

"News" Special Foreign Service. The Saturday for no one in Binche goes to bed from Sunday till Wednesday at carnival time. MRS. EDDY'S MISTAKE. IT WAS EUROPE'S utter a harsh criticism against Fife-CUP RACES ARE ments would satisfy them. Last week not, at least, where it would find its way into print-but if ever a man had Apostle of Christian Science Climb the committee to reconsider, and by, they have declined. The Yerkes roup say the sum demanded is ex-rtion and that unless it is reduced the just cause of complaint against a yacht designer Sir Thomas has against File. Such an egregious blunder as he comed Up the Wrong Family Tree. MADDEST CARNIVAL Special Correspondence. MUCH TOO COSTLY mitted-designing a yacht that in rac-ing trim was over a foot longer than ONDON, March 15 .- Labourchere's characteristic comments today on L the letter he has received concern ing the ancestors of Mrs. Eddy, pro

Sir Thomas Lipton Hesitates About Expending Another Big Fortune on Fourth Attempt.

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# WANT CONDITIONS CHANGED.

British Yachtsmen Think Rules Governing Contests Should be Altered So Other Boats Can Try.



ONDON, March 15 .-- Under the conditions imposed by the deed of gift which require that 10 months' notice be given of a challenge for the America's cup, no race for the historic trophy is possible this year, and among British yachtsmen it is now coneldered highly improbable that any challenge will be sent for a race to be sailed next year.

Sir Thomas Lipton values. money solely for what it will bring him, but that it will ever bring him the cup seems now more unlikely than ever. Lipton's Limited having suffered from the prevailing trade depression, with diminished profits from his business, Sir Thomas is not a bit anxious to expend another fortune in a fourth attempt to capture it. He has intimated to his friends that he would be delighted if some other yachtsman would step into the breach and relieve him of the task of lifting the cup, which he rashly set himself when his faith in British yacht designers and a spare-no-expense policy was much greater than now.

### NEW RULES SOUGHT.

In response to his last communica-tion to the New York Yacht club, Sir Thomas has received a reply stating that a committee had been appointed to consider the points raised by him. Chief among them is the question-whether the New York Yacht club will make its revised measurement rules applicable to future contests for the applicable to future contests for the

cup. These rules, say British yacht-design. ers, will have the effect of penalising heavily in time allowance the extreme types of racing machines which have competed for the cup in late years. If her stipulated water line length-was inexcusable in a designer of his wide experience. The result was that so much ballast had to be taken out of her to make her float within the 90 foet ilmit that she could not stand up under her canvas. Poor Sir Thomas chucked away a fortune on her and digenot eve get a decent run for his money. He has not said much about it, but he has

done a heap of thinking and it will snow ink before he places another or-der with Fife. It would be very interesting to see what Shamrock III in her best trim would do against the Reif-ance, but she will go to the scrap heap before she gets that chance."

### SOUR GRAPES.

While racing for the cup, because of the appeals they make to patriotic feeling, undoubtedly arouse more enthusi-asm among the masses here than any other international sporting competitions, it is a fact that British yachts-men generally are not now enthusiastic over them. From conversations had with some of the most prominent among them this summary of their reasons for their apathetic attitude is condensed.

The cost and equipment of a singlesticker, 90-foot racing machine con-structed of aluminum and maganese or botin bronze is so high that only multimillionaires, or syndicates of multimillionaires, can afford the expense They are utterly valueless except for one series of races for the cup, and perhaps serving as trial boats for later competitors. Aside from the cup races themselves they furnish hardly any stimulus to yacht racing. They are too costly to be maintained as a permanent racing class. They draw too muc! water to be of any service as cruisers No yachtsman has any use for them All that can be done with them after they have fulfilled their mission as cup challengers or defenders, and perhaps trial boats, is to lay them up to e sold some day as old junk.

