

Saint Mary's Beacon.

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ST. MARY'S BEACON

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JAMES S. DOWNS.

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Communications of a personal character will be charged at the same rate as advertisements; obituaries over ten lines in length will be charged at the rate of 50 cents per square.

All communications for publication must be accompanied with the real name of the author, or no attention will be paid to them. The real name of the author will not be published unless desired, but we cannot consent to insert communications unless we know the writer.

SKETCHES OF MEMBERS OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT.

The following are brief biographical sketches of the principal members of the provisional government of France:—

LEON GAMBETTA, MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR.—M. Gambetta was born at Cahors in 1838. He made little noise at college, but was a hard worker, although he toiled after his own fashion and when he pleased, agreeing but indifferently with his tutors and was regarded by them as rather eccentric than intelligent. He was self-possessed and vehement, fond of solitude, faithfully worshipping his own personal independence, but too precocious and too eminently gifted, perhaps, to be understood by his classmates. He came to Paris, went through his law studies there, and entered the bar as the secretary of M. Creuxier, who gave him his confidence, his friendship, called him his "son" upon all occasions and predicted for him a brilliant future.

Gambetta soon became known among knots of friends at lectures and at the bar. His rapid advancement has surprised none who were acquainted with him, for his triumphs were expected and were looked upon by all as inevitable. Occasions for them were sure to arise, and the greatest of these was the Baudin affair, when the republicans of Paris gathered at the tomb of that orator and martyr of their cause. It was this striking incident which prepared the way for Gambetta's entrance to the Chamber, where his high tone, yet determined liberalism, and his tact and eloquence combined as a debater, soon placed him among its leading minds.

Let us glance at the physique of the man. His complexion is pallid, contrasting strongly with very thick black hair and beard. He has a masculine and intellectual head, solidly embedded in a stalwart pair of shoulders. His nose is superb and his frame thick-set and muscular. His walk is brisk, yet firm, and his speech rapid and energetic. His voice, which never seems to tire, is sometimes full of cadence, sometimes stinging in its intonations and somewhat low, but always powerful. His countenance is a very attractive and sympathetic combination of Italian delicacy—for he is of Genoese origin—and of Gascon vigor, full of commanding thoughtfulness and audacity, frankness and lightness. His nose is straight, his eyes are strongly marked, his mouth is neatly closed, with fair expansion, and is none the worse for a strong disdained lip, that is sometimes brightened by a hearty laugh of Kabalasian mirth. His arms are muscular and yet lengthened as though to clasp an adversary, and his hand is broad, firm, solid, and seems made for energetic grasping and setting free by turns.

When Gambetta is in repose, the observer would say that he is about to leap upward or to take his flight in the air; in other words that he is going to speak. His large black eye looks upward and far away in the distance. He then seems to be counting the "black spots" on the horizon. Yet this does not prevent his scanning with sufficient accuracy the minor questions that swarm below and on either side. His mind is versatile enough to sweep in at one and the same moment the grandest topics and the most minute details. He can soar aloft or creep below, and is just as much at home amid the intricacies of affairs as on the loftier heights of politics.

His intellect is, above all things, a popular orator and advocate, and it would be impossible to find one more electrical or more vibratory in the shock and tremor of his words.

He lives in modest apartments on the fifth floor at No. 45 Rue Bonaparte. A few engravings, a good many books, a bust of Mirabeau, pour about all the luxuries of these quiet quarters, which have been occupied by the student, the lawyer and the deputy in the successive stages of his career. Such is, in brief, a hasty picture of the man whom the great events of the current year have made a conspicuous figure in French contemporaneous history, and who is now called to the front in a decisive hour.

