

Gibraltar's 200 Years

Taken by Rooke in 1704 as an Afterthought, New Britain's Bride.

By Richard McNeill in the Nineteenth Century and After.

On August 4, 1704 (new style), the Rock of Gibraltar was captured by Great Britain and it has remained in her possession from that day to this. Among the many possessions scattered all over the globe that are comprised in the British Empire to-day there is none that the nation holds with greater tenacity for reasons both of sentiment and of material interest and none that it would lose with more poignant shame and sorrow than the redoubtable stronghold we took from Spain at the beginning of the reign of Queen Anne.

The fact that throughout the eighteenth century, when so many conquests in both hemispheres changed hands backward and forward in successive wars and under successive treaties, Gibraltar remained permanently in the keeping of England, might seem to prove that British sentiment with regard to it was from the first the same as it is to-day. But this is far from having been the case. For, although at the end of 200 years of our possession of the fortress, at a time when the imperial instinct of Englishmen has become more consciously developed and more deeply ingrained than ever before, and at the same time more intelligently appreciative of the true meaning of sea power and alive to the strategic requirements of its maintenance, the retention of the key of the Mediterranean has become an essential article of our political creed, it was a considerable time before the immense value of the acquisition was fully realized by British statesmen.

It seems strange enough to us to remember that King George I. and his Ministers were ready to give up Gibraltar merely to secure Spain's acquiescence in the arrangement by which the Quadruple Alliance was anxious to make some pettifogging modifications in the shuffle of territories effected by the treaty of Utrecht, but it is still more extraordinary that so clear-sighted, patriotic and high-spirited an empire builder as Lord Chatham himself should have made a similar offer as an inducement to Spain to help us to recover Minorca—and this, moreover, at a time when the fortress has been in our hands for more than half a century and its vital importance to our growing maritime supremacy had already been abundantly proved in the naval wars of the period. Happily the Spaniards were as blind as ourselves to the supreme importance of the position commanding the road from the Atlantic to the Mediterranean.

The truth is, as readers of Mahan do not need to be reminded, that the importance of sea power and the nature of the foundations on which it is based were very imperfectly grasped even by England in the seventeenth and the first half of the eighteenth century and scarcely at all by any other European power. Occasionally at intervals some statesmen like Colbert in France, or Alberoni in Spain, had more than an inkling of the truth, but no nation except England made deliberate and sustained efforts with a view to maritime development. Even England did so rather by instinct than by insight.

Of this blindness to the true principles of maritime policy the taking of Gibraltar and its history during the following three-quarters of a century afford a striking illustration. Just as the vast importance of its acquisition was at the time underrated both by England and Spain, so its actual capture by the former was an afterthought and (it may almost be said) an accident. It became a British possession in the first instance because at a time when we happened to be at war with one of the rival claimants to the Spanish throne our admiral in the Mediterranean happened to have no particular objective in view, and, having failed in his only enterprise of that year, was unwilling to return home with a fine fleet that had done nothing for the honor of the flag. So he thought he might as well make an attack on Gibraltar as do anything else. Nevertheless, his action has to be reckoned among the notable "deeds that work the empire," and one that on its bi-centenary deserves to be held in remembrance.

Walking as a Fine Art.
There is no virtue in a dawdling scunter. The slow and languid dragging of one foot after the other, which some people call walking, would tire an athlete; it utterly exhausts a weak person, and that is the reason why many delicate persons think they cannot walk. To derive any benefit from the exercise, says the Family Doctor, it is necessary to walk with a light, elastic step, which swings the weight of the body so easily from one leg to the other that its weight is not felt, and which produces a healthy glow, showing that the sluggish blood is stirred to action in the most remote veins.

Rarest Bird in the World.
A certain kind of pheasant found in the mountains between Anam and Laos is said to be the rarest bird in existence. For a long time its existence was unknown only by the fact that its longest and most splendid plume was much sought after by the mandarins for their headgear. A single skin is worth \$500, and if the bird would live in captivity its value would be fabulous.

