

KING EDWARD'S HOME

(Special Letter.)

BUCKINGHAM PALACE is today one of London's most comfortable mansions. Extensive alterations were carried out at the beginning of the year, and the private apartments were completely modernized.

His majesty's suite of rooms is the most magnificent in the world. It is situated in the right wing, looking on to the gardens, which run up Coniston Hill. They are forty acres in extent, a particular feature of them is the lake, covering no less than five acres. There are boats on it, and at royal garden parties they are manœuvred by the royal watermen in their

From Marlborough house he caused many of his pet household goods to be brought over—his familiar writing table, his favorite chairs, and, of course, a perfect gallery of photographs of his family and numerous friends.

Queen Alexandra's apartments also face the gardens, but are in the opposite wing of the palace. They, too, have been entirely renovated this year, and are now most comfortable.

The ballroom, which is 109 feet by 60 feet, is 45 feet in height, is a magnificent apartment. It was completed in 1855, and is said to have been the scene of the first ball given by the royal watermen in their

IN THE GARDENS. The ceiling is magnificently painted, and running around beneath the frieze are copies of Raphael's "Twelve Hours." At one end stands the organ, which was formerly in the Brighton pavilion, and beneath it is a hanging of crimson gold, once the tent of Tipu Sultan and once the tent of the British army in the Brighton pavilion. The palace has a beautifully decorated private chapel. It was consecrated in 1842. The supporting pillars were brought from Carthage. On the walls, painted in crimson velvet, are some rare old paintings, one dated 1320. The altar is quite plain, but above it hangs a fine picture of the marriage of the Majesties. Lord Leighton's "Chaucer's Madonna Carried Through the Streets of Florence" is also hung here. The state dining room is another superb chamber, being 75 feet by 31 feet. It is a very great number of people who are entertained here. On the walls are portraits of former members of the royal family, painted by great artists, among others the Duke of Cumberland, George III., Queen Charlotte and Anne Duchess of Cambridge, all by Gainsborough. The three room, the apartment of the King's court, is of magnificent proportions, being 60 feet by 35 feet. The ceiling is richly embossed with shields and armorial bearings, emblematic of the United Kingdom and the annexation of Hanover. The frieze below is adorned with reliefs illustrative of the Wars of the Roses.

Magnificent as the rooms are, they are not the only ones. There is a superb treasure which adorns them. The clocks by Vulliamy are glorious works of art. The china is beyond compare. Here are Sevres, Dresden and Chelsea, priceless and matchless; rare pieces of "Bleu du Roi," "Vert Vonne," "Bleu de Vincennes," and "Rose du Barry." A tureen similar to the one in the palace but with diamonds from which the royal specimen is free was made more than two years ago for £10,000. There are immense Indian vases on gilded pedestals, having hand-painted scenes upon them.

Of all the splendid mansions of Mayfair Buckingham palace is the most splendid. There never can be a danger of it being sold or its treasures dispersed, so its magnificent will continue to increase during succeeding generations.

Taking the conceit out of some people rob them of their only comfort in life.

SUICIDE ON THE INCREASE.

Death Seems to Have Few Terrors in These Days.

The man for self-destruction is on the increase. Life certainly presents, in most countries, many more agreeable features than did generations ago. Yet the desire to abandon it increases yearly. The total number of suicides is swelling enormously. It is the greater prevalence of nervous diseases.

An English alchemist, Mr. Styles, has been at some pains to gather statistics, the result of which is a discouraging result. The story of his discoveries may best be expressed in figures. In the past few years the average number of suicides was, in Sweden, one to every 55,000 inhabitants; in Russia, one to every 35,000 inhabitants; in the United States, one to every 15,000 inhabitants, and in the great cities, like London and St. Petersburg, one to every 2,000 inhabitants. It is plain that we make a dismal showing even then.

In France, chosen for illustration because it offers the most striking contrast, Mr. Styles found that for every 100,000 inhabitants, during the years 1874 to 1875, 9 suicides, from 1846 to 1849, 275, from 1850 to 1853, 132, from 1854 to 1857, 157, from 1858 to 1861, 139, from 1862 to 1865, 122, from 1866 to 1869, 119, from 1870 to 1873, 112, from 1874 to 1877, 107, from 1878 to 1881, 103, from 1882 to 1885, 100, from 1886 to 1889, 97, and in 1890, 95.

From 1870 to 1890, the proportion of suicides in Belgium has augmented 72 per cent, in Prussia, 41 per cent, in Austria, 23 per cent, in Sweden and Denmark, 10 per cent, and 25 per cent respectively, and in France, 21 per cent.

IS GOOD FOR JEWELERS.