It was not the purpose of the original donors of the cup to the New York Yacht club merely to provide a trophy for international competition. As stat-ed in the deed of gift it was their object also to encourage yacht designing, yacht building and yacht racing. By the policy they have adopted of By the policy they have adopted of restricting competition for the cup to 90-footers as now developed, the New York Yacht club, say the British yachtsmen, places the narrowest pos-sible limits on both yacht designing, yacht building and consequently yacht racing. When a challenge is re-ceived instead of three, four or half a dozen boats being built, and the fastest of the batch selected to defend the cun of the batch selected to defend the cup, as a rule only one yacht is built. Only two designers, one on the challenging and one on the challenged side have a chance to show what they can accomplish

PLEA FOR SMALLER BOATS.

Yacht racing as a sport would gain

photess of Christian Science, are Science, are Science, are Science, are Science, are Science, and Science, a amusing that they are worth quoting in full, together with the correspon

It will be remembered, perhaps, the It was stated in the Ladies' Hon. lournal in an article written under Mr. Eddy's supervision, that "among Mr. Eddy's ancestors was Sir John Mac Nell, a Scotch knight, prominent Lititsh politics and ambassador to Per sin. Her great-grandfather was the Right Hon, Sir John MacNeil, of Edin

Right Hon, Sir John MacNeil, of Edin burgh, Scotland, Mrs. Eddy is the ohl-survivor of her father's family, which bire the coat-of-arms of the ancien. MacNeils. The motto is 'Vincere aut Mori' ('Conquer or Die') surrounding the shield, and enclosed in a heav, wreath is the motto of the Order of th Bath 'Tria Juncta in Uno' ('Three Jeined in One'). To these family tra-ditions Mrs. Eddy has but one heir by her first husband, Col. George Waah ington Clover, of Charlestown, South Carolina.' arolina

And here is the letter the editor Truth here is the letter the editor of Truth has just received from Aberdeen in consequence of Mrs. Eddy's claim. "Sir-I shall be glad if you think this untruth, contained in the enclose-article, suitable for correction in you paper.

paper. "I am the only married grandchild

the late Right Hon. Sir John McNell, G. C. B., of Edinburgh, 'Who was prom-inent in British politics and ambassado to Persia,' and Mrs. Eddy is certainly

not my daughter. "My mother, Margaret Ferooza Mc-Neill, was the only child of his who reached maturity, though he was three times married; she married my father, Duncan Stewart, R. N., now captain, retired, and died in 1871. Of her six children, one died unmarried three years ago, five survive, of whom four

years ago, five survive, of whom four are unmarried. "I am the wife of Commander N. G. Macalister, R. N., who is at present inspecting officer of Coastguard for Aberdeen division. Yours faithfully, "FLORENCE MACALISTER." "P. S.-I wrote to the editor of the Ladies' Home Journal, Philadelphia, asking him to publish a correction, and asking him to publish a correction, and I sent a copy of the letter to Mrs. Eddy herself. She did not reply at all, and he excused himself from publishing it, on

the ground that the correction could not appear for five months. Part of the article has been copied into a Dundee paper, and probably into others also.

"It is not unworthy of note," ob-serves Mr. Labourchere "that Mrs. Ed-dy-who read proofs of the article in the Philadelphia Ladies' Home Jour-nal-failed to detect the misspelling of the name of the family of which she claims to be the last representative she claims to be the last representative

which is not surprising in view of what Mrs. Macalister now states. The next word on this matter clearly lies

rition and that unless it is reduced the heme will be dropped. Friends of the Morgan group of un-rground rallway promoters have not rgotten that Mr. Yerkes and his dends have persistently opposed them a many of their proposed undertak-ngs, with the result that immense uns have been lost in legal and other referee. The Verkes neonle are not plenses. The Yerkes people are not opular with the working classes, es-celally those who have to use the amway system already under their antrol. They impose restrictions with gard to workmen's tickets which are onsidered irritating. For instance, orkmen's return tickets are not avail-ble until after 3 p. m. The result is hat Mr. Yerkes and his friends had the ull force of the trade unlons and inuserial bodies working against him. While these forces did not/appear on new surface during the time his bill as before the committee in parliament iduences were at work privately which ave put a severe check on Mr. Yerkes rogress. His opponents do not belleve, but he will take his defeat quietly, and is said that he will invite the Royar ommission on London Traffic to coni the Rapid Transit Railroad commis on of New York is invited by the loyal commission to advise them on chnical questions connected with for omotion

# Queen Victoria's Old Yacht.

ONDON, March 6 .- No longer capa. ble of playing any part in that - maratime pageantry by which Britannia proclaims she rules the

waves, the ancient steam yacht Vicoria and Albert, favorite ship of the late queen, is to be cremated by the king's command. Her entire hull and all her costly woodwork, furniture and interior fittings are to be consigned to the flames, while all her machinery and metal work is to be smashed and pulverized, till only the yacht's memory will be left.

