

ANECDOTE OF COQUELIN.

A funny little adventure happened recently to M. Coquelin, better known as "Cadet." He had in his possession a picture by Ruysdael, and, after much hesitation and long bargaining, he sold it to the Baron de Rothschild. To avoid accidents he promised to take it himself to the house of the purchaser. M. de Rothschild was so glad to see it that he hung up against the walls of his hall that in a fit of sudden friendship he said to "Cadet," "M. Coquelin, I'm sure that the baron would be most happy to see you."

Taking the comedian by the arm, he led him through a series of rooms till they reached a large salon, where, to the astonishment of Coquelin, he saw the baroness herself perched on a high stool, a large blue and white kitchen apron round her waist, a soft brush and duster in her hand and surrounded by half a dozen lackeys in red breeches and white stockings. She was cleaning the contents of a glass fronted cupboard, the servants respectfully handing to her, one after another, the curiosities which were on a large table.

She did not come down from her stool when her husband introduced Coquelin to her, but managed, however, to make a clever little courtesy, to which the bewitched comedian disposed himself to answer in his most elaborate manner. But, alas! forgetting the ample dimensions of his back, he bowed low and came into collision with the corner of the table, on which stood a row of quaint and precious bottles. They all fell upon the carpet, which, happily, was thick and soft, and none of them was broken. Then the baron, tapping Coquelin on the shoulder, said, "M. Coquelin, you are the greatest of all these curiosities!"

The Ancient Order of Hibernians of America is the foremost of all the Irish societies in keeping green the memory of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland. No matter if March winds are chill and rain and sleet descend, these true sons of the old sod turn out with undaunted ardor on each recurrence of the day which recalls memories of things long past when they saw the sun rise over the green hills of the country of their birth. And a brave



OFFICIAL BADGE OF THE SOCIETY.

showed they make, these loyal men, deck with the national color and bearing aloft the Irish flag, emblem of their hope, side by side with the banner of the society. The most extensive and powerful organization ever effected by Catholic Irishmen, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, has passed through many vicissitudes, its early career checked with light and shadow, but at last this order of the Emerald Isle has emerged triumphant. The society was transplanted to the United States in 1836, but was little known outside of New York city for many years. Until 1873 the headquarters of the order were fixed in New York and were practically controlled by residents of that city. By this time the organization had spread over the country, and necessary changes eliminated the special privileges of the New York members. This caused trouble, and a split ensued. Charges were made by the seceders to the board of Erin that objectionable men of every nationality were being admitted, but were never proved. In Europe the rightful board of Erin was also in trouble, with a schism, but happily these difficulties have all been overcome, and union and harmony now prevail throughout the entire order. The aim of the society is to attract as many of purely Irish origin as possible and thus make it the great mother organization of exiles from the homeland. In its organization the Ancient Order of Hibernians is to be regarded as national and international.

The speed with which the Lee-Metford bullet travels is, as every one knows, tremendously high. Five thousand feet are covered in less than three seconds. The result of this enormous velocity is that the bullets, like meteorites, become heated by their contact with the air, and by the time they reach their destination are very nearly of a dull red heat. Consequently they sometimes tear the wounds they inflict, and thereby may be said to be their own remedy. It is a fact that soldiers hit by Lee-Metford bullets at long range very seldom bleed badly, unless some large artery has been cut. A British surgeon with the mountain field force in the last Indian hill campaign declares that undoubtedly the lives of several hillmen who came under his care were saved by the searing of the wounds caused by the heat of the bullets that had inflicted them.

THE PARIS EXPOSITION

THE great exposition is almost in sight. Paris is putting on her best clothes, and the finishing touches are being given to the beautiful buildings that fringe the Seine, the gardens of the Trocadero and the Quai d'Orsay. All the world and his wife will soon be there, and in every part of this globe people are now preparing for their approaching visit to the gay capital.

