



Lady Surza de Mar Shemun, an Assyrian chieftainess who was the only woman delegate at the peace conference of Versailles, has been in London trying to persuade the British to restore her people to their territories from which they have been driven by the Turks. They are now living in the plains of Mosul. Lady Surza is a nun but wears European dress.

**Paper Blockades**  
When a country declares a blockade which it cannot enforce it is called a paper blockade, because it exists only on paper. Perhaps the most famous paper blockade in history was that declared by Napoleon in 1807. The French emperor declared a blockade against the British although he was not able to send a single war vessel to sea to support the blockade. —Path Under Magazine.

**Horrible Methods of Treating the Insane**  
Until within the last century insane persons were treated with terrible cruelty in nearly all "civilized" countries, and as late as 1770 lunatics were exhibited at public fairs in England, and as late as 1815 there were exposures of terrible cruelties in the Bethlem hospital in England, and this led to gradual improvements and the introduction of enlightened and scientific methods in the care of the mentally afflicted.

One of the mildest of the old forms of treatment of mad people, and long in vogue at Strathgillan, in Perthshire, Scotland, was connected with the observance of the festival of St. Fillan, a Scottish saint. Insane people were dipped in the "holy pool," where St. Fillan had bathed in the seventh century. Many quaint ceremonies were connected with this "ducking." After the immersion the lunatics were herded to St. Fillan's chapel, and strapped to the floor to be left all night. Those who managed to free their bonds and escape were considered cured. Experience did not bear out this pious belief, however, and the custom gradually declined.

**Old French Chateaux of Historic Interest**  
To say these French names over rapidly suggests college days and the struggle with declensions, but Guyon, Gallion and Guillard are not in any grammar, they are three interesting Normandy castles whose ruins go back to the days of waving plumed shining armor and prancing steeds. If you can ignore for a moment the scatchings of tourists on the old walls and the waste paper of kodak cartoons they have left behind them, it is not hard to people, in fancy, the Twelfth Century life that went on here, when Richard the Lion Hearted invaded and the tower at Guyon should not be missed and reminds one of the panorama from the Eiffel tower at Guillard, which in King Richard's day was "the key to all Normandy," will also give to those who scramble to the precipitous ruins, a wonderful outlook. At Gallion, the Americans will remember that it not only once housed Philippe-Auguste, Louis XII, the Medicis and Napoleon, but also Benjamin Franklin.

Though genius is never born and the highest mind shows itself at an early age, success is made, generally with much toil, and is not always accompanied by wealth. For that it must be combined with practical judgment, as it was in the case of a Michelangelo, Rubens, Reynolds, Titian and Shakespeare, who were all poor and happy. My father's success, indeed, was down broadly only by the fact that he was "old at forty." Sir William was forty-three when he made his first discovery in medicine. He did not hear of Kitchener till he was forty-six, and Howard Crosby, the philanthropist, was fifty-one when he emerged from obscurity. —London Tit-Bits.

**Oh, Romeo!**  
He was a very shy young man, and although he presented himself with opportunities for declaring his love in a practical fashion, he could never summon up sufficient courage to take advantage of them. They were sitting as usual one evening on the sofa, he on a chair, with the usual half-hour intervals between sniffs, when the climax was reached. "Why," she said, "that's just what I want. I've been waiting for you to say that for a long time. In regard to the query, my suggestion is that Brown Hives has probably been in a fight."

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