

Wild Guesses Often Follow Royal Shooting Accidents

Dense Clouds of Mystery Thrown Round Misadventures Sometimes Misinterpreted.

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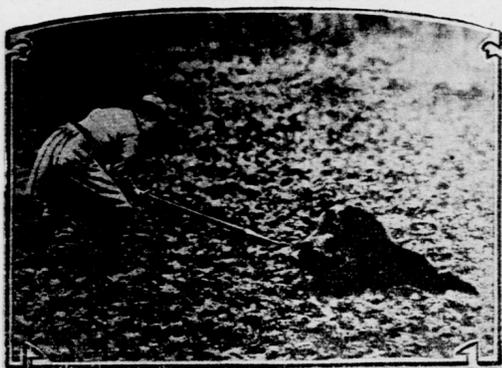
So dense are the clouds of mystery with which courtiers are likely to envelop any shooting accident in cases where royalty happens to be included among the Nimrods that there is a very natural inclination to ascribe the misadventure to the most illustrious of their number. It is owing to this that there has been a disposition in the daily press, and especially in the comic pages thereof, as well as in the weekly comic journals on this side of the Atlantic, to attribute the blame for the peppering sustained by Lord Kilmarnock while out shooting at Balmoral last week to the carelessness of his host and sovereign, George V. It is a pity that no official account was published placing the blame for what turned out to be a very trifling mishap where it belonged, even if it affected the popularity of the culprit as a gun and rendered people chary about inviting him to their shoots, for as the matter stands now George V., who is perhaps not only the best but also the most careful sporting shot in his vast dominions, will remain, here in America at any rate and among the masses in England, under the totally unjustified imputation of having almost shot out the eye of young Kilmarnock, who is not only a member of his diplomatic service, but also to a certain extent his kinsman, counting among his immediate ancestors King William IV.

Accidents such as the one which took place at Balmoral last week are far more frequent than the public imagines. This, too, in spite of the extraordinary precautions that are adopted at all shooting parties where royal personages or rulers of great nations are present. They are largely due to the nature of the game, which is a relatively circumscribed area, and to the way which small shot have of ricocheting from trees and stones. Thus, one of King Edward's brothers-in-law, namely, Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, had an eye destroyed while out shooting about fourteen years ago in the covers at Osborne through the carelessness of one of the members of the party, the identity of whom has always been the subject of much gossip, though nothing positive is known about the matter, the public ascribing it to the late Prince Henry of Battenberg, for no other reason than because he happened at the time to be the least popular member of the reigning house among the masses.

King Carlos of Portugal was more fortunate at the shooting party given at Marly in his honor by the late President Faure. For although struck by some stray shots of exceedingly small dimensions about his legs, gaitered with heavy canvas leggings, and the lower part of his back, only slight damage was done, the burly and good natured mon-

arch taking the affair as a vast joke, making fun of it, and declining to permit it to interfere in any way with his sport. There, too, the identity of the offending gun remained a mystery, and a similar incertitude prevails to this day as to whom it really was who so badly wounded Colonel (afterward general) Brugère at the first shooting party given by the ill-fated President Sadi-Carnot at Rambouillet, after his election to the Chief Magistracy of the French Republic. Brugère, who had formed part of the military staff of President Grévy, was slated for removal from the household of the Palace of the Elysee when he was so badly wounded, and although the gamekeeper Darrin took upon himself the responsibility for the mishap, it was generally assumed by the public that the perpetrator of the accident was no less a personage than the President himself. This impression was strengthened by the great distress which this ordinarily so impassive, cold and collected man displayed about the matter; by his retention of Brugère at the Elysee; by his advancing him to the chieftaincy of his military household; by intrusting him with all sorts of foreign missions, which resulted in his being overwhelmed with foreign orders of knighthood, and by his securing him a promotion so rapid that, jumped over the heads of many of his seniors with much more war service than he could boast of possessing, he was for a number of years generalissimo of the French army. This explanation of Brugère's rise has not only been printed in the French and foreign press, and in a number of books, but has even been adverted to by Camille Pelletan, the former Minister of Marine, in the Chamber of Deputies. Of course, it is denied by Carnot's children, and by Brugère and his family, without, however, any success on their part in modifying the general belief, which is strengthened by the fact that the gamekeeper Darrin is still in the service of the French government, not, it is true, as a gamekeeper, but in a more agreeable and lucrative position.