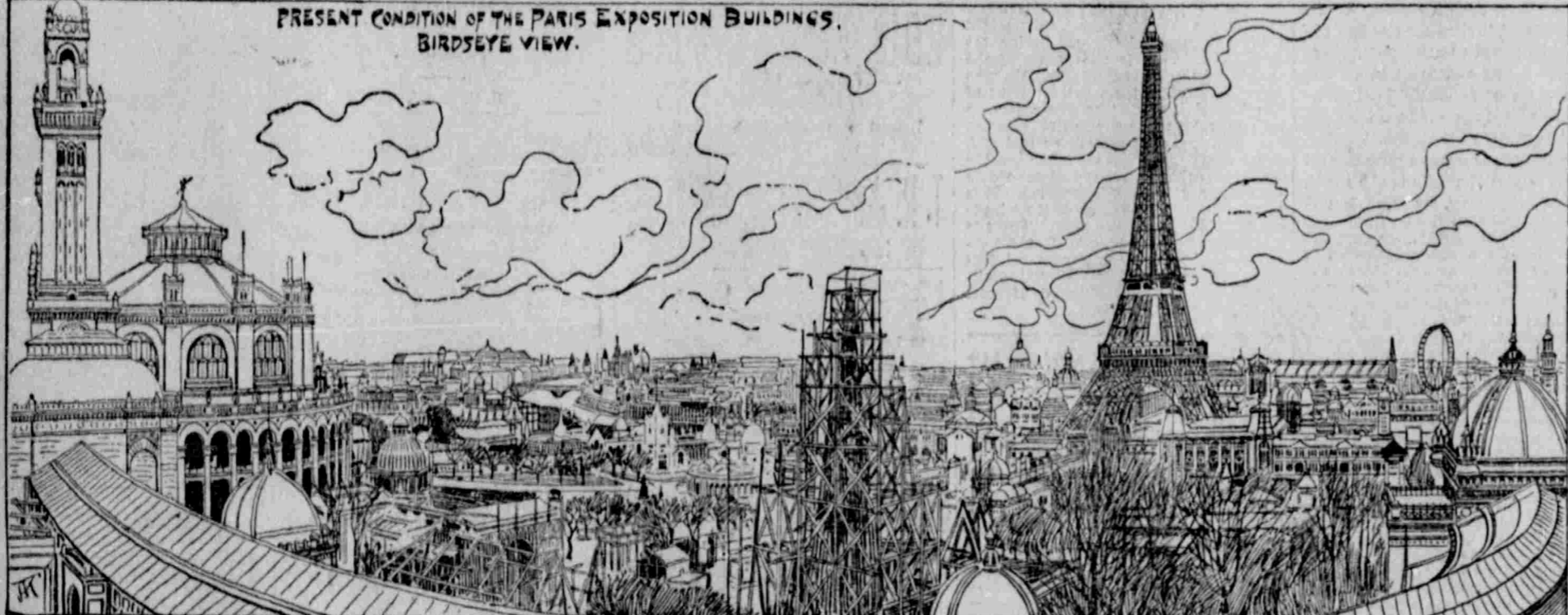
wrong. And it is ten to one it will be wrong, most beautifully wrong, but always on one side of the account. That is a way they have in Paris. In France there is no obligation, either direct or indirect for a guest to partake of the table d'hôte meals in his hotel. When he is off sightseeing, it will naturally be a great inconvenience to return to his hotel for dinner. There are too many alluring cafes all about the city to allow any such arrangement to prevail, and the visitor in Paris will find that he will probably dine in seven different places on seven different nights.

"restaurants a prix fixe" and "établissements de bouillon." The usual cheap Parisian table d'hôte gives no more idea of the perfection to which French cookery may be carried than a plaster cast represents the art treasures of the Louvre. One must go to the first class restaurants of the boulevards for the "chef d'œuvre." There, of course, the conditior must be prepared to pay from 10 to 20 francs for a dinner, exclusive of wine, but it will be a dinner that will do his heart good if not his digestion. The least expensive restaurants are those at some distance from the fashionable thoroughfares, though it must be confessed that at these out of the way places the cuisine is often quite as good as in the more pretentious houses. It is worth while remembering that most of the fashion-

