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WIZARD LIGHTING SYSTEM.**The Silent Wife.**

(Continued from Page 3.)

party—such a tempest of anger and
despair swept across her that frightened
her.

"She's ever so lively! Quite jolly, I may
say! It's only when the hour for your
return is near she settles down into sil-
ence."

To Doris she would say:

"You poor dear! How I sympathise
with you! I'd be just the same myself.
Your old sweetheart was asking after you
only the other day. I met him at Mrs
Vandeleur's. What a charming fellow
Dr. Weston is! I don't wonder you are
still devoted to him." And then, as a
glint came into Doris's eye, she added
hastily: "As a friend, of course."

When Isobel, despairing of discovering
what was actually taking place, had gone
reluctantly away, Doris sent for Mrs
Spry.

The good woman came quickly. It was
impossible to conceal from the servants
that something was very much amiss.
Some took the master's part, some the
mistress's. Mrs Spry, little guessing
that Doris regarded her as a spy and
jailer, beamed with hope.

"Now it'll be all right. Missus will
speak, all will be well; for it's a drear
house as it is!"

"Mrs Spry," said Doris coldly, glancing
up at her, "I wish you to wait on Mr
Armer every morning for his instructions.
The continual writing of orders which pass
through my hands does not please me.
Mr Armer will give you his directions.
Any that apply directly to me—of course
you will bring me."

Mrs Spry looked positively scandalised.
"But, madam—you're the mistress,"

she objected.

Doris's face became frozen.

"In name only. Kindly do as I desire."

Mrs Spry left the room "shaking," to

use her own words, "like a jelly."

"It's unnatural, and it needn't be.

Master's the one to be pitied. She's

naught but a frozen image, is the missus."

To be Continued.

HERE AND THERE.

Glasgow Corporation electricity accounts
show a loss for the year of £54,000.

The Director-General of the London
Housing Bonds Campaign states that sales
are now well into the third million.

The battered gun which was served by
Jack Cornwell, V.C., in H.M.S. Chester,
at the Battle of Jutland, has been added
to the War Museum at the Crystal Palace.

Mrs Amelia Spurgeon, aunt of the cele-
brated preacher, celebrated her 101st
birthday on Saturday at her home at Up-
per Norwood. Her mother reached the
age of 90, while her sister and brother
both lived to be over 80.

A defendant in Clare County on refus-
ing to pay a Sinn Fein claim was shut
up in a vault containing five coffins and
terrorised into compliance.

The New Jersey State Boxing Associa-
tion has tentatively decided to investigate
the Carpentier-Levinisky fight.

The great central arch of glass at the
Crystal Palace is being strengthened by an
elaborate system of steel supports, the
stanchions and girders used weighing over
80 tons. The arch has only undergone
minor repairs since the Palace was built,
nearly 70 years ago.

A strong exhortation to maintain the
greatest moderation in all political ques-
tions is stated to have been addressed to
Archbishop Mannix by the Consistorial
Congregation at Rome.

Ex-soldiers in the Cheviot village of
Wooler for the second time within a fort-
night have thrown a German gun into the
Tweed, in the presence of a large crowd
of cheering onlookers.

The quantity of new books placed during
the year in the University Library at Cam-
bridge, as measured by shelf room re-
quired to contain them, amounts to about
880 linear feet.

From a single seed potato Mr Arthur
Cook, a Braintree allotment holder, has
dug 106 potatoes.

Walsingham (Norfolk) Rural Council
have given the foreman builder in their
housing scheme an uncompleted house
"to hurry him up."

On the arrival of a Great Western
train at Newport (Mon.), the body of a
child packed in a parcel was discovered
in one of the carriages.

THE LAND BILL.

SOME OF ITS PROVISIONS.

The Land Laws Amendment Bill, intro-
duced in the House of Representatives
last week, proposes to amend the
law relating to exchanges of national en-
dowment land for other land. The Land
Act, 1912, provided that national endow-
ment land might be exchanged for other
land of approximately equal value, the
cash payment by way of equality of ex-
change not to exceed 25 per cent. of the
value of the endowment land. Section
17 of the Bill proposes to omit the refer-
ence to "approximately equal value" and
to permit the payment of "any sum by
way of equality of exchange."

The Land Laws Amendment Act of 1915
made provision for the remission of rent
in the case of disabled soldiers up to
six months after discharge from the
forces. The Bill proposes to extend the
provision in the cases of lessees or
licensees "who may be wholly or partially
disabled by reason of their military ser-
vice."

The clause of the Bill dealing with the
order of preference at ballots under the
Land Act was misunderstood when the
Bill was introduced on Friday night. The
four classes of applicants named—(1)
landless applicants with dependent child-
ren, (2) landless applicants who have
been twice unsuccessful at ballots, (3) ap-
plicants who served overseas with the
Expeditionary Force, and (4) applicants
who served overseas with other forces
and were bona fide residents of New Zea-
land before the war—are to have prefer-
ence equally over all other classes of ap-
plicants. It appears that the four groups
are to meet on equal terms at the ballot.

The Bill makes lengthy provision for
investigations with reference to land al-
leged to have been acquired in contra-
vention of law. The provision is to cover
the acquisition, whether before or after
the commencement of the Act, of any
estate, right, title, or interest in Crown
land, native land, or private land.
"Wrongful acquisition" means acquisi-
tion in such manner or by such methods
"as to contravene any provision of any
statute relating to Crown land, native
land, or private land, and includes the
making or procuring or being party to
making any false declaration."