The famous vessel, to which fleets innumerable have thundered salutations, and the flags of all the nations have been lowered in homage, now lies at Portsmouth dockyard, undergoing demolition in preparation for her august end. Her masts and machinery have already been removed, and while workmen are ripping out timbers, planking and bulkheads, special policemen keep vigilant watch that no scrap of her may be snatched by souvenir hunters from the huge bonfires that are being built up in the dock of material taken from the vessel.

On the occasion of his recent visit to Portsmouth, the king took h of her and issued the command for her destruction. But before she fell into the hands of the dockyard officials to be annihilated, some mementos of her were distributed among the members of the royal family and a few others found a permanent lodgment at Wind-sor castle. Admiral Fullerton, who so long commanded her as the "queen's was also presented with a skipper," souvenir of her. Nearly half a century ago the vessel was launched from Pembroke dock-yard. To the queen, in her earlier days, she was much more than a yacht, she was a veritable floating home where she could enjoy with Prince Al-bert a seclusion she would hardly find ashore. All the internal arrangements and scheme of decoration were design-ed by the prince consort himself in con. junction with the queen, down to the pattern of white chintz, dotted with moss rose buds that covered the walls of the royal apartments. These includ-ed a musicroom and a schoolroom and nerusery for the royal children. So in-timate were the associations of the vessel with her husband's memory that at his death she issued strict orders that everything on board should be main-tained in the same condition as when When the designs for the present royal yacht, Victoria and Albert, were being drawn up, the queen at first pro-posed that the new craft should be called the Balmoral, being loth to the last that the vessel she was so deeply attached to should share her name with newer ship, even her own royal yacht of the future. Fitting it was, that the last voyage of the old vessel should have been made on that sorrowful February afternoon, three years ago, when with King Ed-ward on board, she followed the re-mains of Queen Victoria, borne by the little Alberta, through the fleet at Spithead And equally fitting, it seems that now, her mission finished, instead of being allowed to rot in some mud flat, she should expire in a burnt offering to the memory of her beloved mistress. England will understand the fillal feeling which prompts this act on King Ed But the will be heard on the score that she parliamentary committee before whom might have been sold for some thous-the scheme was laid said that nothing and pounds in solid cash.

# Binche's Two Thousand Inhabitants Swelled to Thirty Thousand Merrymakers.

# WINDOWS ALL BARRICADED.

## Everyone Competted to Wear a Mask And Costume Under Penalty of Being Mobbed.

### Special Correspondence.

DRUSSELS, March 17.-When the editor told me to go to Binche, in Ď Belgian Hainault, to describe the carnival, I knew I was going to something interesting, for even emotionless guide book terms it BIT OF ROYAL SENTIMENTES "selebrated," but I was in no way pre--pared for such a scene as I saw, and Costly Woodwork and Fittings of which well merits description.

I left Brussels on the Monday preceding Shrove Tuesday so as to get well behind the scenes before the fun began next day, and I started with as decorous looking a lot of fellow passengers as one would wish. What was my surprise, when at the end of two hours' train run, to see emerge from the carriages a number of merry-an-drews, some masked and cloaked, some in fancy dress, nay, even some men that had started with smart top hats and immaculate overcoats emerging from the station with garments turned inside out, and their heads tied up in handkerchiefs!