PIERRE MAGNE, MINISTER OF FINANCE.—Singularly enough Pierre Magne, a devoted Bonapartist, has been retained in office by a republican government. He was appointed Minister of Finance a few weeks ago on the overthrow of the Ollivier Ministry, and in this position he now remains. M. Magne was born at Périgueux, December 3, in the year 1806. He is a self-made man, being of what is termed an "obscure" family. In 1831 he was admitted as an avoué, or attorney, and was patronized by Marshal Bugeaud. M. Magne noticed his peculiar ability, and soon afterwards took charge of his political fortunes. He became a member both of the Constituent and Legislative Assemblies, in which bodies he was recognized as a practical man, although not much of a debating speaker. He retired to private life in 1848, but was recalled to official position as Under Secretary of State for Finance in 1849. April 10, 1851, he was appointed Minister of Public Works, in which office he was strongly marked for three or four years. He was an able advocate of railroad extension in France, and during the interim inspected all the main lines already laid down in the empire and in other countries of Europe, adopting and suggesting improvements. From 1854 to 1860 he held the portfolio of finance. In 1860 he was nominated Minister without a portfolio, retired from the Cabinet in 1863, and was named a Privy Councillor in April of the last named year. He is a Senator, and was commissioned Grand Officer in 1854. M. Magne originated and conducted most of Napoleon's great loans. During his absence from Paris at one period the Empress Eugénie visited him and found him feeding a flock of chickens.

JULES GREY, PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL.—M. Grey was born at Mont-sous-Vandres, in the Jura, in 1810. He moved to Paris when a young man, studied law, and, after his admission to the bar, became conspicuous on account of the radical sentiments he gave expression to at every opportunity. After the revolution of 1848 he was appointed a Commissioner of the provisional government in his department, and exercised his powers with much discretion and moderation. He was subsequently elected a member of the Constituent Assembly by a large majority and became Vice President of the Assembly and a member of the Committee of Justice. As a representative he was noted for his conservative sentiments—although he generally voted with the extreme left—and for his eloquence as an orator. After the election of Louis Napoleon he went into opposition and denounced the expedition to Rome. Re-elected to the Assembly, he remained faithful to the democracy, and opposed the coalition between the royalists and Bonapartists. The coup d'état drove him from political life, to which he returned last year, when he was elected to the Corps Legislatif.

GARNIER PAGES.—Louis Antoine Garnier Pages was born in Marseilles on the 17th of July, 1803. The double name he bears is owing to the fact that his mother had been twice married. When the revolution of 1830 broke out Garnier Pages played his part, though an unimportant one in and around the barricades in the streets of Paris. When quiet was restored and the machinery of the government was again in running order in the French capital Garnier Pages was returned as a deputy of the arrondissement of Vernueil, and took his seat in the Chamber on the liberal side. From the tenor of his speeches and the course which he pursued it was evident that he had given the subjects of finance and commerce no small degree of attention. This was acknowledged on both sides of the house, and his remarks on these important questions attracted considerable attention. He became one of the leaders of the organization which was engaged in the getting up of the banquet known as the banquet of 1848. His ability was at that time so recognized that he was chosen Mayor of the city of Paris, and discharged the duties of the office with such marked ability that he was afterwards appointed Minister of Finance under the provisional government. In this more delicate position he proved himself equal to the task. He introduced many important reforms and had also to deal with a financial crisis. The ability with which he handled this latter duty again won for him an enviable confidence. A system of dock warrants and bonded warehouses were among some of the reforms he introduced while acting in the capacity of Finance Minister. In 1864 he was elected a member of the Executive Commission and also of the Legislative Assembly. Though his career as a politician has been an active one, extending at times through periods of wild excitement, he has found time to devote some attention to literature. He has written a "History of the Revolution of 1848," a work of considerable merit.

HERMI ROCHERFORT.—Perhaps there is no man to-day living in France whose name is better known than that of Hermi Rocherfort. Certainly none in Parisian republican circles. His well known, outspoken and determined hostility to Napoleon III. involved him in many troubles. An intense republican, he was ready at all times to express with his tongue and with his pen sentiments which less courageous men would hesitate to pronounce. This activity on his part was the cause of bringing him into collision with the government, and as a consequence he was arrested and convicted, and the publication of his journal, the *Lanterne*, was suppressed by the government. Rocherfort, however, succeeded in making his escape to Belgium, where he again entered upon the publication of his notorious journal. Though proscribed by France, it found a ready sale, the very bare observation which was placed upon it by the imperial government doing more to increase its popularity than to prevent its circulation. At

for a short exile the Emperor extended a free pardon to the many journalists, and he returned to Paris. For a time he was the lion of the hour; but he gradually subsided into something like comparative quietness. Yet occasionally he fell into his old habits. As the *Lanterne* could not be revived in Paris and as Rocherfort could not do without a journal to ventilate his opinions, he commenced the publication of the *Marseillaise*. In this paper he again attacked the government, and so bitter were his strictures on the Executive, indulging in personal allusions rather than discussing the public management of affairs, that his paper was not only suppressed, but he himself imprisoned. Last year Rocherfort was elected a member of the Corps Legislatif, but his career in that body is not remarkable for anything which can distinguish him from any member of that body possessed of ordinary ability.