Even still greater mystery exists in connection with the sudden death of General Baron Krieglhammer, Austro-Hungarian ex-Minister of War, during one of the imperial shooting parties in the mountains around Ischl. It was attributed by popular rumor to an accidental discharge of the gun of Prince George of Bavaria, a grandson of the old Emperor, who spent several months in this country some five or six years ago. There is no proof whatsoever, beyond the newspaper stories in Europe and America, that the baron succumbed to a gunshot wound. But, owing to the lack of any official explanation of his death, Prince George, who is perhaps quite innocent about the matter, remains in the eyes of not only thou-



THE GERMAN EMPEROR GIVING THE COUP DE GRACE TO A WOUNDED BOAR.

sands, but perhaps millions, as the involuntary author of the death of the veteran general.

Two years ago a particularly shocking accident took place at a royal shooting party given by the King of Saxony in the splendid reserves around his chateau of Wormsdorf. Among his guests were two chamberlains of the Kaiser, namely, Count Arnim and Count Ketch. The former was stationed at a distance of about a hundred feet from the point where the King was awaiting the arrival of the game, which was being driven by the beaters toward the shooting line. Now, there is one strict rule at all these battues, namely, that none of the shooters should leave the position assigned to him until the firing has ceased. This rule Count Arnim, who had the post nearest the King, violated. No one knows why he left his station, but the fact is that he suddenly did so, and had not proceeded more than a few yards before he was struck down and instantly killed by Count Ketch, who was aiming at some ground game and whose line of fire was suddenly and altogether unexpectedly crossed by Von Arnim. Of course, the affair immediately put an end to the hunting party. King Frederick Augustus in particular being terribly upset, indeed, almost more so than Count Ketch, who, of course, was absolved from all blame in the matter, since it was a purely accidental case of homicide, resulting from Count Arnim's transgression of the laws of the chase.

I can recall only one case in modern times of any royal personage meeting with his death through accident while shooting, namely, young Archduke Ladislas, the son of the late Archduke Joseph and brother of the Duchess of Orleans. He was found dead, with his discharged gun by his side, in the royal preserves of Godollo, near Pesth. But whether he accidentally shot himself, or was killed by some one else, unintention-



KING GEORGE V OF ENGLAND. One of the finest pheasant shots in the world.

ally or otherwise, no one can say with any degree of certainty.

The late Prince Herbert Bismarck, while staying at Sandringham, as German Chargé d'Affaires, had the misfortune to pepper Edward VII (then only Prince of Wales) in the legs. The prince escaped any serious injury through the thickness of his gaiters. It is the solitary instance that I can recall of an envoy being so lacking in diplomacy as to shoot the heir apparent of the sov-



THE KING OF SPAIN IN HUNTING OUTFIT.

ern to whose court he was accredited.

King Edward himself on one occasion damaged, only slightly, it is true, several of the beaters while out shooting at Frystone, near Pontefract, as the guest of the Earl of Crewe. It was not altogether his fault, for it happened through the charge of his gun ricocheting from some railings. One of the beaters, a burly Yorkshireman, who received the largest portion of the charge in his carcase, damned the King roundly, asking him, with a number of choice and picturesque epithets, to "turn his gun the other way." However, the King treated the men with so much generosity afterward, and they realized such a handsome sum in addition by selling to rich people in the district the royal pellets taken from various portions of their anatomy, that they still speak of having been shot by Edward VII with a considerable degree of pleasure and of pride.

Marshal MacMahon, second of the series of presidents of the present French Republic, had the misfortune to meet in South Carolina, where the wife was visiting and the husband was on a business trip?

Curious Features Connected with Cases Where Noble Hunters Have Wrought Havoc.

such an extent that the monarch's features were covered with blood. Everybody was terribly alarmed, and at first it was feared that the Emperor had lost his eyesight. But it did not take long for him to reassure his companions and to satisfy them that the damage was slight. It took him infinitely longer to console the unhappy marshal.

King Charles X of France badly wounded the Vicomte Sosthène de la Rochefoucauld while out shooting at Marly, whereupon the courtly nobleman contented himself with making a low bow to his sovereign, imploring his pardon for thus disturbing his majesty's pleasure.

Prince Peter Bonaparte, cousin of Napoleon III and father of that Roland Bonaparte who is president of the Geographical Society of France and part owner of the Monte Carlo gambling establishment, killed a gamekeeper in Italy while gunning. Stories conflict as to the manner in which the man met his death. For while there are some who claim that the affair was an accident, the Italian official version, resulting in the issue of a warrant for the arrest of the prince, was to the effect that he had killed the gamekeeper to escape arrest for poaching.

