

FIGHT FOR MARRIAGE REFORM IN FRANCE

French Parliament Will Be Asked to Permit Young Men of Twenty-One and Girls of Eighteen to Marry Without the Consent of Their Parents.

Special Correspondence of The Journal.
PARIS, April 21.—If success does not attend the movement that is now on foot to reform the French marriage law, it will not, at any rate, be because men and women of position and influence have failed to identify themselves with it. The idea, of course, is to get rid of all the restrictions and red-tape that now make the business of getting married in France a matter of such unconscionable time and trouble, as well as to put both parties in the transaction on an equal footing in the eyes of the law, and with the object of bringing the chamber of deputies before the chamber of deputies, a committee has recently been formed in Paris that is eminently representative of both the intellect and the culture of France.



Maitre HENRI COULON, Eminent Advocate and Writer, Who Heads the Reform Movement.

The moving spirit of the reform movement is, however, Maitre Henri Coulon, the distinguished advocate and jurist, who for the last several years has been directing practically all his efforts toward effecting drastic changes in the laws which at present regulate the marriage "contract" in the republic. Quite a number of authors and feminists of real distinction are also members of the committee.

It is the committee's intention to bring a bill—drafted by Maitre Coulon—before the French chamber of deputies immediately after the coming elections—early in June next.

Queer Law in Force Now.

This bill will aim first at enabling young men and women who have attained the age of 21 and 18 respectively to marry without the consent of their parents, and at abolishing the expiring and unwholesome system of official betrothal which makes marriage so severe a trial.

According to the present law, of course, men under 25 and girls under 21 cannot marry without the paternal consent—with the result, as everyone knows, that practically every girl is married for her "dote," that the details of the "courtship" are bossed by the relatives of both, and love generally goes out of the question altogether. Moreover, in France, declarations and innumerable unnecessary documents have to be drawn up and signed, and even an elderly fiancé of 60 has to gain the consent of his neighborhood with his bride.

Here, for example, is a list of the documents which two young people must produce before they marry. The young man:

- First—His birth certificate.
- Second—The consent of his father.
- Third—The consent of his mother.
- Fourth—His military certificate.
- Fifth—A certificate of the banish with the name of the place of publication.
- Sixth—The names of the places where his and her parents live.
- The girl must bring (supposing she is an orphan):
- First—Her birth certificate.
- Second—A death certificate of her father.
- Third—A death certificate of her mother.
- Fourth—A certificate of residence in Paris.
- Fifth—The consent of her grandmother.

Law Causes Immorality.

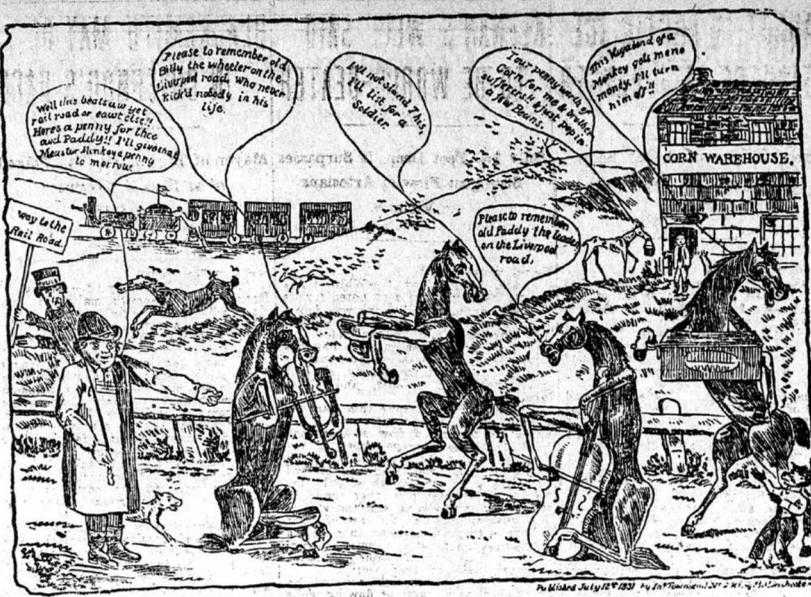
It is a wonder that, as the marriage reform committee points out, the law causes immorality in France! There is a growing tendency of men and women, who have no families, to live together without the formality of

the wedding ceremony, rather than go to the enormous trouble of collecting all the various documents which are now necessary to satisfy officialdom. It is hoped to amend the present marriage law in many other respects—to equalize punishment for adultery, for instance, and to make wives the sole mistresses of their own properties; and these and other technical points need not be gone into. Suffice it to say that it is practically certain, from a preliminary canvass of the chamber of deputies, that the proposed bill for amending the marriage code will pass, and that its consequences are likely to be so far-reaching that it would be next to impossible to forecast them.