SPRING AND SUMMER MILLINERY.

MRS. MARY J. CAMPBELL, respectfully informs the ladies of St. Mary's that she has just received a full and carefully selected assortment of SPRING AND SUMMER MILLINERY GOODS which she is selling at Baltimore prices for cash. Her stock is unusually full, has been carefully selected and will be found to embrace nearly every article of Ladies' wear that may be desired by the latest fashions. She respectfully asks an inspection of her stock.

April 21, 1870—14

DR. J. J. VANDERFORD, DENTIST.

No. 91 Saratoga street, Baltimore, Md.

(Special attention paid to children's teeth.)

References:—
Hon. H. G. Key, Hon. B. G. Harris, Joseph H. Key, Esq., Dr. F. C. Neale and Hon. Chapman Billings, Sr., St. Mary's county, Maryland; Hon. E. B. Bagg, Rev. John Patton, D. D., Rev. John Collins McCabe, D. D., New Castle county, Del.; Hon. Hiram McCulloch, Rev. Henry S. Denny, Cecil county, Md.; George Kirk, Esq., late Assistant Postmaster General.

May 26, 1870—6a.

GREAT BARGAINS!

MRS. IRENE FURCK has just returned from a visit to Baltimore with a full and carefully selected stock of

Drugs and Fancy Goods, including FURCK'S very cheap, with MILLINERY of all kinds and of the very latest styles. Her entire stock having been purchased at prices approximating cost, and as she is willing to sell at a small advance for cash, she desires that ladies will find it to their interest to give her a call before purchasing elsewhere. Grateful to her friends and the public for past encouragement, she respectfully asks for a continuance of their favor.

May 6, 1870—14

RETRIEVER DOG STORY.

A Scotch paper tells the following story about a retriever—a sporting dog employed to fetch game—and a store robbery: About two months ago the sum of £46 in bank notes was stolen from a warehouse in St. George Square, Glasgow, by a man employed on the premises. The thief had concealed himself in the warehouse before the closing hour, and after every person had left he broke open several desks, abstracted the cash, the greater portion of which he concealed under a stone in a field in the northern district.

It so happened that when the thief was in the act of concealing the notes, a retriever dog, belonging to a young man residing in New City Road was amusing itself near the spot, and after the money had been hidden the dog appears to have uncovered the parcel of notes and carried the cash home. It is alleged that the owner of the dog was present when the animal entered with the cash in his mouth, and that the mother of the young man observed that the parcel was composed of bank notes. The latter denies that his dog ever brought a parcel of notes to the house.

It is somewhat remarkable also that when the thief of the cash was apprehended he admitted the charge, and told the detectives that he had concealed a portion of the money in a park; the officers took him to the park, and he pointed out the spot where he had concealed the notes. The retriever dog was there, and it was with difficulty that the officers could complete their search, in consequence of the dog barking and jumping round them. The money, it was discovered, had been carried off. The young man and his mother have been apprehended, pending an investigation into his somewhat strange case.

THE OLD GUNNER'S SHOT.

Our noble ship lay at anchor in the bay of Tangier, a fortified city in the extreme north-west point of Africa. The bay had been extremely mild, with a gentle breeze sweeping in from the southwest and seaward, but toward the close of the afternoon the sea-breeze died away, and one of those sultry, oven-like atmospheric breathings came up from the great southern Sahara. Half an hour before sundown the captain gave the cheering order to the boatswain to "call all the hands to go in swimming," and in less than five minutes the forms of our hardy tars were seen leaping from the gangways, the ports, the nettings, the bowsprit, and some of the more venturesome took their plunge from the arms or the lower yards.

One of the studding-sails had been lowered into the water, with its corners suspended from the main yard arm and the swinging boom, and into this most of the swimmers made their way. Among those who seemed to be enjoying the sport most were two of the boys, Tim Wallace and Fred Fairbanks, the latter of whom was the son of our old gunner, and in a laughing mood they started out from the studding-sail on a race. There was a loud, ringing shout of joy upon their lips as they put off and they darted through the water like fishes. The surface of the sea was as smooth as glass, though its bosom rose in long heavy swells that set in from the broad Atlantic.