I had a letter of introduction to a Belgian family, one of whom came to meet me and plumped me right into its kindly bosom immediately on my arrival, begging me to run for the car-riage as fast as I could. "Why?" I asked with the mingled

curiosity of a woman and a journalist. "You're not disguised," was the reply, "and if the masked men catch yourun! run!" and taking my hand my new acquaintance raced me to the carriage, acquaintance faced me to the carriage, where I had just time to pop in before a whack from a bladder in the hand of one of a band of masked and domi-noed men fell heavily on the carriage. "This is a nice way to receive a stranger." I said breathlessly. "What does it mean? Surely carnival does not been the top to the carriage of the same second back of the top to the same second second second back of the top to the same second second second back of the top to the same second secon

begin till tomorrow.

"Carnival began yesterday immedi-ately after mass," said the young wo-

COTTON LOSSES Sunday till Wednesday at carnival time. Ali the shops keep open, and as my ho-tel was in a prominent part and my window looked on the main street I carnivaled very unwillingly all night. At 5 o'clock such a drumming rang in my ears that I at first thought of sol-diers passing; next, a wild clash of bells made me think of goats; when I remembered Binche and its carnival, and, half asleep, tumbled out of a bed so high and so unnecessarily prominent in the frame that I damaged myself all over getting out and in. Lancashire Manufacturers and

over getting out and in. It was barely 5 o'clock, but the drum-mers were going round to tell the Gilles to dress, an operation in which the whole family takes a part, though there are professional straw packers, like fashionable coffeurs, who go from one house to the other to form good humps. To have a Gille in a family is to boast a luster that is not for all, since before any young man can join the noble army of Gilles he must have registered his name at the town hall, where it is seriously considered whether he has suf-ficient means to carry out the part prop-

erly. To be a Gille is indeed no joke, for it requires a splendid health and powers of endurance as well as a well-lined pocket. The costume is expensive, the hat alone costing \$40, while only to hire and the splend at a get-up obliges a Gille to spend at least \$25 for his day's amusement. The dance, which, in addition to a queer, jerky step, requires that the performer shall learn to double and undouble his body in such a way as shall set all his bells ringing at once, is carefully re-

hearsed. Till 9 o'lcock those terrible drums nev-er stopped, exclting me to make fran-tic dashes to the window, till I was nearly frozen with the cold, while I be-came a mass of bruises from my constant duel with the bony bedstead. All the morning the Gilles paraded the town with their bands, dancing, but without their hats, which are enormously heavy. They gradually collected behind them the whole town, and the immense stream of visitors pourng in from all over Belgium and France ran the 2,000 inhabitants up to a temporary 30,000. All these were either in fancy dress or masked, and the scene in the sunshine

was quite indescribable. At 2 o'clock a procession formed of a number of societies that had arrived from all parts to compete for the handsome money prizes offered for the best costumed party, and of which there were about fifty this year. Perhaps the best group was that of the students of the Catholic college, who turned out in yellow and white satin, the papal colors, with violet velvet cloaks and feathered caps. A gang of assassins, in the traditional slouch hats, dark wigs, enveloping cloaks and carrying wicked booking daggers, was very good. Fifty Frenchmen who dressed as schoolgirls, with flowing yellow hair, came along rolling hoops or skipping ropes, being dressed in plaid frocks and Holland pinafores. They were very amusing. All the costumes were new and most were handsome.

