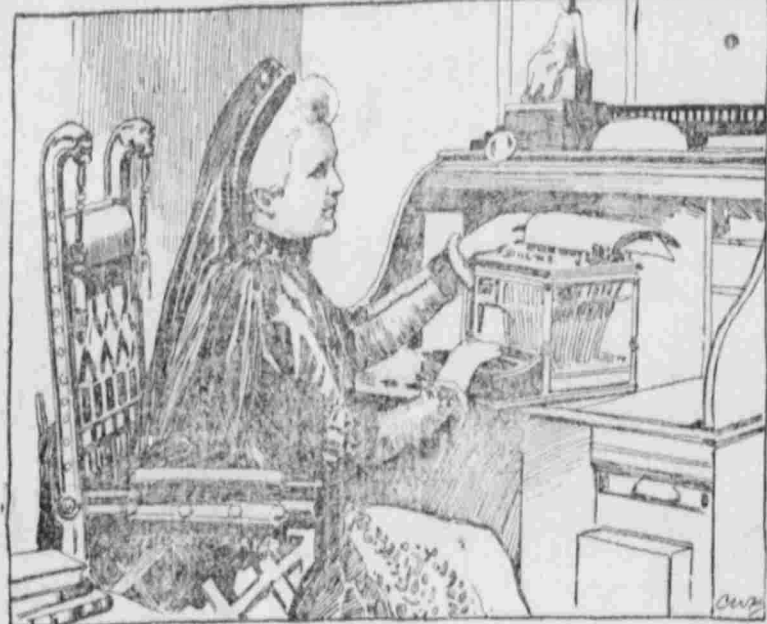


CARMEN SYLVA, QUEEN OF ROUMANIA.
WRITING STORIES ON A TYPEWRITER.



If there is any one royal personage who has won popular love and respect through the possession of remarkable talents, great personal magnetism and sympathetic interest in those who were lower born, it is Elizabeth, queen of Roumania, better known by her pen name of Carmen Sylva, and represented herewith by her most recent photograph. Born a German princess Dec. 29, 1843, the young Elizabeth early became acquainted with artists, poets, scholars, at the home of her parents and when at school became very proficient in languages, both ancient and modern. From 20 to 25 years of age she was chiefly traveling, and in 1869 she married Prince Charles of Roumania and was crowned queen May 22, 1881, when her husband was elected king.

While universally known and beloved by her subjects, she has gained great fame abroad as a writer, having published several volumes of original poetry and translations, the most touching of her own poems being those written on the death of her only child in 1874.

EMPEROR EATING SANDWICHES.

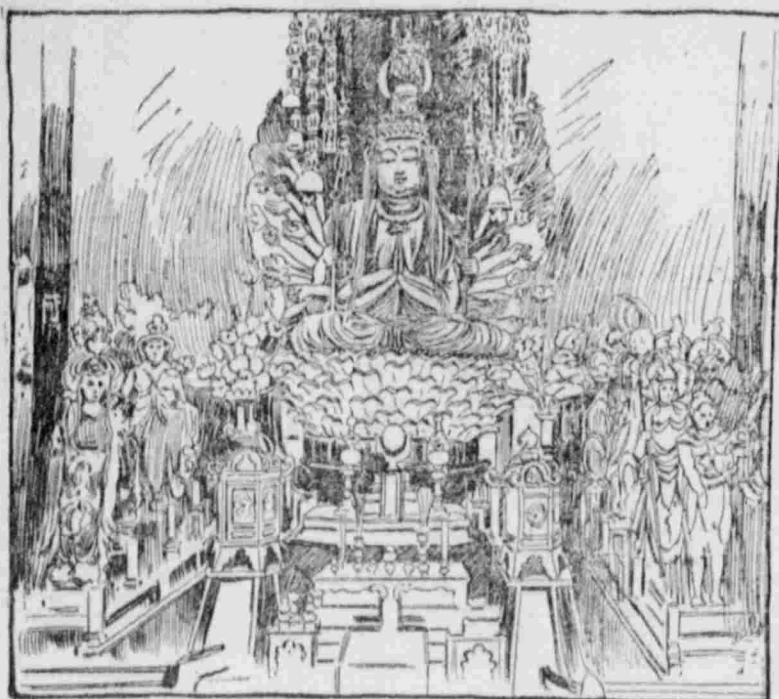
It was at the recent military maneuvers in Austria that the photograph herewith presented of the Emperor of Austria-Hungary, Francis Joseph, was taken. He was caught in the act of eating a sandwich, and he was not ashamed of it either, going at it in a way that showed he still kept his appetite and was as hearty as ever, despite his age and numerous family afflictions. He watched the field maneuvers closely from beginning to end, starting out each day at 6 in the morning and leaving at 2 in the afternoon, as Franz Josef is now 70 years of age, yet he is still looked upon as an eligible matrimonial partner.