In another instance, at Marly, it was a marshal who was the victim and the sovereign the cause of the accident. The military dignitary in question was the great Massena, Duc de Rivoli, who at an imperial shooting party had one of his eyes destroyed by no less a personage than the first Napoleon. He had, however, the presence of mind to turn at once upon Field Marshal Berthier, Prince de Wagram, his comrade and old friend, and to abuse him with the most bitter invectives for his crass carelessness and gross stupidity. Marshal Berthier took up the cue and accepted all the blame, not even flinching when the Emperor himself, with an impudence beyond all conception, began to assail him, in the presence of the entire party, with withering reproaches for his bad shooting. As soon as he had an opportunity Napoleon expressed in private his gratitude to his two marshals for their devotion and readiness of resource in his behalf.

The late Cardinal Prince Frederick Prustenberg, who belonged to the princely and one time sovereign house of that name, had the misfortune to kill a man by accident while out shooting. It was the remorse which he suffered from this mishap which caused him to abandon the military profession for the Church, in which, owing to his birth and family connections, he was quickly promoted, attaining the rank of Cardinal.

It was probably the only case in modern times of a cardinal, and a possible Pope, having the blood of a fellow creature on his hands.

It would appear that, no matter how great the precautions adopted or how strict the rules and the etiquette devised for the protection of members of shooting parties, it is impossible to avert accidents, especially in cases of battues. Thus, there are several scores of Englishmen, well known in the London great world, who have lost one or both eyes through ricocheting shot. In one instance two brothers of my acquaintance each lost an eye in this way.

Lord Drumlanrig, elder brother of the present Marquis of Queensberry, was killed while out shooting in 1864 within a few weeks only of the date appointed for his marriage to the daughter of the late General Sir Arthur Ellis, and Lord Dalkeith, eldest son of the Duke of Buccleuch, was likewise accidentally killed, while out deer stalking in the Highlands, in 1888. Then there was the elder brother of the present Marquis of Lothian. As Lord Antrim he was serving on the staff of the Governor of New South Wales, and was riding home from a shoot, when the horse of one of the members of the party, who was riding in front, began to shy and rear, causing his gun to go off, the entire charge lodging itself in the head of the young earl, who was killed on the spot. Three years ago Captain Cuthbert, of the Scots Guards, had the misfortune while out shooting at Beaufort Castle, his place in Northumberland, to kill his charming wife, Lady Dorothy Buns, daughter of the present Earl of Stratford. She was standing with him at the covert side, when in some way his gun was accidentally discharged, almost blowing off the top of her head. The marriage had been a very happy one, and Captain Cuthbert became almost insane with grief, and had to be kept under medical care and virtual restraint for months afterward to prevent him from harming himself. Finally there was the case of the late Sir Herbert Naylor Leyland, Member of Parliament and captain in the 2d Life Guards, and husband of the once famous American beauty Jeanie Chamberlain, of Cleveland. He had the misfortune to kill his father, old Tom Naylor Leyland, while out deer stalking in the Highlands, mistaking him for a stag. Sir Herbert was ever afterward known in London by the cruel sobriquet of "Bag-Attach."

EX-ATTACHE.

INADEQUACY OF TERMS.

"People have to be very explicit nowadays in their statements."
"How do you mean?"
"Here's young Jolliby tells me he has joined the uplift movement, and I don't know yet whether he meant he was going to have a new elevator installed, buy a ship or get on the water wagon."—Baltimore American.

Should There Be a Code of Etiquette for Divorced Persons?

Public Opinion Seems Decidedly Mixed as to Whether We Really Need One or Not.

A man spoke to a woman on the street of a Western city recently. She turned aside to avoid him, whereupon he took her by the shoulder and forcibly turned her toward him to compel her to speak. She promptly had him arrested for assault on a divorcee.

This decision apparently opens up an interesting vista. Divorce is no longer rare. I had always supposed people became divorced in order to obtain freedom from any sort of surveillance, dictation or claim from the other person. The judge's decision raised a doubt in my mind whether divorce was necessarily the blissful state I had always pictured it. Anyway, there has ever been formulated a proper mode of procedure for the divorced in their attitude toward each other, and is the magistrate's ruling in line with the best usage? I didn't know, so straightway I went forth in quest of information.

My first approach was to the law, and I called on Mr. "Dan" O'Reilly. I missed him the first time; he had just gone to a ball game. Mercy, wasn't I glad I hadn't been ten minutes earlier! Think of interviewing a man who wanted to go to a ball game!