But when the Gilles appeared in their turn, with feathers tossing, hats a blaze of sheen and color, bells jangling, rihbons waving, wooden shoes smiting the hard stones with rhythmic regularity, the effect was really remarkable. The rowd went hopelessly mad with delight, though this is an annual event. As they advanced dancing I noticed each Gille caried a deep basket filled with oranges and that a fresh supply was carried close at hand. "Look out!" cried Miss Belgium sud-denly, while I was wondering what the oranges were for. "Look out!" and she wisked me in from the front-door step, whence I had been studying the scene, and piloted me to the safe shelter of a wire-protected window. Then 1 understood. The Gilles were hurling with a fine energy the yellow fruit at friend and foe in every direction. Here, there and everywhere the ripe balls wre falling fast. This example was taken as a signal. Every one produced oranges, and soon the air was filled with thousands of them, crossing and recrossing like rockets. Within five minutes, too, every child in Binche had its mouth full, and while all were dancing wildly to the old tunes the fruit was smashing on balconies, against shutters or unprotected faces and leaving the air full of its penetrating odor. In front of the Town hall the Gilles formed an immense ring and performed a wild war dance, after which the whole cortege partook of wine offered by the mayor and municipality. Then on with the fun and the unceasing dancing until Ash Wednesday stares one so plainly in the face that it is of no use pretend-ing that Lent is not here. Ing that Left is not here. At last the poor Gilles, absolutely ex-hausted with their efforts to amuse their fellow citizens, creep home to be well rubbed, to be rolled in hot blankets and to take warm drinks. The straw that is removed from the humps is al-ways wet and matted with perspiration, and many a paper Gille has been known and many a poor Gille has been known to die of his day's dancing, for, like Punchinello, once started, he must Punchinello, once started, he muzt dance, if he collapse under it. Fortunately this does not often occur, though the heavy hat dragging the head backward, the light leather belt. with its ponderous bells, and the heavy wooden shoes impose. I was told, a perfect martyrdom. There are but two ideas in Binche at carnival time-to dance and refresh the inner man so as to go on dancing. But drunkenness, it is only fair to say, is rare. Americans who happen to be in Belgium at carnival time should not miss the Carnival of Binche. It is a sight not to be seen elsewhere. The little the Carnival of Binche. It is a share not to be seen elsewhere. The little town is quaint and pretty, and its wide street at holiday time, filled with its singing, swaying crowd of 30,000 gaily-dressed dancers, looks like some heav-ing jeweled sea. J E. WHITBY. ing jeweled sea.

Business Men Fear Their Vast Business is Doomed. NEW FIELDS TO BE EXPLORED.

British Growers Looking for Territory Within the Empire Independent Of America.

\$2,000,000 A WEEK

Special Correspondence,

ANCHESTER, March 15,-4c. cording to the most reliable information obtained from manufacturers and business

men here, Lancashire is now losing \$2,000,000 a week by the complete / \$2,000,000 a week by the complete as moralization of her cotton industry, du to the high price of the American pre-uct, and the shortage of the supp Thousands of spindles are idle an most of the mills that are running a working on short time and frequent at a pecualizer loss. The structor at a pecuniary loss. The situation is comparable only with that created by the American Civil war, but owing i the great expansion of the indust that has taken place since then to resulting misary and suffering is a resulting misery and suffering is

### INEVITABLE RUIN.

greater

So serious is the situation that deputation which recently waited on Mr. Broderick, secretary for India, declared that unless the problem could be solved in the "near future" invitable ruin would overtake Lancashir's great cotton industry. Mr. Brodenie replied that he would do all in hi power to afford relief by encouragin an increased growth of cotton in India Whatever may be the outcome the present crisis it is recognized this so long as Lancashire is dependen America for nine-tenths of her suppl a shortage of the cotton crop, or a artificial rise in the price due to th cornering of the market by big finan cial gamblers, its recurrence is alway probable, and that assurance of per manent relief can be had only b largely increasing the cotton produe in other fields. Manchester cotton experts have calculated that to retore the industry to a normal state agin an addition of 2,000,000 bales to the present supply for the next two years will be necessary.

TO OPEN NEW FIELDS. Fo nid in this Cotton Growing association has h formed with its headquarters here a is endeavoring to raise \$2,000,000 which will be expended in opening up have fields for the cultivation of the cotto plant and extending those already existence within the British models. As its name implies, it will devote its energies to regions suitable for coll culture that are under British domi-ion. Its organizers assert that and expert supervision cotton fully equ to the American product can be raise in Rhodesia. West Africa, the West Indies and India, and the land avail-able for that purpose is practically unlimited

they are made to apply to the cup contests boats might compete for it of a more wholesome and seaworthy, if less speedy form, and which would to some extent be available for general racing in English and American waters. But these same rules would not only practically exclude from the contests such yachts as Constitution, Rellance and Columbia, but render them useless as trial boats for subsequent challenges. For this reason Linton Hope, one of the foremost of the young designers here, doubts very much whether the York Yacht club will so far extend the application of its revised rules. "Besides," he said to the writer, "I