A GREAT FRENCH SATIRIST.



Mr. Max O'Rell, whose portrait is herewith given, may be said to be something of a cosmopolitan. If this can be said of anybody, for he has an Irish name, was born a Frenchman, received a German education, lived in his body during the Franco-German war and finally has taken his residence in England after wandering all over the world. It must require a great deal of native courage to settle down in England after writing such a satire on the natives of that diminutive country as "John Bull and His Island." But there he is, and he seems to be safe from molestation, though a Scotch writer the other day refused to serve him on the ground that "no self-respecting Scotsman could survive him with civility, for didn't he say we took to the kilt because our feet were too large to get through trousers?" Max O'Rell's real name, by the way, is Paul Blouet, and he depends upon his wife to translate his works into English.

A THOUSAND HANDED IMAGE OF BUDDHA.



About the middle of the twelfth century the Japanese erected a temple containing 1,000 statues of their god Kwam, each with 11 faces, thus surpassing the fabled Jannu, who is said to have had only two. Toward the last of the century a rival mikado doubled the size of this temple and placed therein 1,000 statues of the same god, each statue with a thousand hands, so in the end he had a tolerably complete outfit.

The central figure of the group shows one of these thousand handed gods, an image of colossal size, seated in a full blown lotus, the sacred flower of Buddhism. This image and its magnificent pedestal are made entirely of beaten brass or bell metal, as are all the others, together with the lamps and lanterns. When a worshiper makes an offering, he strikes a bell in front of the statue to direct attention to his accompanying prayer.

RISKED LIFE FOR A SAILOR.

The recent rescue of a drowning fisherman by the queen of Portugal, who bravely swam to his rescue, has given a setback to those who persist in denying royalty any real reason for existing. The king of Portugal is, or thinks he is, a marine painter of great merit, and he and the queen were at the shore one day during a gale, studying atmospheric effects, when suddenly a boat was seized not far away, and the fisherman in it was thrown into the water. Without stopping to divest herself of any but superfluous clothing, the queen jumped into the sea, swam out to the drowning man and succeeded in bringing him safe to shore.



c effects, when suddenly a boat was seized not far away, and the fisherman in it was thrown into the water. Without stopping to divest herself of any but superfluous clothing, the queen jumped into the sea, swam out to the drowning man and succeeded in bringing him safe to shore.

UP TO DATE TOPICS.

A Missouri weather prophet who reads the future in the leaves of trees says this will be one of the mildest winters ever known on the continent. Of all the foreigners who come to this country none make better citizens than the Finns. Of the 6,753 who came over last year only 17 were refused admittance, only 62 were unable to read and

write, and only 14 were said to be likely to become public charges. General Wood has asked for plans for a building to represent Cuba at the Pan-American exhibition at Buffalo. Although Dr. Nansen is perfectly at ease when lecturing, he is shy and diffident in general society and talks little. To Mgr. T. J. Capel has been be-

queathed by the late Lord Bute of England an income of \$500 a year for the rest of his life. If Oklahoma and the Indian Territory should come into the Union as one state, the St. Louis Globe-Democrat suggests that they take the name of Jefferson. Former President Andrade of Venezuela, who was exiled after the latest revolution and whose real estate and

property were confiscated, is living in New York very quietly, but most prosperously. Thomas A. Edison's middle name is Alva, which is little known to most people. He is of Dutch origin, and the founder of the American family, John Edison, came to this country in 1737 and became a banker in New York. Bishop Potter believes in keeping up one's intimacy with the classics, and