Ping-pong is a game, and the name of the inventor is well known. "Ping pong is a fine game," said a jeweler, who does a lot of repairing to a New York Sun man. "No outdoor or indoor sport has so much to do with it. It is surprising how many persons have broken their watches since the game became a craze. You see, people play the game without removing their coats or waistcoats. In the excitement they forget about their watches, and in a moment a man knows his timepiece is broken out of his pocket. Sometimes it strikes the table, but wherever it does fall the watch is ruined. It is not all. A player may get his watch to his pocket, but still it gets out of gear. The constant jumping around and the swinging of the arms disturbs the works so the watch has to be brought to us to be regulated."

"I have had as many women's watches as men's to repair. The women are even more careless than the men. Their watches dangle from their shirt-waists, and the slightest bump or bump along like a weathercock in a gale of wind."

"Surprising as it may seem, my informant said, the craze for ping-pong began."

TOLD IN WASHINGTON

(Special Letter.)

day. No woman in the corps was ever better liked at the end of four months. One thought her favorably, she speaks English with only a very slight accent.

Fran von Reuben Paschnitz was a bride of last summer. Her husband, who is the military attaché of this embassy, went abroad to claim her.

Rear Admiral John Gimes Walker, now retired and with a permanent home in Washington, is a New Hampshire man by birth, and the record of his busy life sheds lustre on his name.

It is expected that the tremendously popular Count A. Tanowski is engaged to the Polish heiress, Princess Czestochowska. At Newport and Hartford the count was the originator of many summer evening entertainments, which included the revival of the opera.

Countess Marguerite Casini is now abroad and with her chaperon she will be joined by the Russian ambassador, who is only with the court in the service of his country. The presidency of the Lutheran canal commission is the latest office which has been appointed. Rear Admiral Walker is 67 years old and in excellent health.

At last a woman, and a beautiful woman, too, will be at the French embassy. Her name is Madame de la Roche.

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Real Estate Exchange

Of Whitehead & Mitchell at the Exchange Bank, Birmingham, Mich.

The following is a partial list of farms, city and village lots and real estate generally which we have for sale. As our list is constantly changing, we request that parties will write us as if they do not see what they want in this list:

1. John McCarroll has a nice little farm of 11 acres in the town of Southfield and John says he will sell it very soon. All necessary buildings and a good barn. The soil is very rich. The production of a profitable farm and the earnings are very large. Lots of good fruit and all necessary conveniences. The farm is on a mortgage at 6 per cent. Speak quick or you lose it.

2. Farm of 2 acres, well fenced, well watered, with a good barn, and electric railway to Grand and Pontiac. Terms easy.

3. Twenty-one and two-thirds acres of land near Irish church in Royal Oak township. It is an excellent farm, with a good barn, and a good house. The soil is very rich. The production of a profitable farm and the earnings are very large. Lots of good fruit and all necessary conveniences. The farm is on a mortgage at 6 per cent. Speak quick or you lose it.

4. No better farm in the State of Michigan is to be had for the money. The acre, near the town of Southfield, is a very fine farm, with a good barn, and a good house. The soil is very rich. The production of a profitable farm and the earnings are very large. Lots of good fruit and all necessary conveniences. The farm is on a mortgage at 6 per cent. Speak quick or you lose it.

5. A fine house and lot of 20 feet front and 200 feet deep, in the town of Southfield. The house is a very fine one, with a good barn, and a good house. The soil is very rich. The production of a profitable farm and the earnings are very large. Lots of good fruit and all necessary conveniences. The farm is on a mortgage at 6 per cent. Speak quick or you lose it.

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7. One hundred and ten acres in the town of Troy on section 20, all acres covered in timber, and a good barn, and a good house. The soil is very rich. The production of a profitable farm and the earnings are very large. Lots of good fruit and all necessary conveniences. The farm is on a mortgage at 6 per cent. Speak quick or you lose it.

8. One of the finest farms in the grand old township of Southfield, near the town of Southfield, is a very fine farm, with a good barn, and a good house. The soil is very rich. The production of a profitable farm and the earnings are very large. Lots of good fruit and all necessary conveniences. The farm is on a mortgage at 6 per cent. Speak quick or you lose it.

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STEPS OF THE CAPITOL.

It was surprising that the careful Turkish minister allowed his little wife to break bread at the embassy, but the Cretan explains everything.

Representative Kain of California was asked if it were true that in his state watermelons are so large that they are not unusual to find some which weighed 300 pounds.

One of the most fashionable women in Washington is the wife of the senator from Michigan, James McMillan, who has always taken a conspicuous part in social gatherings.

Pay Director Caspar Schenk,

was recently buried in the naval cemetery at Annapolis, that he might be remembered as the author of a poem which once attracted as much attention as Admiral Coghlan's "Rocky Island."

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THE EXCHANGE

Birmingham, Mich.