The ship was moored with a long sweep upon both cables, and the buoy of the starboard anchor was far away on the starboard quarter where it rose and fell with a buoy swell like a drunken man. Toward this buoy the two lads made their way, Fred Fairbanks taking the lead; but when they were within a dozen fathoms of the buoy, Tim shot ahead and promised to win the race. The old gunner had watched the progress of his little son with a vast degree of pride, and when he saw him drooping behind he leaped upon the poop, and was just upon the point of urging him on by a shout, when a cry reached him that made him start as though he had been struck by a cannon ball.

"A shark! a shark!" came from the captain of the forecastle, and at these terrible words the men who were in the water leaped and plunged toward the ship. Right ahead, at a distance of three or four cables' length, a sharp wake was seen in the water, where the black fin of the monster was visible. His course was for the boys! For a moment the poor gunner stood like one bereft of sense, but the next he shouted at the top of his voice for his boy to turn, the little fellow heard him not; stantly the two swimmers strove for goal, all unconscious of the bloody death-spirit which wore near them. The merry laugh still rang over the waters, and at length they both reached the buoy together.

Oh, what drops of agony started from the brow of our gunner! A boat had put off, but Fairbanks knew that it could not reach his child in season, for the shark was too near his intended victims; and every moment he expected to see it sink from sight—then he knew that all hope would be gone. At this moment a cry reached the ship which went through every heart, like a stream of scorching fire—the boys had discovered their enemy!

The cry startled old Fairbanks to his senses, and quicker than thought he sprang to the quarter-deck. The guns were loaded and shot off and aft, and none knew their temper better than he. With a steady hand, made strong by a sudden hope, the old gunner seized a priming-wire and pricked the cartridge of one of the quarter guns; then he took from his pocket a percussion wafer and set it in its place, and set back the hammer of the patent lock. With a giant's strength the old man swayed the breech of the heavy gun to its bearing, and then, seizing the string of the lock, he stood back and watched for the next swell that should bring the shark within range. He had aimed the piece some distance ahead of his mark, but a single moment would settle his hopes or fears.

Every breath was hushed, and every heart in that old ship was painfully still. The boat was yet some distance from the boys, while the horrible sea monster was fearfully near. Suddenly the air was awake by the roar of the heavy gun, and as the old man knew that his shot had gone, he sunk back upon the combings of the hatch, and buried his face in his hands, as if afraid to see the result of his own effort, for if he had failed he knew that his boy was lost!

For a moment after the report of the gun had died away upon the air there was dead silence; but as the impenetrable smoke arose from the surface of the water, there was a low murmur breaking from the lips of the men; that murmur grew louder and stronger, until it swelled to a joyous deafening shout. The old gunner sprang to his feet, and gauged off upon the water; and the first thing that met his view was the huge carcass of the shark, floating with its white belly upturned—a mangled, lifeless mass.

In a few moments the boat had reached the daring swimmers, and half-dead from fright they were brought on board. The old man clasped his boy in his arms, and then overcame by the powerful excitement, he leaped back upon his gun for support.

I have seen men in all phrases of excitement and suspense; but never had I seen three hundred human beings more overcome by thrilling emotion than in that startling moment when first we knew the effect of our gunner's shot.

When are some newspapers the sharper?—When they are filed.

IMPORTANT DATES.

The following will refresh the minds of our readers as to the dates of the most important inventions, discoveries, and improvements, the advantages of which we now enjoy:—

Spinning-wheel invented, 1330.
Paper first made of rags, 1470.
Muskets invented and first used in England, 1421.
Pumps invented, 1425.
Printing invented by Faust, 1441.
Engraving on wood invented, 1460.
Post-offices established in England, 1484.
Almanacs first published, 1470.
Printing introduced into England by Caxton, 1474.
Violins invented, 1477.
Maps and charts first brought to England, 1480.
Diamonds cut and polished, 1480.
Fortifications built in the present style, 1500.
Sugar-refining first practiced by the Venetians, 1503.
Roses first planted in England, 1505.
Watches first made at Nuremberg, 1504.
Snap first made at London and Bristol, 1504.
Camera-obscura invented, 1545.
Gun-locks invented at Nuremberg, 1517.
Punctuation first used in literature, 1520.
Spinning-jenny invented, 1760.