The next day I found Mr. O'Reilly, and he was very pleasant and courteous. If there was a ball game he had evidently resigned himself to missing it, and I never mind interrupting her business. Most men hate work so much they welcome any distraction—even me. I mean in my capacity of interviewer, of course.

Some of the foregoing refers to Mr. O'Reilly, for, for all I know, he just does on work. Well, when I told him about the man and the woman and the magistrate out West he looked thoughtfully out of the window for a minute.

needed are arbitrary rules to fit such occasions."

"Well—can you suggest a few?" I hinted.

"I? Heavens, no! But I'll certainly recommend the manual when it's completed." "Should I think it might make a unique and useful wedding gift?" I suggested.

"H'm—er—well—for second or third marriages, possibly." Somehow it seemed as though we were straying from the profound and serious consideration that I always give to any matter with which I have to deal, so I said goodby to Mr. O'Reilly and went uptown to call upon Mrs. Margaret Holmes Bates, the novelist.

For the second time I told the tale of the man, the woman and the magistrate. "I think that judge was quite wrong," said Mrs. Bates, positively. "Why, divorce means separation, complete separation, if it means anything at all. It blots out marriage, makes it as if it had never been. Both parties forfeit all rights in any way to dictate each other's conduct. A strange woman would have no right to go up to a man and make him and a divorced husband is a strange man—or worse, isn't he?"

I agreed that from my point of view he was certainly much worse. Then I launched Mr. O'Reilly's "Manual" idea at her.

"No, that's not possible," she said. "People are so different, and they get divorces from each other for so many reasons. Sometimes two people just placidly agree to disagree and part with no animosity. If that were always the case a code of future conduct framed, but so many more part in hatred and bitterness. For them there can be but one wise way—to go utterly and completely out of each other's life; to be strangers absolutely. We quarrel with people in business, in society, in every walk of life, but I know of no relation that can end in such uncompromising bitterness and degradation as the intimate one of marriage."

Mrs. Bates, charming as she is, apparently couldn't help me to compile the manual of conduct for the divorced, so I called up Mrs. Belle de Rivera, the versatile clubwoman.



MRS. M. H. BATES. "To create such a code would be impossible."

or not." The brown eyes flashed; then she laughed. "Some of these court decisions lead to funny conclusions if you follow them out to a logical ending. Not so very long ago a judge handed down a decision that a wife had a right to go through her husband's pockets. Do you remember?"

"I nodded. "Now, put these two decisions together," she continued, "and add the Westerner's proposition that divorced people retain a proprietary right in one another. Does that mean that if a divorced wife meets her ex-husband on the street and sweetly and surreptitiously goes through his pockets the proprietary right holds good and she cannot be held for highway robbery?"

I thought that rather neat and said so. "I think," Mrs. de Rivera laughed, "that the men had better not encourage judges in such decisions as the one in question."

"On the principle that sauce for the goose may also be used for the gander?" I asked. "Exactly."



MRS. DE RIVERA. "Necessity will force us to evolve such a code."

"A manual of conduct for divorced persons would be an excellent thing."

"I suppose divorce does present awful complications, though," I began, confidentially. "Yes, indeed, and women aren't the only sufferers, either. I imagine the men have an uncomfortable time of it with women who agree with the judge on this proprietary right notion. It is a notion that should promptly be discouraged, too, if people aren't to be left to the mercy of ex-partners with a large slice of cunningness in their make-up. No, divorce is separation, and neither party should be privileged to retain the right to annoy the other."

MISS M. COLEMAN. "To frame such a code would require omniscience of the human mind."

"That is a perfectly absurd decision," she said, when for the fourth time I had related it. "An assault is an assault, and the two persons in question having been married once has nothing to do with the case. Why, a woman can have her husband arrested for assault, for that matter, and a divorced husband is to all intents and purposes a stranger."

"But why should a judge?" I began. "My dear child, if you'd listened to the dicta handed down by as many judges as I have, you'd realize that the man more often seeks the office than the office the man. The proportion of silly, frivolous and legally unsound decisions handed down from the bench in this country today is truly appalling."

I reverted to the attitude of the divorced toward one another, and asked Miss Coleman if it was often characterized by bitterness.