An Auto For the Pope.
The Pope is to purchase an automobile for his personal use in taking his daily rides through the Vatican gardens. The unusual spectacle of a well-pointed electric brougham standing in the papal carriage house side by side with the state carriage of the Pope will cause comment at first.

AGAINST MAIL ORDERS.

Country Merchants Fight Catalogue Business Through Local Weeklies.
Cronin Brothers, owning a general store at Morris, Ill., a town between three thousand and four thousand people, publish large interesting ads in the local newspaper, advocating buying at home and offering to sell at same prices as the large Chicago houses. If freight, etc., be added, The announcements are so large as to make their reproduction an impossibility. In the paragraphs below, the gist of one of them is given without display:

We propose to meet the prices of the department stores or catalogue houses. All we ask is that you deal with us on the same basis that you deal with catalogue houses, and give us the same amount of time to get the goods which it would require to get them from them. Plank your money down when you order the goods and we will meet each and every price they make and furnish you the same goods at the same prices they offer you.

We will go further. We don't ask you to take any goods where mistakes are made in ordering. We'll shoulder the mistakes. If any of you have ever had anything come wrong you know what a nice little job it is to get it corrected, no matter how willing the firm is to do so. It takes correspondence, stamps and freight on the goods to get them exchanged, to say nothing of the loss of time.

Some people prefer to buy away from home because it sounds big to be able to say they ordered from Chicago, etc. We know of one party who is actually paying more for goods bought away from Morris than he could buy them of his dealer here. This kind of people we can do nothing for, but the kind who are making the dollar go just as far as they can, we can and will do something for. Give us a trial on the proposition we make, if you are one of those who have been buying away from home. Bring your catalogue with you. If we fail to furnish the goods without a reasonable excuse don't give us your confidence again. Try us once. We don't fear the result. We are residents of Morris. We are your home merchants. We help pay taxes. We have to live and consume some of your products.

Is our proposition wrong? The whole trouble about our people about Morris is the same with which so many communities are suffering. That old slow-coach credit. Some of it so slow we never get it. No merchant can sell goods cheap on that plan. The dollar invested in goods to-day and sold for cash to-morrow can be invested in more goods the following day and the same process of sale may be repeated, but the dollar invested in goods to-day and sold on credit to-morrow is tied up just so long as you don't get it back and its earning capacity is stopped for the merchant until he gets it back again. Can you wonder why the catalogue house has the advantage in price over most of your home merchants? The catalogue house won't trust you; even demands the money in advance with no goods in sight. Your home merchant often trusts and often to his sorrow, even though 100 per cent. sometimes he is his profit. Many times a seeming profit of 25 per cent. on goods sold to a good man turns out to be merely a small interest on the money invested because of slow pay. Treat your home merchant like you are compelled to treat your catalogue house and you think you will get better results.

An Accurate Timekeeper.
The best timekeeper in the world is said to be the electric clock in the basement of the Berlin Observatory, which was installed by Prof. Poerster in 1855. It is enclosed in an airtight glass cylinder and has frequently run for periods of two and three months with an average daily deviation of only 15-1000 of a second. Astronomers are making efforts to improve even this and to secure ideal conditions for the clock by keeping it not only in an airtight case, but in an underground vault, where neither changes of temperature nor of barometric pressure shall ever affect it.

Cheap Advertisements.
Some of the Japanese tradesmen in the smaller towns of Nippon have a curious way of advertising their business. On their right forearms they tattoo figures—the shoemaker, a shoe; the woodcutter, an ax; the butcher, a cleaver. Underneath these emblems are such inscriptions as, "I do my work modestly and cheaply, or "I am as good as my trade as most of my fellows." When they are looking for work they bare their arms and walk about the street.

Where "Dixie" Was Born.
The London County Council, in the course of the official explanation of its selection: 22 Theobald road, W. C., as the birthplace of Disraeli, has the following passage: "Benjamin was born on December 21, 1804, and unless his mother was away from home at the time, this event must have taken place at the hours in question."