do not think that Sir Thomas would stand any better chance-or possibly so good a chance-of winning the cup under the new rules as he would under those which have governed previous contests. They are very complicated and it seems to me it would be a very hard matter to design a yacht that would fit them and at the same time take full advantage of what opporunities they offer for evolving the speediest form. With the rules under which recent yachts here have been built, our designers are fairly familiar and would encounter no such difficulties. Providing a man is forthcoming who is willing to expend a fortune on the chance of winning the cup, speaking for myself at least I should much prefer working out a design for him under existing conditions. But taking a broader view of it-that a yacht built to race for the America's cup should be good for something else besides that one race there is no doubt that the application of the revised rules to the cup contests would be a distinct gain for \* yachting generally."

### WANTED, A DESIGNER.

Another difficulty that confronts Sir Thomas should be decide to challenge again for the cup, is the selection of a designer. Watson, who designed the Thistle, Valkyrie II and Shamrock II added nothing to his reputation building boats that were beaten, and as he has plenty of orders on hand he is not anxious to tackle the job of de signing another cup challenger. Fife is impossit

'Sir Thomas," said one of his friends, "takes defeat like a true sportsman and does not seek to blame others for his failures. No one has heard him | can yachtsmen generally,

vastiv more than these contests for the cup if they were thrown open to yachts of smaller dimensions than these 90footers-say of between 65 and 75 feet on the water line. Being much cheaper it is reasonable to assume that more of them would be built. They would no longer represent contests between purses. Genuine yachtsmen, as apart from financial magnates, would again be able to take a hand in the game. Races for the cup between boats of this size would be every whit as exciting arouse just as much enthusiasm and international rivalry as races be-tween the bigger boats. And when the cup was won or lost these boats would no longer remain mere uzeless hulks, each representing a large fortune. They would provide the nucleus of a perman-ent racing class that might furnish the keenest kind of racing on both sides of

the Atlantic From a British yachisman's point of view every argument that can be ad-yanced in favor of opening competition for the "emblem of yachting suprem acy," as our American cousins call it, to smaller boats. The donors of the cup stipulated merely that the compating yachts should be over 20 tons and should not exceed 90 feet on the water line if sloops or cutters and 115 feet if schooners.

As matters now stand boats of the size suggested are eligible to challenge for the cup; provided they cross the Atlantic on their own bottoms. But York Yacht club, under the cup, the New York Yacht club, under the terms of the thrice revised deed of gift, could oppose a challenger with a boat built up to the limit, and in such a contest, it of the limit allograms the smaller even with time allowance, the smalle boat would not stand the ghost of a

"Until the New York Yacht club takes such action as will enable some of us to challenge for the cup without run-ning the risk of being bunkrupted, and have something left for our money worth having when it is all over." sale one yachtsman, "British yachtsmen will stand aside and let multi-millionaires play the game out until they are tired of it.

There may be something in this, that the custodians of the cup, the New York Yacht club, may ponder over Anyhow, as representing the views of British yachtsmen on the subject, it will certainly be of interest to Ameri-

with Mrs. Eddy. The statement has been published-as the Philadelphia been published—as the Philadelpha journal asserts, with her knowledge and full approval—that she is the great-granddaughter of Sir John McNeill, and the only survivor of the family. On the strength of this she has adopted the motto of the family, apparently combined with that of the Order of the Bath, and she proposes to bequeath the "family traditions" apparently with the coat of arms, to her son. Yet we are told by one of Sir John McNeill's grandchildren that the whole story is

absolutely false. "Those who are familiar with the jargon of 'Christlan Science' will re-member that in it disease is described as 'a false claim.' Unpleasant though it is to think such a thing of the founder of the faith, it looks as if Mrs. Eddy is suffering from a disease which takes the form of a false claim to be the last survivor of a family with which she has no connection. It may have been a consciousness of this which prevented the prophetess from answering Mrs. Macalister's letter. Possibly she is now endeavoring to cure herself of the 'false claim' and as soon as the cure is effected, she will explain to the world that she has been under a delusion about her parentage. As however, the false claim seems to be rather a serious one, it might be as well if some thoroughly proficient well if some thoroughly proficient Christian Scientist were called in to treat the prophetess without delay."