The Father of the Movement.

And, after that event, Maitre Henri Coulon, the head of the reform movement, will find his occupation, like that of Othello, gone; for, as has been said, for something like twenty-five years, practically all this distinguished advocate's time and energy have been given to active propaganda against the existing system of marriage in France. Aged 51, Maitre Coulon was born in Paris and educated at the Lycée Condorcet and at Sainte Barbe. Admitted to the Paris bar, success was his from the beginning and in a surprisingly short time he became one of the most consulted advocates at the Palais de Justice and one of the best-known and eloquent followers of the law in France. Incidentally, he is perhaps the greatest French subdivision of the law of divorce as well as the author of more than a score of works on that and kindred subjects, notably "La Reforme du Mariage."

Liberty, too is one of his favorite subjects; his published works including "La Liberté Individuelle," "La Liberté de la Presse" and "La Liberté de Tester." In fact, it has been said that Maitre Coulon's life is embodied in Napoleon's dying words to his son: "This only remains, to gain in the direction of liberty what has been gained in that of equality."



WHEN HORSES TURN BEGGARS

A collector of curios ran across the old lithograph which is reproduced here. It is entitled "Effect of the Railroad on the Brute Creation." A popular fear that the horse would be an extinct creature found expression seventy-five years ago thru what probably was the first cartoon on the subject. The horses are somewhat weird looking, but no queer as the little locomotive and the

cars at which the slim, milk-white steed is kicking. The horse not only survived the locomotive, but multiplied enormously. The horses that are lamenting as their talk shows, are beasts that have seen service on the "Liverpool road," drawing stage coaches, which started to go out of fashion at that period.

The funny artist of today has the same impression of the disappearance of the horse as had the oldtime cartoonist, but he makes the automobile the machine at which the horse still kicks, it is altogether likely that the horse still will be in demand commercially and otherwise long after pictures representing him as a back number vanishing before the auto have acquired value as curios.

ADDITIONAL SPORT NEWS

BRITISH CHIEF SAYS EX-BREWERS ARE NOW PLAY WILL BE CLOSE

London, May 5.—Competition for the Davis international lawn tennis trophy next month, according to W. H. Collins, president of the Lawn Tennis association who captained the British team last year, will eclipse in interest the struggle of last year.

Contest for Davis International Tennis Trophy Will Be Hard Fought.

Whether the Americans succeed or not this year, he said, "I am pretty certain they will make matters warm for our players. Last summer Beals Wright was not selected for the singles, I believe because then American players were not given a perfectly free hand in his choice of players before the men sailed. This year Wright will, of course, play as first string and should say he will win the British championship as well."

HORSTMAN TAKES PRIZE

Philadelphia, Pa., May 5.—In the Philadelphia special, the smash-up to the eastbound train near Altoona late last night, was William M. Trinkle, a prominent lawyer. He had intended to meet his wife, who was coming east. She was on the wrecked train and was among those killed.

YANGER IS BUSY

Old Timer Gets Offers of Many Bouts Just Now.

New York, May 5.—Benny Yanger, the Chicago fighter, has been practically matched with Dick Hyland, conqueror of Young Corbett, in a twenty-round bout at Ogden, Utah, within two weeks for a guaranteed purse of \$2,500, with the privilege of accepting 50 per cent of the gross receipts in case the money taken in amounts to over \$500.

MAROONS BADA BEATEN

Illini Make Monkeys of the Chicago Varsity Players.

WIND HOLDS BACK FROST

Iowa Fruit Growers and Truckmen Have Uneasy Night.

MANY RAILS ORDERED

Western Roads Prepare for Next Year's Demands.