Queer Way of Telling Time.
In Malaya the natives keep a record of time in a remarkable manner. Floating in a bucket filled with water they place a coconut shell having a small perforation, through which by slow degrees the water finds its way inside. This opening is so proportioned that it takes just one hour for the shell to fill and sink. Then a watchman calls out, the shell is emptied and the operation is begun again.

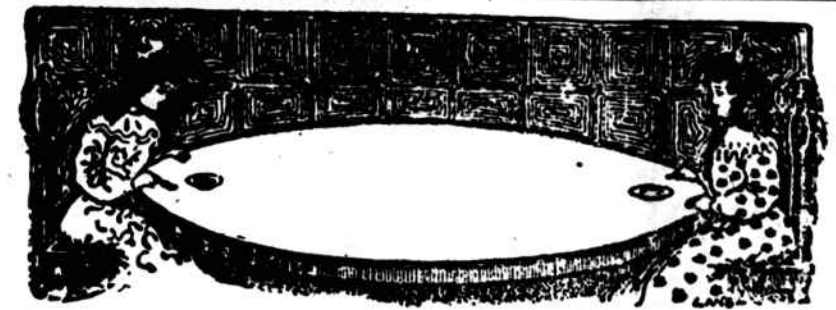
China's Detectives.
The detective force in China is a secret body second to none in the world in point of organization. From one end of the celestial land to the other a very wide-open eye is kept upon every man, woman and child, whether foreign or native, and, for that matter, the detectives watch one another most vigilantly.

Calais Lace and Tulle.
Lace and tulle to the value of \$12,000,000 were exported from Calais to England last year. The manufacture of these goods in Calais is largely in the hands of Nottingham people, who introduced the trade in the French port.

OUR GIRLS AND BOYS

AN INTERESTING GAME FOR GIRLS.

Here is a new game that requires almost no preparation, which is great fun, and which demands a lot of skill to bring victory to a player. It is a fine game for girls, for there is no jumping about, and a girl can play it while wearing her very prettiest party frock without the slightest danger of mousing it.



Two players only are required. They sit at opposite sides of a table, and any sized table will do. Before each girl is a little plate or saucer. Each girl has a large bone button in the place of a pingpong bat, and a smaller button is used in the place of a ball. One player starts the game by pressing with her large button on the edge of the small button, causing it to snap across the table very much as in the old game of tiddle-de-winks. She tries to make the button land in the other girl's saucer.

GOING BYE-BYE.
And it's ho! for the land of Bye-Bye, Atradrille of papa's knee.
With two big hands for the stirrups And two little legs for the fee.
And now we are off at a gallop Through meadow and valley and wood For a visit to Peter Piper.
And Little Red Riding Hood.
And maybe we'll call on the fairies Down there in the hazel dell.
For where Papa Horsey will take us The horsey himself can't tell.
And maybe we'll call on Miss Muffet And maybe—and maybe we'll come To where one little pig went to market And one little piggie stayed at home.

But this I know, that so surely As the littlest piggie could talk, So surely we'll nod in the saddle And the gallop will come to a walk.
And then we will be at the stable And tenderly horsey will stand While mamma lovingly leads us To the dream-decked Lullaby Land.
—Collier's Weekly.

ALTERING STAMPS.
No change or alteration of any sort should be made by a collector in his stamps. It was a custom, some years ago, among collectors to erase cancellation marks from their stamps in order to make their stamps better. The effect of the attempt was not all that could be desired. The erasures were not perfect, and the stamps in the changed condition, being neither canceled nor uncanceled, were simply inferior damaged specimens. One of the most common ways of altering stamps at the present time is to erase the word "specimen" from a stamp having this overprint. It cannot be done so that it will not be detected, and the stamp in the altered condition is worthless, while as a "specimen" it had some value. It has frequently happened that stamps, valuable in their original condition, have been made worthless by attempts to increase their value by alteration.—St. Nicholas.

BOTTLE FISHERMEN.
The boys who live near a body of water containing perch, bull heads or catfish, can make large catches by means of simple devices.
An old jug, well stoppered, makes an excellent assistant. After emptying the jug, and corking it securely, take it to the place where you want to fish, and, making a line fast, bait your hook and carefully lower the jug in the water.