HELD UP YERKES.

Morgan's Friends in London Please ed With Recent Developments.

Special Correspondence, ONDON, March 15 .- Pierpont Mor-L gan's friends here are rather pleased with the set-back given to Yerkes' scheme for another of his networks of suburban street car lines. Mr. Yerkes' idea was to open the district between Ealing and Brentford, across Rew Bridge and on to Richmond. He proposed to spend about \$1,259,900 on local improvements, widening Kew bridge, and the streets through which the lines were to pass, etc. But the parliamentary committee before whom

man, whom I shall call Miss Belgium and who was, I noticed now, in a domi-no herself. "It is the law here that from midday Sunday till Ash Wednesday every one in Binche must wear car. nival dress, Look out and see what happens to those who do not obey.'

I looked out and saw two strangers gazing ruefully at new hats smashed to shapelessness and new coats a mass of confetti and sand.

'Our first visit must be to the costumers," said Miss Belgium, and there we went. As it was hopeless to attempt to vi-

with the elegance of my new friends (I found it was the correct thing to have a fresh domino each day, culminating in elegance on Tuesday, when a harder mask was also worn for obvious reasons) I did not attempt it, but hired a black domino with a smart blue tassel that dangled from the hood, and a pink tarlatan bonnet with yellow "fixings." A black mask was the last item, and, having shed my ordinary garb there and then, I sallied forth with a party of about 29 persons. I found the town to consist of one fine wide street ter-minating in a Grand Place slightly elevated, and here, as if for safe keeping and company, stood the park, the church, the town hall (XVI century and beautifully restored), with the houses of the most important citizens. Every window in Binche was, to my surprise, covered with a temporary grating, even to the topmost story. All the mirrors in the cafes were boarded up, and apparent preparations for standing a siege had been made. This looked alarming

Before I go farther I ought to say that the specialty of the Binche carnival lies in its Gilles, a group of men number-ing about 200, who, dressed in a particular fashion, revive every year an old festival organized by the Spanish govof the province when Spain held the Netherlands in a bloody hand. The suit is gray, with lions, crowns, and such unlikely things as comets and stars applique in yellow and red with a little

All the coats are stuffed with straw to give the wearers the appearance of being humpbacked, and each Gille wears an extraordinary hat whose style is said to have been suggested by the headdress of the Incas of Peru, for its stove-pipe shape is covered with flow-ers and fligree and its turned up visor is surmounted by a ring of magnificent ostrich feathers of the finest quality over a yard high. These hats are of all colors, to suit the fancy of the wearer, whose collars, sleeve trimmings and the decoration at the bottom of his trousers in alternate rows of lace and frilled ribbon correspond in hue with the hat. From the headdress float six wide sashes of ribbon. A wax face mask is worn. Sabots cover the feet, and round the waist on a leather belt hangs a row of copper cowbells, a large grelot adorning the chest. The finery is only donned on Tuesday,

but on the Monday afternoon I ac-companied the Gilles and the entire population dancing through the streets to a near farm to fetch the straw for their "humps." thoroughly enjoying myself. and wishing my own special friends could see me, the Gilles were masked and cloaked, and it was evidently a solemn ceremony. Every four of these important personages have their own Important personages have their own drummer, whose duty it is never to stop rub-a-dubbing, night or day, and the noise, with innumerable bands play-ing the old world tunes associated with the fete, was quite bewildering. "How do you like it?" said Miss Bel-gium, when we had with linked arms and dist above to be with linked arms

and eight abreast pranced up and down the street, merely pausing to take breath when the musicians dashed mad-

ly into a drinking place. "Well, I think as a ballroom floor cobble stones leave much to be desired." I replied ruefully, for my feet felt sore and bruised; but I found I had said quite the wrong thing, for to the Binchois the carnival is the acme of en-joyment. It is the one event in the 12 months for them, and they live on anticipation one-half the year and on

recollect in the other half. I hoped when night fell that dancing might cease and that I might be able to steal to my hotel, but not a bit of it. Torches were lighted and away we went Torches were lighted and away we work again. When at last I begged a retreat and crept home, worn out with the novelty and fatigue of public dancing. I found I might as well have stayed up,