ers, which is a private dining room, with its own private entrance and its own distinctive staff of servants, but naturally this sort of thing has to be well paid for. The "restaurants a prix fixe" will attract the less erudite American visitor, who usually approaches a French bill of fare with fear and trembling. The "diner a prix" is like a table d'hôte in so far as it is a complete repast at a fixed price, but the diner is allowed to come at any time between 6 and 8 in the evening and to dine as leisurely or as hurriedly as he may choose. In some instances payment is made at the door on entrance, and the price ranges from 1 to 10 francs, varying, of course, with the number and variety of the dishes. But, above all things, look out for French wine, especially exposition

brightest patches in the bright mosaic of life in the French capital. In America we have drinking bars and beer saloons, but in Paris it is the brasserie and the cafe. And in Paris every one goes to them. There is nothing the least shocking about them. At least half their patrons are women. After all, drinking in these places is quite an accidental and secondary consideration. You really pay for your chair and your little table and the chance to sit and rest or watch the bright movement and life going on before your eyes. "Cafe" really means coffee, and the true, old fashioned drinks of the cafe, such as hot spiced wine in winter and cooling drinks and leas in summer, although not seen so often of late, may still be secured. Drunkenness is extremely rare, in fact practically un-

tion of transportation will be a very serious consideration with the foreign visitor. If he is wealthy and can take up quarters comparatively near the exposition grounds, there will be less cause for worry, but if he is forced by the slimness of his purse to seek lodgings in the outskirts of the city he will naturally be interested to know just how he is going to get to his place of business when he has made sightseeing the task before him. He will have the choice of five methods—cabs, the new underground railway, the ordinary suburban railways, omnibuses or trams and the river steamboats. Paris is famous for its cabs. The city has 15,000 of them, and during the summer there will be several thousand more in operation. The commonest type is the open cab or victoria, with seat



ing to find out something about the gay capital. There are a great many things to learn about this strange city, and many of them are things that can be learned only by experience. Knowing ones, for instance, who intend going to the exposition for but a few weeks will go either in the spring or the autumn and not in the middle of the summer. The Parisian spring has very few rainy days, and autumn, before the days grow too short for sightseeing, are very pleasant, but the long days of midsummer are nearly always excessively hot. Besides this, the crush at the exhibition will be greatest during July and August.

The intending American visitor ought also to remember that the fewer hand bags and valises and trunks he takes with him the happier he will be. All baggage is thoroughly overhauled, sniffed at, inspected and maulled at every French port of entry by over assiduous customs officials, and the trifles that are found liable for duty are often surprisingly and disgustingly numerous. It is possible to check baggage "a la America" on French trains by securing a special ticket, but the custom is not general and is often impracticable and always vexatious. Then railway porters have to be tipped for handling every piece of luggage, and there are often painful waits until luggage is released when held by the customs officials.

Paris, among other things, is noted for its cabs, its restaurants, its cafes, its hotels and its pensions. It can house more visitors than any other city in the world. The American visitor of wealth, with whom expense is no consideration, will, of course, wish to stay at one of the larger and more fashionable hotels of the city and will naturally prefer these of the boulevards or the principal streets in the vicinity of the Opera, the Louvre and the Bourse, and as close to the exposition as possible. When ladies are in the party, it is always preferable in Paris to choose a first class hotel if a hotel it must be, for French hotels are like the little girl who had the curl in the middle of her forehead—when they are good, they are very, very good; but when they are bad they are horrid. Mine host of Paris has also strange tricks, and it is worth while remembering that it pays to find out definitely the exact price of any rooms or suites that may be engaged, to obviate unwelcome surprises when the day of settlement comes. All these hotels do not publish their tariffs, and rates will be found to prove surprisingly elastic. Another trick of mine host of gay Paris is to show his intending guests first not his best, but his worst vacant rooms. If he does not do this, he is likely to show only his most expensive quarters, always sizing up a visitor and meeting him half way only under pressure. When once installed, it should be made a rule that the proprietor render his bill every two or three days, so that it may be checked over and corrected if