A tempting worm on a hook below a jug is liable to result in a bite, and then the jug commences to bob about completely covers and blends with the other candle which you see through the glass.
Now you have got the candle into the desired position, and, no matter from what point you look, you will see only two candles, one before and the other behind the glass.

Strange Fate of an English Earl.
"I came across a bit of treasure the other day," writes a Washington theorist, who is down on Cape Cod. "It is the log-book of the schooner Hera, which sailed from Boston on a day in the 70's. She sailed with a new first mate on board."
"He seemed an ambitious man, and he understood navigation. The captain suspected him of a desire to be master of a vessel himself some day, but there was little about him to suggest that he was anything but a sailor. The third day out he was caught by the down-haul of the mizzen, and went overboard. His body was never recovered. When the Hera came back from her voyage she was met by two Englishmen. They had crossed the water post-haste to find that first mate. Somebody had died in England, and—well, the man who was lost off that Yankee schooner was the Earl of Aberdeen."

When Beck Fleeted in Florida.
The Cincinnati Enquirer says that at the Baltimore Journalists' Convention in Baltimore a Philadelphian said of James M. Beck, who is one of the association's most distinguished members: "When we had our convention in Philadelphia Mr. Beck was the life of it. He kept the table in a roar. In repartee it was impossible to get the better of him."
"At one time he was talking about fishing."
"The best day's sport I ever had," he said, "was off the Florida coast. There were three of us; we each had three rods, and all day long we pulled in fish as fast as we could throw out our lines. I forgot," he added, thoughtfully, "what kind of fish they were."
"Perhaps they were whales," some one suggested.
"Wholes!" said Mr. Beck; "why man, we were baiting with whales."

THE SILENT FISHERMAN.
In an amazing manner. If the fish is large it may tow the jug around the water for a while, but a heavy jug will soon tire out even a big fish, and then you can haul in the captive.
If jugs are not obtainable, large bottles are effective, although they do not offer the resistance the heavy jug does, and unless dark colored, are hard to see on the water.—Atlanta Journal.

THE GHOST CANDLE.
To perform this amusing little trick you need a large pane of clear glass, two candlesticks and two candles. The candlesticks must be exactly alike and so must the candles.
Hang up the glass near a window and at right angles to it. Place on candle and holder about a foot in front

of the glass, the other at an equal distance behind it.
Now the surface of a pane of glass acts like a mirror and makes a reflected image of any object which is placed in front of it. So as you stand in front of the glass and arrange the two candles you see apparently three candles. That is to say, you see the two real candles and the reflected image of one of them.
Move the candles until this image

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THE FUTURE TO WOMEN

TO DRESS BECOMINGLY.

The woman with a longing to be thought picturesque and with an eye for color has a hard time in these days steering her way through the many pitfalls that surround her, and it is truth requires an immense amount of concentration of purpose not to be led astray by the picturesque fashions that in the illustrations look so much more attractive than they do on the individual. One rule should always be followed, that no style should be chosen that is markedly unbecoming. It is far better to dress according to the style of last year, provided that style is becoming, than to run the risk of being made a perfect fright by following too closely the exaggerated fashions of this summer.—Harper's Bazar.

COLONIAL KNOCKER THE FAD.
It is now considered the proper thing, among other colonial revivals, to have a knocker placed on every bed chamber in the house.
The knocker fad, started by the antique dealers several years ago, who introduced brass knockers of colonial pattern upon their gates and doors.
Houses of the ante-revolutionary days are the more picturesque by reason of their quaint escutcheons, door knobs and knockers, but they are closely rivaled by the modern house of colonial architecture, fitted with real antique fixtures. The latest phase of the fad is a knocker for each bedroom. The maid who awakens your guest in the morning does so, not by tapping or calling, but by giving two or three gentle raps with the knocker. The idea is rather a clever one.—Indianapolis News.