The Government may appoint commis-
sioners to make any investigations that
are considered to be required. These
commissioners will have the powers of a
commission of inquiry. No person is to
be excused from giving evidence of privi-
lege or on the ground that he might in-
criminate himself, but a witness who
answers fully and faithfully is to be en-
titled to a certificate of indemnity from
the commissioners.

THE LOAN PROPOSALS.

(By "Spectator.")

Don't it seem so very funny,
Invercargill's needing money;
Ratepayers with uneasy feeling,
Find the Councillors appealing
For authority to raise
Loans and still more loans always.
Now to have a right and thorough
Renovation of the Borough,
The Council thinks it won't be erring.
If a quarter of a million sterling
Be authorised for them to spend,
To by-and-by attain that end.
Several departments need
Some thousands each with all due speed,
And citizens must willing be.
To grant the call for £.s.d.,
For Gasworks now, the estimate
To keep them truly up-to-date,
And the department much alive
Require in thousands, twenty-five.
The Tramways, too, they also count
Will quite absorb a like amount,
While fifty thousand pounds will be re-
quired for electricity.

Some fifty thousand quid, they deem,
Won't more than do the sewerage
scheme,

And eighty thousand nicely meets
Their estimates for roads and streets;
And reclamation on the shore.

Accounts for fifty thousand more.
To build the war memorial,
They think it more advisable,
And say in most emphatic tone
The right proceeding is by loan.

Now citizens will have to say,
Upon the chosen polling day,
Whether it is really sane
To so increase the rates again.

"Spectator" asks them to remember,
The poll takes place on 1st December,
And in the meantime ruminate,
Before alas! it is too late!

Japan's total exports for the first five
months of 1920 amounted to £90,000,000
and her imports during the same time to
£140,000,000.

IRISH WIT AND HUMOUR.

A lady one day in need of some small
change called downstairs to the cook and
inquired: "Mary, have you any 'cop-
pers' down there?" "Yes, mum, I've two;
but if you please, mum, they're both me
cousins," was the unexpected reply.

An Irishman, describing the trading
powers of the genuine Yankee, said, "Bed-
dad, if he was cast away on a desolate
island, he'd get up the next morning, and
go round selling maps to the inhabitants."

An Irishman, newly appointed crier in
the county court in California, where
there were many Chinese, was ordered by
the judge to summon a witness to the
stand.

"Call for Ah Song!" was the com-
mand.

Pat was puzzled for a moment. He
glanced shyly at the judge, and found
him as grave as an undertaker. Then,
turning to the spectators, he blandly sim-
pered:

"Gentlemen, would any of you favour
his honour with a song?"

"What trade are you?"

"Shure, now, your honour, an I'm a
sailor."

"You a seafaring man! I question
whether you were ever at sea in your life."

"Shure, now, an' does your honour
think I came over from Ireland in a wag-
gon?"

An honest Hibernian, being in bed in
a great storm, and told that the house
would tumble over his head, made an-
swer: "What care I for the house? I am
only a lodger."

Polite Conductor: "Shall I help you
to alight, madame?"

Miss Murphy: "Much obliged, young
man, but I don't smoke."

An Irishman charged with assault, was
asked whether he was guilty. "How can
I tell, your honor, till I have heard the
evidence?" was the reply.

A wag who thought to have a joke at
the expense of an Irish provision dealer
said, "Can you supply me with a yard of
pork?"

"Pat," said the dealer to his assistant,
"give this gentleman three pig's feet."

"I meant to have told you of that hole,"
said an Irishman to a friend, who had
fallen into a pit in the Irishman's garden.
"No matter," said Pat, "I've found it."

An Irishman was asked if his horse was
timid. "Not at all," said he; "he fre-
quently spends the night by himself in a
dark stable."

An Irish lady was up before a judge
for assault on one Patrick Gilhooly.

Judge: "The testimony proves that you
threw a brick at this man."

The Lady: "The testimony proves more
than that, judge. It proves I hit him."

A priest the other day, who was exam-
ining a confirmation class in the South
of Ireland, asked the question, "What is
the Sacrament of Matrimony?"

A little girl at the top of the class an-
swered: "Plaze, your reverence, 'tis a
state into which sows enter to prepare
them for another and a better world."

"Put her down," says the curate, "put
her down to the fut of the class."

"Lave her alone," said the priest, "for
anythin' you or I know to the contrary
she may be perfectly right."

A man arrested for murder bribed an
Irishman on the jury with a hundred dol-
lars to hang out a verdict of manslaughter.
The jury were out a long time and finally
to hang out for a verdict of manslaughter.
The man rushed up to the Irish juror and
said, "I'm obliged to you, my friend. Did
you have a hard time?"

"Yes," said the Irishman. "A h—l of
a time. The other eleven wanted to
acquit yer."

Inquisitive Party: "And do you go up
that ladder all day long?"

Pat: "No, sur; half of the toime oi
come down."

"Ellen, how did it happen that when
we came in last night after the theatre,
there was a policeman in the kitchen?"

"Shure, mum, Oi don't know; but Oi
think the thayather didn't last as long as
usual!"

Reporter: "It is said that yourself and
your comrade, Mooney, were calm and
collected after the dynamite explosion at
the quarry."

O'Toole: "Wull, it was loike this, Oi
was calm an' Mooney was collected!"

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