Edna May

are going to live the "simple life"—the life so far as the simple life can be lived in a big English country house provided with every modern luxury and means of enjoyment that wealth can secure. They are now looking for a "manor house" standing in the center of a broad estate, and when they have settled down in it such ambitions as the conquest of "high society" are apparently about the last things that are going to trouble them. They will entertain their friends, of course, and lavishly, too, but to be a "great hostess" in the sense of having titled and possibly even royal folk as her guests is not, oddly enough, a destiny that appeals to Edna May.

Nor is this a case of sour grapes, for there is little doubt that the former Belle of New York could hold her own in the "high society" of London, but Rosie Boote, the present Marchioness of Headfort, is of even humbler origin yet her guests may include the noblest in the land. There is a good deal, of course, in having a marquis for a husband, but as Alexander Dumas remarked, "the life of the Jewish millionaire in English society, as witness the position of Sir Ernest Cassel, the king's great chamberlain, the Rothschilds, and others whose name is legion.

"One of the chief desires of this happy actress is that the big estate which her husband is going to buy should include a 'home farm' and that she herself shall be responsible for the quality of her butter, cream and eggs. It is not often that the stage inspires one of its feminine luminaries with a yearning for homely joys, but it is likely enough that her last part in 'Nelly Nell' may have done something of the kind for the former 'Belle of New York' who appeared first as an advocate of the simple life and then as the proprietress of 'Simplicity Farm,' and who knows that a desire for doing things with real things and in a real-life-like manner may have been the direct result? At any rate, if Edna May elects to possess and to keep her country home, which she will have a distinguished example in the person of the Queen of England, who knows as much about the practical raising and breeding of live stock for profit.

Edna May's favorite recreations are riding, billiards and croquet. Her husband's are hunting, shooting and golf, and these are the pastimes which they intend to go in for when they find the big country house which they want for their home. Up to now, however, they have not succeeded in finding it, although they have looked at half a dozen, manors, towers, granges and castles by the score. The price is no object, but so far every residence that Miss May and her fiancé have inspected has had some fault beyond easy remedy.

The house they are looking for must be quite in the country and preferably in Berkshire or one of the other home counties. It may be built of stone or old, but must have its interior modernized to the last degree. It must stand in its own park and there must be lawns and ornamental flower gardens and kitchen and fruit gardens, stables and garage.

A house with about twenty rooms is what the young couple want. There must be a large hall, square or octagonal; a drawing room, a handsome dining room, a cozy boudoir, a sunny morning room, a library, a smoking room, a billiard room and a den for the master of the house; this latter will

also be the gunroom. This leaves eleven bedrooms, none too many when one considers that they may have half a dozen or more friends for a house party at one time.

In the stables will be half a dozen hunters and saddle horses, two for the mistress, the others for the master. Edna May has gone for a canter in the Row almost every week day, but her horses have been hired by the month or quarter.

Hunting is the favorite pastime of Mr. Lewisohn, and he will try to get a house near a first-class pack of hounds. The stables will have a pair of cobs for driving and also to draw the occasional baggage cart when visitors come and go. No more horseflesh will be necessary, for nearly all the running around will be done by automobile. There will be three or four different sized motor cars in the garage.

Will look after flowers. The gardens will be the special charge of the mistress. Edna May delights in flowers. She will see to it that there are always a bountiful supply in the gardens and conservatories. She will have a special lawn for croquet, at which she is an adept, and also lawns for tennis and perhaps bowls.

On the Lewisohn's home farm a private golf links will be laid out. Mr. Lewisohn is a crack player. He has many trophies won on Westchester and Long Island links. Miss May is very fond of the game, too, but confesses that she is only a beginner and needs a lot of practice.

Should Mr. Lewisohn be unable to buy more than the grounds and home farm surrounding the house, he will endeavor to get the shooting rights over a thousand or more acres. He is a good shot, likes the sport and wants to entertain shooting friends. Miss May does not go in for shooting, but will preside over the luncheon in the fields when the seasons come around and the partridges and pheasants begin to fly.

Chief among the entertainments will be dancing in the country house dance. Miss May simply revels. And then, of course, there will be dinner parties and such things. No expense will be spared in fitting up a billiard room for Miss May is quite in love with the game and also with its variations of snooker and so on. She can play brilliantly, too—better than a good many first-class men.

### KING ADOPTS ASTOR'S SCHEME

Is Following the Lead Set by the Multi-Millionaire's Son at Clevedon.

AT THE BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

Is Converting the Great Apartments Into Self-Contained Suites—American Debutantes in London.

Special Correspondence.

LONDON, May 18.—King Edward is quick to appreciate a good thing, and to adopt it himself when the chance occurs. He heard of how young Astor is transforming the interior of Clevedon House, the historical mansion on the Thames which his father presented to him as a wedding gift. His majesty sent a member of his household staff to Clevedon to see what is being done there. The guest apartments, as I have already told in this correspondence, have been converted into self-contained suites, complete, each having its separate sitting room, bathroom, etc. The king was so impressed with the report of his functionary that he at once issued orders that the same system should be adopted in Buckingham palace. The work is now well advanced. As their majesties' guests only meet their host or hostess one meal a day, or two at the most, the arrangement by which the visitors are quartered in their own complete domain is particularly convenient.

NOT VERY POPULAR.

The great white house on the wooded heights overlooking the Thames has seldom had any air of life about it since Mr. Astor bought it from the late Duke of Westminster, who sold it to provide for the children of his second marriage. The duke was very popular in Taplow and Maidenhead; he was a good landlord, and had that broad tolerance for "the people" which the public expects of a great English nobleman. Mr. Astor's action in closing the riverside walk of Clevedon Woods gave one part between two public ferries which he reluctantly fenced off with oak barbed wire, and padlocks, was not popular. People said that it was the American who was the aristocrat, and the duke the democrat. Then he stopped tea being sold at one of the lodges. The people would have stood it from an Englishman but not from a foreigner. Mr. Astor was seldom seen at Clevedon and having a full-time job he was not able to be of practical use to the town and country round about. Bringing little trade and less visiting, the old place became aggressively insular in tone.

Now the district is hoping for better things at the hands of his son. Because, Mrs. Astor is said to be very nice, and the duke the duke of the old-fashioned entertaining and it is that which causes money to circulate in the neighborhood. Young Astor and his wife have an opportunity to gain the good will of the neighborhood which was withheld from the older man.

"IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE."

Half the battle in social success here is won if you manage to get talked about. There are scores of lovely wo-

(Continued on page eighteen.)