HOW TO PEEL PEACHES.

As the time for putting up peaches is at hand, we have procured from a lady friend the following recipe for peeling peaches, which we confidently recommend to our lady readers: Take a kettle of very strong lye, and heat to boiling; take a wire egg—similar to a corn popper—fill it with peaches and dip into the lye for a moment; then into cold water. With a coarse towel wipe each peach, and then drop into fresh cold water, and the operation is complete. You need have no fear of injuring the flavor of the peach.

HORNE & GREENWELL, Builders and Contractors.

Unlicensed have entered into competition with Builders and Contractors, and are prepared to execute all demands in their line of business that may be made upon them with promptness, at reasonable rates and in workmanlike manner.

GEORGE HORNE,
THOS. C. GREENWELL,
Leonardtown, Md.

March 21, 1870—14

H. T. GARNETT (LATE OF VIRGINIA), General Commission Merchant.

AGENT FOR THE SALE OF LANDS No 65 Pratt St., near Commerce, Baltimore.

Liberal Advances made on Cash Payments.

April 16, 1868—14

MAJOR GENERAL TROCHU, MINISTER OF WAR.

This distinguished officer, who is now in command at Paris, bears the reputation of being one of the ablest military men in Europe. He is fifty-four years of age, having been born in 1816. He was educated at the military school of St. Cyr, where he displayed marked aptness and ability. On graduating he was commissioned a sub-lieutenant in the army, and was soon after sent to Algeria. Here Lieutenant Trochu, as he is called, was nearly all of the present general with France, first saw military service. In numerous campaigns against the Arabs he greatly distinguished himself by his skill and gallantry, and at the outbreak of the revolution of 1848 he rose to the rank of major. Immediately after the establishment of the empire he was commissioned a colonel and for a time served on the staff of the Emperor Napoleon. During the war between France and England, on the one side and Russia, on the other, Colonel Trochu was sent to the Crimea to command the artillery of the French army. He was at once appointed

LOUIS JOSEPH EMMET PICARD.

M. Picard, who has just been appointed one of the members of the Committee of Public Defense, was born in Paris on the 24th of December, 1821. He was a strong republican politician, and, like many others of the Parisian politicians of the French capital, is a lawyer by profession, being called to the bar in 1844. He was elected a member of the Corps Legislatif for the Fifth circumscription of the Department of Seine in 1858, since which time he has been more or less actively engaged in politics.

ALEXANDRE GLAIS-BIZON.

This statesman, one of the government of national defense, was born at Quintin, Cotes du Nord, in 1822. He was admitted to the bar in 1822, and, once entering into political life, associated himself with the liberals against the restoration. After the revolution of 1830 he was appointed Councillor General of his department, and was subsequently elected a deputy for the arrondissement of Lonsac, serving in this capacity until 1848. He voted always with the extreme left, signed the Compté Rendue of 1832, and was conspicuous for his demand for the complete application of the principles of 1789. He took an active part in the reform banquets, and aided in overthrowing the ministry of M. Guizot. After the revolution of 1848 he was elected to the Assembly, and adhered to the extreme left. On Louis Napoleon's election to the Presidency he at once went into opposition, and, being beaten for re-election, retired to private life. In 1863 he was returned to the Corps Legislatif as an opposition member, and was re-elected in 1869. M. Glais-Bizon is regarded as one of the most radical of French republicans.

ADVISE TO AN APPRENTICE.

Seize every opportunity of improving your mind. Be careful as to who are your companions.

To whatever occupation you may be called as a means of obtaining a livelihood, determine to understand it well and work heartily at it.

THE INVENTOR OF SPECTACLES.

On a tombstone at Florence is this inscription: "Here lies Salvino Armatto d'Armatto, of Florence, the inventor of spectacles. May God pardon his sins. The year 1289."

FUR SALE.

SEVERAL lots of valuable River and Foxed furs at reduced prices and on accommodating terms.

JAS. S. DOWNS,
Atty for the Govt.

Feb 18th, 1866—14

LIBERAL ADVANCES MADE ON CASH PAYMENTS.

April 16, 1868—14

WHY SHOULD YOUNG LADIES NEVER WEAR STAYS?

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