EX-BREWERS ARE NOW TRI-STATE OUTLAWS

Milwaukee, Wis., May 5.—Quite a number of ex-Milwaukee and other association players are playing in the Tri-state Outlaw league this season. Bob England, who was the crack third baseman of the American association in 1903, and later went to Boston, is playing first base for Williamsport; Tommy Delehanty, an old brewer second baseman, is playing center field for the same club as England; Dr. Reisinger, Toledo pitcher, is with Altoona; Starnight, former association player, is with Altoona; Hensley, who was with Louisville, is playing first base for Altoona; Wyatt Lee of Toledo, is playing right field for Altoona; Charles, who was with Kansas City, is playing second base for Altoona; Gleason, who played short for Columbus, is with Williamsport; Martin, who was with Minneapolis, is playing center for Johnston; Holy, an old Milwaukee player, is with Johnston; Atherton, a former brewer, is also with Johnston; Fred Rayer, who worked for Milwaukee and later went to Chicago, is playing first base for Johnston; Glendon, pitcher for Columbus, is with Johnston; O'Hara, who was with Toledo, is with Lancaster; Clark, the leading catcher of the association last season and with Louisville, is with York; Lucia, once with Milwaukee and afterwards with Denison, is playing first base for Johnston; Downey, who was with Kansas City, is with Harrisburg, and Owens, another Toledo player, is with Altoona, whom the Milwaukee club was to get from Pittsburgh, is playing short for Lancaster. The outlaw teams are playing good ball, but they seem to be lacking in high-class pitching material.

CLUB OFFICIALS SUMMONED

Poolroom Men Turn on Jockey Club Officials.

New York, May 5.—There was an air of furtive apprehension among bookmakers and officials of the Jockey club at the Jamaica track this afternoon when the announcement that the poolroom men, in their fight on the club, had served subpoenas on August Belmont and were looking for James W. Belmont, president of the club, and other prominent officials and bookmakers.

EASY FOR MICHIGAN

Ohio State Proved Easy Picking for the Wolverines.

Ann Arbor, Mich., May 5.—Michigan defeated Ohio state university today by the score of 6 to 2. Michigan took kindly to the elongated Bencher, and it was only the great fielding of Felger, Barrington, Davis and Hagenbach that saved his state from an awful thrashing. Hagenbach especially was applauded for his great throwing. Twice he cut out men at the plate with perfect throwing. The score:

Ann Arbor, Mich., May 5.—Phillips Andover put it all over Yale today, winning 4 to 3.

At Philadelphia—Princeton downed the University of Pennsylvania this afternoon, 5 to 0.

At Providence—Columbia defeated Brown the game today, 3 to 0.

VICTOR PEOPLE WINNING

Coming Conference May Settle Ball Contest Out of Court.

Milwaukee, Wis., May 5.—It is expected that at the conference in Cincinnati next Tuesday between the members of the American association, the national commission and the representatives of the Victor ball, that all differences will be adjusted and the Victor ball will become the official sphere for the association. From New York come the news that the Victor people expect their case to be settled out of court, which practically means that the national commission will declare that it has no jurisdiction in the matter whatever and the board of directors of their point. It will mean that the constitution of the organization must be lived up to and under the constitution the board of directors have absolute power, so there is nothing left to contest for. Should the national commission decide that it has jurisdiction in the matter then it will mean a resort to the courts, as the Victor people have already prepared their case and are ready to go to court.

Holy Cross Beat Harvard.

Worcester, Mass., May 5.—Holy Cross defeated Harvard in a poorly played game today, 4 to 2. Neither team could score until the third inning, when Holy Cross scored on an error. A three-bagger by Hoey and a sensational catch by Dexter were the features.

TO SEARCH FOR KING JOHN'S LOST TREASURE

Antiquarian Will Soon Start Digging for the Crown Jewels, Army Pay Chest and Baggage That Were Abandoned in the Quicksands of the Wash When the Perfidious Monarch Was Fleeting from the Barons Centuries Ago.

Special Correspondence of The Journal.
LONDON, April 22.—There is more likelihood of success rewarding the efforts that are soon to be made to recover the treasure lost by King John nearly six and a half centuries ago than seemed probable when some inkling of the project first leaked out. The Society of Antiquaries, which has been working on the matter for several years. The search will be conducted under his directions.