not a day passes but he reads a great deal of both Greek and Latin. Chief Porter, who rules the Creek Indians of Indian Territory, is a rich man and well educated. He is a full blooded Creek, but few would guess him to be an Indian to see him on the street. Ex-Senator James W. Bradbury of Maine, who at 96 is the oldest former United States senator, has never tasted liquor or tobacco and is today able to

attend to his considerable correspondence without the aid of an amanuensis. There are 1,100 Chinese pupils in Queens college, Hongkong. They vary in age from 9 up to 23, and many of them have family cares in the shape of a wife and children at home. Each year sees a decrease in the proportion of married schoolboys, and the average age is gradually becoming less. In its early history boys of all ages were to

be found in the school, and it was quite possible to find father and son engaged in competition for intellectual honors. Rev. Reginald Heber Weller, Jr., who has just been consecrated Episcopal bishop coadjutor of Fond du Lac, is only 43 years old and is one of the youngest bishops of his church. He graduated from the University of the South in 1877, and in 1894 graduated from the Nashotah (Wis.) Theological seminary.

A LATTER-DAY YULETIDE.
By WILLIS B. HAWKINS.
(COPYRIGHT 1900, BY WILLIS B. HAWKINS.)

'Twas the day after Christmas, when all through the flat
Not a creature was happy—not even the cat.
We had all overeaten of turkey and sweets,
Plum pudding and sundry such holiday treats.

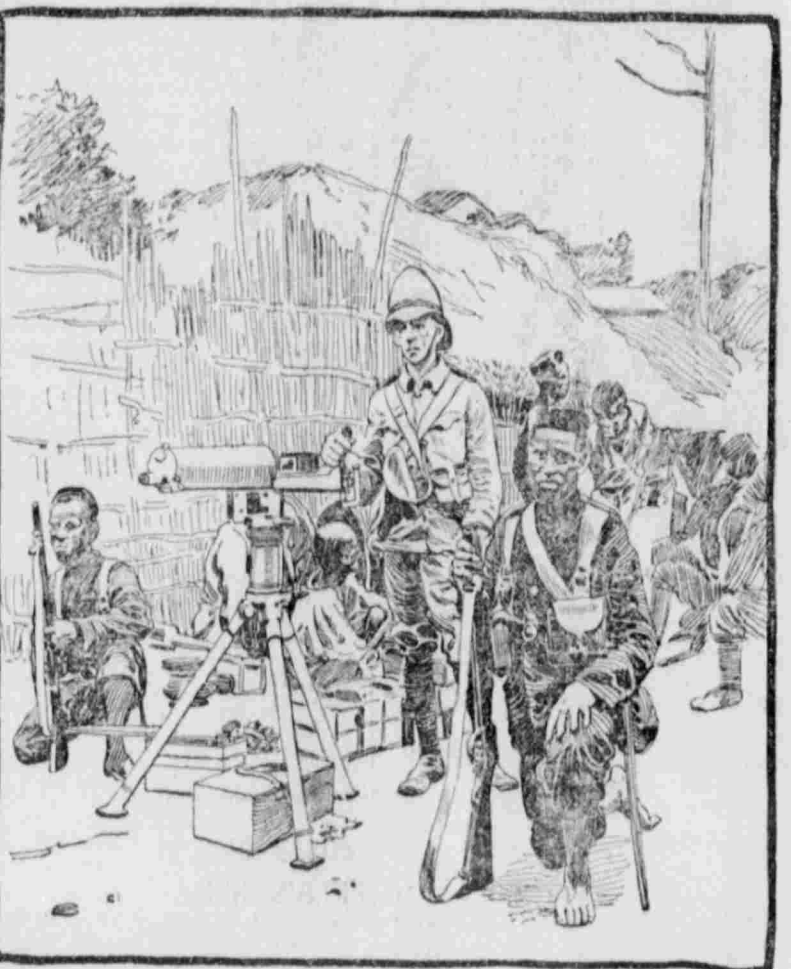
There was Pa with his feet to the hot-water bag,
And Ma with her headache done up in a rag;
And they scolded like sin when the two little boys
Got into a fight over some of their toys.

Sister Jennie, who works in an office down town,
Lay propped on the sofa, too sick to go down.
Brother Oliver stood by the window and cried,
For the snow was all gone and his sled wouldn't slide.