BEAUTY'S GREATEST ORNAMENT.
Beauty's greatest ornament is the hair at the back of the neck, if the pretty woman only understands how to utilize the locks. Very few artists are bold enough or daring enough to paint the female neck bare of curls, and there is hardly a famous ideal head in the picture galleries with the ears exposed.
No matter how pretty and pink the tips of the feminine ears may be, the artistic eye loves to clothe them in soft ringlets, and no matter how graceful or swanlike may be the back of the neck it is much more artistic to dress it in small curls.

If the hair does not grow prettily at the back of the neck try to train the locks down so that they will curl. If this cannot be done, then use a few artificial curls. Maybe the hair grows so wickedly at the back of the neck that the artificial curls cannot be used with good results, and in this case there is nothing to do but to dress the hair low. The woman who wants to please will surely not neglect to make a study of her hair dressing.—New Haven Register.

PRETTY HOME MADE NECKLACE.
The woman who wants a collar, and who cannot obtain either a diamond one or a collar of pearls, can take heart, for there is an exceedingly pretty makeshift for her. She can wear a band of velvet around her throat, and upon this band of velvet she can wear strings of yellow stones—beads, really they might be called—except that they are of irregular size and shape, and so look very much richer than strings of beads commonly look.
The making of these necklaces is a fine art. It requires strings and strings of fine elastic, of just the length to encircle the throat. And, after these are strung with their burden of odd stones, the whole must be mounted upon a clasp which is set at the back of the neck.

WHAT TACT MEANS.
The secret of that marvelous influence certain persons possess over both men and women is usually to be found in their tact. And tact means thoughtfulness; not an appearance of it, but a real interest, a quick sympathy expressed in the grace of word and deed. We are all influenced by that charm; so deeply influenced that it might be wise to consider its equal power upon others. For, although it has its root in unselfishness and can only grow with painstaking care, it may be a matter of cultivation. Those who proclaim, "I haven't a particle of tact," simply acknowledge that they are self-absorbed. It need not develop into fussiness, which is tiresome; it should avoid insensitivity which it shows regard. It should not manifest itself in open flattery, though merited praise should be generously given. In speech tact avoids argument, contention, contradiction, unless truth itself is at stake, and then it may be gently uttered. Neither does it ruthlessly shatter ideals or dispel illusions. It veers between egotism, feeble joking or silly irrelevancy, the flippant, the profane, the coarse, the cynical and the sneer. It does not parade—while far from effacing—it's owner's personality; it never teases, nor "quizzes," as the English say, nor to go from speech to act, does it ever perpetrate a practical joke. That involves consideration, and yet more than that. It means neither soaring above nor sinking below the situation. It has a slow ease, a hidden fatigue, neglect or watchfulness. In short, a coarse-grained person is hard to teach some of its ways, as the high-strung find it as difficult to display yet other qualities.—Harper's Bazar.

FARM TOPICS

ALFALFA IS VALUABLE.
Alfalfa is a valuable leguminous crop. Experiments made with it on the light, sandy soils of New Jersey demonstrate that if the seed is sown in the late summer or early fall alfalfa can be as easily grown as any other grass. When sown down in spring it has failed, as weeds crowd it out.

GAPES IN CHICKENS.
Camphor is a most effective remedy for gapes. Mix it with the feed in the proportion of a teaspoonful to a pint of feed. If only a few chickens are affected, feed a few bread crumbs which have been saturated, and they will be immediately relieved. It is sometimes necessary to repeat the dose.

THE CHICKENS' FOOD.
Too much ground food is not beneficial to fowls. They have no teeth, the work of preparing the food being done by the gizzard, which must be made to do duty or the birds will not thrive. Ground or soft food will answer for an occasional mess, but the proper foods are hard grains, which the fowls prefer to grind for themselves through the agency of the gizzard.