### Domestic Tronblos.

It is exceptional to find a family It is exceptional to find a family where there are no domestic ruptures occasionally, but these can be lessened by having Dr. King's New Life Pills around. Much trouble they save by their great work in Stomach and Liver troubles. They not only relieve you, but cure. 25c at Z. C. M. I Drug Store



We have another barrelful of Pitt's Cough Balsam ready for customers. That seems a good customers. That seems a good deal does'nt it? But there are a great many people suffering from colds and "Pitt's Balsam" is the tried and proved remedy. ' 25 and 50 cents the bottle. Welcome step in. All cars start from All cars start from

be=Pitts Drug Co. Godbe-Pitts

FOR BRITISH COLONIES. The ultimate aim of the association

is to develop cotton growing in British colonies to such an extent if the requirements of the Lancash mills can be supplied without imp ing cotton from America. Its lead express great confidence that will succeed, especially if Mr. berlain's scheme of preferential for British products should be add Appealing as it does strongly be patriotic pride and the general felt of doing something to avert disaster that threatens one of greatest British industries, the mo ment is meeting with warm sup from the press and public men. Al head is Sir Alfred Jones, scalar of head is Sir Alfred Jones, senior fat ner of the great shipping firm of I der, Dempster & Co., and president the Liverpool chamber of commer and the Liverpool Ship Owners' ass ciation, one of the best types of Britis hustlers who are coming to the fra-in these days when England realss the necessity of waking up and making a stiff fight of it if she is to hold he own against her commercial rivals. He own against her commercial rivals, has already dispatched experis west Africa and elsewhere to pro-for cotton fields. As evidence that no wild goore chase an exhibition been given at Manchester of cotton tained from these regions wh said to yield excellent yara said to yield excellent yarn in making of the finest Manchester so Alming as it does to overthrow supremacy of the American "F Cotton" in Great Britain the er prise is one which should arouse n interest on the other side of the lantic. It owea its licentive ian to the antibility of Mr. Sully and

to the activity of Mr. Sully and stock-gambling allies. MISERY IN LANCASHIRE.

MISERY IN LANCASHIRE. Meanwhile among the Lancas operatives the distress continues to crease and heart-tunding scales micery and suffering are daily nessed. At the best of times in manufacturing districts, with t smoky atmosphere through which sun rarely penetra'es, unlovely affe-with long rows of monotonously at lar, mean, soot-stanned tenements depressing in the extreme to the es-visitor. One wonders how people over be happy smid such gloomy s roundings. Yet happy and conten-they are when work euough is to had, and laughter and smiling faces tyst the capacity of human nature

roundings, it were work euough is to had, and laughter and smiling faces they are when work euough is to had, and laughter and smiling faces to the expacity of human tature rise superior to environments-wi full stomachs are assured. But now laughter is soldon he in these streets, smiles are soldon is Shivering in thread-bore and ran garments with faces many of the made wan and pinched by faunt he ger, the inhabitanty even as cheen and hopelers as the fairky sky ab them. The milis which in the p have furnished them with the me of livelihood have blackened not e the towns themselves, but the o the grass and the very sheep graze on the scant herbage. And n and clotae the people they een and clotae the people they end in rise cotton enough to supply the raise cotton enough to supply is with the boon of work, which is they seek, no one who has whee they seek no one who has whee they nisery can help wishing a hea codepeed to any movement that is pin doing it. Many of the manufactures a their miling soling on a short the m in the miling soling on a short the m is the in the soling on a short the m is the in the soling of a short the m is the in the soling of a short the m is the in the soling of a short the manufactures is their miling soling of a short the manufactures is their miling soling of a short the manufactures is their miling soling of a short the manufactures is the soling in the manufactures is the soling in the soling of a short the manufactures is the soling in the soling of a short the manufactures is the soling in the soling in the manufactures is the soling in the soling in the soling in the soling is in the soling is

Many of the manufactures their mills soing on a short their their employes may obtain the n of a bare subsistence. But if ch alone is all that can help the La shire cotton industry, then, they clare, it is doomed.



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