Then a messenger came with a box, C. O. D.
Containing a gift from Aunt Lucy to me.
'Twas a horrid old pillow that she herself made,
And it wasn't worth half the expressage I paid.

But the worst is to come. I am dreading to hear
The explosion that's due on the first of the year,
When the bills begin pouring in streams upon Pa
And he says a few things about Christmas to Ma.

HOW THE BRITISH SHELL STOCKADES
IN THE EFFORT TO CIVILIZE THE ASHANTIS.



This illustration, from a photograph taken on the spot, shows the manner in which the Ashanti stockades were shelled by the British in their advance from the coast into the forest. In the conflicts between civilized white men and barbarous blacks there is never a doubt as to the ultimate outcome, but in the process of reduction great difficulties are often encountered.

The black men's stockades, which the advancing soldiers had to carry at the point of the bayonet, were always in the midst of densest forest and rarely visible to the attacking party until they were quite near. It having been found that nearly all the shots fired at them usually went beyond and did little damage, the major of artillery hit upon the plan of sighting the Maxim at 150 yards' range and firing at 30 yards, so that the shells would burst right over the stockades. After that the gun work was said to be wonderful, and the terrors of the African stockade faded away.

THIS MAN WANTED THE MOON.

Now that France has had its great exposition, some of the people are saying that it owed its inception and much of its grandeur to an enterprising member of the chamber of deputies, M. Deloncle, who made the motion for it several years ago. And it was also M. Deloncle who, being a star gazer of the first magnitude, conceived the notion of having a telescope constructed that should bring the heavenly bodies, the moon in particular, much nearer to the earth than they had been hitherto. "The moon at a mile away" was his hobby, and he rode it until at last he had the supreme satisfaction of seeing it at that apparent distance when for the first time he looked through the gigantic telescope that was on exhibition last summer in Paris.



HOW MUSICIANS ARE MADE IN ALGIERS.



A very interesting experiment has been made by the French in Algiers by which has been demonstrated the capabilities for a musical education of the young Arabs dwelling there. A government school was started in one of the communes, which, though largely attended, threatened to terminate for lack of interest on the part of the pupils. At last one of the professors, an excellent musician, sent to Paris for instruments and organized a band from the ranks of the scholars, ranging from 7 to 13 years. The experiment was a success from the start. Forty-four days after tuition was begun the band marched to a neighboring town, where it astonished the natives by playing eight selections, including the "Marseillaise" and the Russian national anthem. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed, and their reputation as tractable and capable pupils was at once established. This picture shows some of them in native burnouses and others in the uniform of chasseurs d'Afrique.

A MOURNING POSTAGE STAMP.

It may have been noticed that, despite the Russian government's protestations of peace and good will toward everybody in general, it not long ago deprived the sturdy Finlanders of their autonomy. In order to commemorate this outrage the Finns have recently issued the stamp illustrated in this illustration, which is in reality an emblem of mourning significant of their grief at Russia's treatment. The Russians lost no time in prohibiting its use on the outside of letters, but the Finns evade the law by sending it about inside the envelopes and scattering abroad their unique protest against their total extinction as a nation.



A BEAUTIFUL JEWEL.

That was a very beautiful jewel which the corporation of the city of London presented to Lady Newton, wife of the retiring lord mayor, in the closing week of his official life. Its center is an emerald, surrounded by brilliant, supported by scrolls, pendent from which are festoons of brilliant and white pearls. The democratic character of London's rulers may be inferred from the fact that, while the new mayor, who succeeded Sir Alfred Newton as a paper maker, a distinguished member of the county council made both design and ornament here shown.



A MADAGASCAN WARRIOR.

Here is the portrait of Chief Inapaka, a warrior of Madagascar who has given the French conquerors of that island a great deal of trouble and who was only quite recently captured. He is said to boast direct descent from the ancient



kings of Madagascar and was the chief of a tribe inhabiting the almost inaccessible mountains of the interior. As his ancestors carried on incessant wars with the Hovas, the most important tribe in Madagascar, this man avers eternal enmity against them, and, as they had made treaty with the French, he also looked upon them as his enemies. In the skirmish in which he was captured three French officers—two captains and a lieutenant—lost their lives, besides many common soldiers, so fierce was his resistance and so skillful his defense.