A GOOD SWARD.
With a good pliable or rich loamy soil, it will always be a comparatively easy matter to produce a good sward. If we select the right kinds of seeds. For an acre, five bushels of a mixture of red top, crested dog's tail, Kentucky blue grass and Rhode Island bent grass, is good. If not convenient to obtain all these, either is good alone. My first choice would be red top, the second Rhode Island bent grass. After sowing and brushing in the seed, it is well to sow a good quantity of some fertilizer that contains ammonia, and then roll the ground with a good weight roller. When the grass attains the proper height to cut, I would cut the first time with a very keen-edged scythe; after the first cutting use the lawn mower, one with cylinder driving wheel preferred, that the ground may be kept smooth. At the approach of winter cover with a good thick coating of straw manure from the horse barn, raking off the straw in the spring and leaving the finer particles of manure on the ground.—F. H. Sweet, in The Epitomist.

CEMENT TROUGHS FOR HOGS.
When made of wood, troughs for hogs are more or less unsatisfactory. The best and most durable trough can be made with good cement and coarse sand in the proportion of one bucket of cement to two buckets of sand. Make a temporary frame for the outside of your trough, then pour in the grout material, and with a trowel fashion the inside as you wish. Leave the bottom concaved on inside like a bowl or kettle. The top edges should be two and one-half to three inches thick. A piece of chain put in

the end of the trough in making, near the bottom, makes it convenient and handy to move.
If cleats are desired, rods of round iron can be imbedded in the grout before it sets. These prevent hogs from lying down in the trough and wasting the contents. After having fashioned your trough and put in iron bars for cleats, fill full of water. The material will set better and your trough will wear for all time. Troughs of this kind six feet long are most convenient and much cheaper than wooden ones.—J. E. Sammon, in Farm and Home.

GOOD MILKING.
Tests at the Storrs's Experiment Station show conclusively that the amount of milk given by the cows and the purity of the product both depend upon the method adopted by the milker. One young man, who said he could milk, was given charge of the milking of six cows. At the end of a week the quantity showed a shrinkage of twelve per cent. In another experiment, in which five boys, previously taught as to proper methods, were tested as milkers, four increased the flow seven, ten, ten and five per cent., respectively. The following instructions in regard to milking are in use at the station:
The milker should milk regularly, thoroughly and quietly. He should wear clean clothes, wash his hands before beginning to milk, and never wet them while milking. The cow should be brushed before being milked, and her flank and udder wiped with a damp cloth in order to minimize, as far as possible, the number of bacteria floating about in the vicinity of the pail, and likely to get into the milk. To the same end, the foremilk should be rejected, and the milking done into covered pails, with strainers arranged for the milk to pass through. Rejecting the first few spurts of milk from the teat removes the milk containing objectionable germs. The cleaner the milking is done the fewer the germs.—Massachusetts Ploughman.

To Deepen Ship Canal.
A Select Committee of the House of Lords are considering a proposal to deepen the Manchester Ship Canal, and to raise the low-water level of the rivers Weaver and Mersey. Mr. Balfour Brown, K. C., in stating the case for the promoters, said that at present the depth of the canal was only twenty-six feet. In recent years the size of vessels had enormously increased, and a greater depth of water was now absolutely necessary. When the depth of the canal was fixed at twenty-six feet there were not half a dozen vessels built which could not get up the canal. Now hundreds of vessels were too large to navigate the canal. The deepening proposed would enable vessels of 11,500 tons dead weight to navigate the canal.

Getting Even With the Girls.
A young man who lives in Minneapolis has beaten the girls of the North-west at their own game. He has taken the first prize at the fair for "fancy work," a term which includes all kinds of tides and doilies and centerpieces and pin cushions and embroidery and every other kind of dainty work with the needle. There is an element of retribution in this. The girls have been beating the boys in school and in university and taking their jobs away from them in all kinds of business. It serves them right to have a boy get even with them on their own ground, and beat them all hollow at their own game.—Minneapolis Journal.

A Record Climb.
The record for climbing Pike's Peak was made recently by H. H. Robinson, of Colorado Springs, Colo. The mountain is 14,147 feet above sea level, and the former record was made in three hours and five minutes. Mr. Robinson made the ascent in two hours and fifty-six minutes. He wore a heavy pair of shoes, carried an umbrella, and the last mile walked in two inches of snow.

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