"Yes, indeed," she answered. "The first divorce case I ever handled was an illustration. The husband brought suit in South Dakota. I represented the wife, and she and I went West, fought the case and won it. The husband told all sorts of lies about her on the witness stand, and after the case was decided disappeared, to a-

But When It Comes to Rules for That Code, Views Range from Averting Face to Brick Throwing.

cape being tried for perjury. After a time his father died, and a question of property came up. For three years they fought each other tooth and nail, each one expressing the kindly wish that the other might rot in hades. And then, after all this, one fine day she went back to him again, and has been living with him ever since. There were no children to cement the bond, either. Since then I have not allowed my sympathies in divorce cases to run away with me."

"But such things do not often happen, surely?" I questioned. "Indeed, they do. Didn't you read the other day of the couple who, after having been separated eight years, chanced to meet in South Carolina, where the wife was visiting and the husband was on a business trip?"

"Well, they met, began to converse and presently were remarried, after eight years apart. The only time to be absolutely assured that a divorce case is permanently settled is after one or both of the parties are dead."

"You don't think rules of conduct feasible, either?" I asked gloomily. "Not while the personal equation is as unreliable as it is now. It would take omniscience of the human mind to frame a working hypothesis, and I doubt if even that could do it."

"I got one other opinion—an unofficial one. 'Would you speak to your wife if you were divorced from her?' I asked a man I know."

"No!" he answered, uncompromisingly. "What would you do?" I insisted. He deliberated a moment.

"I think I'd stand on the corner and throw bricks at her," he said.

And possibly he expressed the true inwardness of the situation as well as any one. It is that spirit in human nature which prevents any prescribed code from becoming universally popular.

GEORGIA EARLE.

the senior member of the regiment in point of seniority. He enlisted in Company B on July 25, 1884, and as private, sergeant and first sergeant served in its ranks for thirty-three years. He volunteered for the war with Spain, but was rejected on account of age. He was later appointed sergeant major of the regiment, and has a 100 per cent duty record.

First Lieutenant F. E. Kimber, of the 9th Company, is spoken of as a likely candidate for the captaincy. Chaplain W. C. P. Rhoades has got the state decoration for ten years' faithful service. Other members of the regiment who have also received the same decoration are Quartermaster Sergeant A. F. Orr, 11th Company; Sergeant R. Ray, 5th Company; Private William H. Earl, 8th Company, and Machine Gunner F. M. Roser, 8th Company.

A committee of the National Guard Association of the United States will at the convention of the association in St. Louis next month report on a scheme for uniform militia legislation for the entire United States. At present there is a great lack of uniformity, and a number of states are, it is said, laboring under antiquated laws, and the object is to have a universal law for all, which shall embody all that the new order of things requires.

A complimentary letter in connection with the good work of the 12th Regiment at Pine Camp, N. Y., during its recent ten days of duty there, has been received by Colonel Dyer from Colonel Andrews, adjutant general on the staff of Major General Grant, U. S. A. The letter says: "The personal inspection of your camp grounds subsequent to your departure, directs me to inform you that he found that they had been exceptionally well policed, and he was much pleased with the evident care taken to leave the grounds in proper condition."

Captain Mason Morris, of the 12th Regiment, is making the practice march with the 3d United States Infantry from Pine Camp to Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y.

Referring to Colonel Elmore F. Austin, of the 8th Regiment, Colonel Albert Todd, Coast Artillery, U. S. A., in an official report on the coast defense exercises, in which the 8th Regiment took part last year, says: "Colonel Austin has at all times seconded my efforts to impart instruction to the militia, both in the army and during the encampment. At no time has there been the slightest disposition to object to orders or instructions. He has always appeared most anxious and ready to fall in with all suggestions made by me, when I deemed an order unnecessary or undesirable."

"The same spirit seemed to prevail among his officers taken as a body, though, of course, so many some were more efficient than others. On the whole, I am of the opinion that in the need of troops for actual service, the companies of the 8th could be relied upon, provided a period of preliminary training of a few weeks could be had."

NATIONAL GUARD NEWS.

Strong hopes are entertained that the armories of the 8th, 9th and 11th regiments may be fitted up with much needed ordnance equipment by the War Department. This consists mainly of a breech loading sea-coast gun, with loading device whereby the artillerymen can be thoroughly trained in loading the piece with the projectile used in the regular service, but with a dummy powder charge.

This handling of a projectile of actual size and weight, will, it is believed, be a great advance in armory instruction over anything yet attempted, as the men can perform every detail about the gun as they would in actual service, except the firing. Provision will also be made for sub-caliber firing in the armory, with a 2-caliber cartridge, the target to represent a marine view, with warships. Colonel E. M. Weaver, artillery corps, U. S. A., has been ordered to confer with the state military authorities of New York in connection with the installation of the equipment.