ing the Opera House; the Grand Hotel du Louvre, adjoining the Palais Royal, on the Rue de Rivoli; the Hotel Peninsula, at the Gare St. Lazare, and the Hotel Moderna, situated in the Place de la Republique. All of these hotels are, of course, magnificent structures, with from 300 to 600 rooms, and occupying whole blocks of streets. What will recommend them to the many dollared and pampered son of America is the fact that they all have elevators, a luxury not to be found in every continental hostelry. Besides these larger hotels already mentioned, there are a dozen or more almost as commodious, such as the famous Hotel Bristol, patronized by the Prince of Wales, and the well known Hotel d'Angleterre, near the Bourse. Still lower in the plan one may find several hundred smaller and less known establishments where one may comfortably rest one's weary bones for a consideration, and even when the hotels are gone through there are the pensions.

Just how many such boarding houses Paris will have during the exposition it is impossible to say, but their name, of a truth, will be legion. Under ordinary circumstances a bedroom, with full board, may be obtained in Paris at one of the pensions at from 6 to 10 francs a day. This price will be at least doubled and probably tripled before the summer is over. Furnished apartments, and very comfortable quarters they usually are, too, are easily obtainable in all the principal quarters of the metropolis. Every Parisian visitor is familiar with the yellow ticket on the door which indicates furnished apartments for rent and the white ticket which signifies unfurnished apartments. As a general thing, the rent for these rooms is much less in summer than during the winter months, but this season the case will be reversed. A furnished room in the vicinity of the boulevards usually costs from 10 to 100 francs a month and a small suit from 300 to 600 francs. These prices have already been almost doubled, and when the summer crush comes they will go even higher.

able restaurants of the city are kept open all night long, and also that it is not at all infra dig for ladies to sit down to a restaurant table. At the restaurants a la carte the portions are generally so liberal that one portion is quite enough for two persons, or two portions plenty for three. For this reason it will always pay when in Paris not to dine alone. It is taken quite as a matter of course for a guest to order a water of course for two and ordering one portion for three even is permissible. Of course, if the American visitor wants to live in royal style he can go to any of the fashionable restaurants and there engage a "cabinets particu-



the neighborhood of Schloss Friedrichsruh, but far away from the railway and the highroads. The new castle is to be a most comfortable modern dwelling, and it will also be considerably larger than the ancient Schloss that was so much beloved by the first Prince Bismarck and his simple wife. This old castle is to be used as a museum for possessions of the late prince and will be kept in good repair. One of the British soldiers now serving in South Africa is a son of James Carey, the Irish "Invincible" reformer, who was shot on board the Melrose by Patrick O'Donnell. He joined the army some years ago, and before being called out as a reservist was employed as a

train conductor in London, bearing an assumed name. There are 13 possessors of hereditary titles in Canada—seven lords and six baronets. Of non-hereditary titles (knights) Canada can boast of 32. The most costly book in the Royal library at Stockholm is a Bible. It is said that 160 asses' skins were used for

its parchment leaves. There are 200 pages of writing, and each page falls but one inch short of being a yard in length. The covers are solid plank two inches thick. Speaker Henderson has adopted a new form for calling the house to order. The old ones were, "Gentlemen will please refrain from conversation" or

"Gentlemen will please take their seats." Mr. Henderson says, "In order that the public business may go forward," etc. It is said that dealers in charcoal in Havana never have yellow fever. The absorptive properties of the carbon appear to free the air of the impurities which breed the pestilence.

FOR OMNIVOROUS READERS. A German scientist has gone to some trouble to calculate the average duration of a wink, in order to ascertain just what the phrase "in the twinkling of an eye" means. He says that a wink occupies four-tenths of a second, stays down thirteen-hundredths of a second

and rises again in seventeen-hundredths. Winking varies much in different persons and rarely occurs when the attention is concentrated. Prince Herbert Bismarck, who recently completed his fiftieth year, has decided to build himself a new house in

the neighborhood of Schloss Friedrichsruh, but far away from the railway and the highroads. The new castle is to be a most comfortable modern dwelling, and it will also be considerably larger than the ancient Schloss that was so much beloved by the first Prince Bismarck and his simple wife. This old castle is to be used as a museum for

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