Everybody knows—or is supposed to know—that King John lost his baggage train when he was making a short cut across the Wash to escape his wrathful barons who were in hot pursuit of him. The Wash, it should be explained for the benefit of those readers who have forgotten much of their geography, is a wide and shallow estuary on the east coast of England between the counties of Lincoln and Norfolk. King John, according to one of his candid contemporaries, was "a knight without truth, a king without justice, a Christian without faith." He had signed Magna Charta, the great bulwark of English freedom, only to repudiate it, and when war broke out between him and the barons again, he knew that they would not give him another chance to break his word with them. In his present predicament, he did not make sufficient allowance for the tide, and the quicksands swallowed up his army chest and his crown jewels and a lot of other paraphernalia, which is now worth vastly more than it was in his time. He had a close shave of it himself, according to Shakespeare, who thus refers to the incident in "King John":

I tell thee, Hubert, half my power this night, fasting these fasts is taken by the tide. These Lincoln waves have devoured them. Myself, well mounted, hardly have escaped.

According to some accounts, to drown his sorrow he went on a big spree which brought on an attack of dysentery of which he died. He was buried in Worcester cathedral, wrapped in a monk's gown, and as a further protection against vandal hands was laid between two Saxon saints.

It has been generally assumed that King John's lost treasure was still buried somewhere in the quicksands that the sea overflows at every tide, and that in the course of the centuries that have since elapsed, the stuff must have sunk many fathoms deep in the shifting sands. Under such circumstances its recovery would be so costly and difficult as to render the prospects of success well nigh hopeless. But Mr. Hope is able to state definitely that owing to the changes that have taken place in the sea line and the reclamation of waste lands the treasure now lies some distance inland. In the search for it no diving will be necessary and digging operations are comparatively cheap.

Mr. Hope has made a map of the district as it was in King John's time, and that map he has drawn a line, and somewhere on that line he asserts, probably about forty feet below the surface, under a substratum of silt,

lies King John's crown jewels and army pay chest and the rest of his lost baggage. He has calculated the condition of the tide at the time of the disaster, and the approximate position of the baggage train when the onrushing waters compelled its abandonment, and enables him to reduce to still narrower dimensions the probable location of the treasure. His fellow antiquarians, who have verified his figures and researches are convinced that the search is well worth undertaking.

Of course the treasure trove belongs to the crown, but for many years it has been the practice of the crown to pay full market value for whatever is retained so that the discoverers, if successful, even if they have to give up the best part of their find, are assured of a rich reward. The coins alone, at this date, are immensely valuable. What the crown jewels would be worth, it is impossible now even to hazard a guess, but it is certain they would be appraised at a big sum. And historic associations would confer a considerable price on small articles that have no intrinsic value.

BURNS IS PREPARING FOR OLD BOB FITZ

Burly Young Battler Expects to Be Victor Over Old Chap.

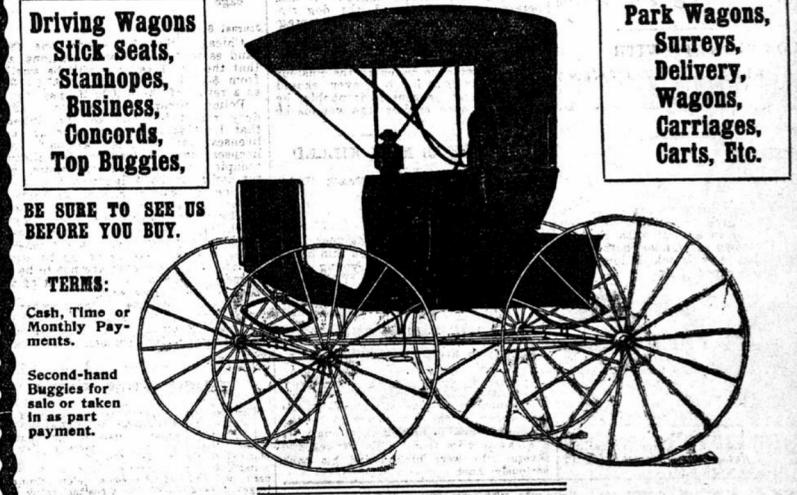
Chicago, May 5.—Tommy Burns of Detroit, claimant to the heavyweight championship of the world by his defeat of Marvin Hart, arrived in town last night from California. Burns is matched to meet Robert Fitzsimmons at the Tweed club, in Philadelphia, Pa., May 30, and he has come here to train for the fray. He was met last night by his manager, Billy Gee, and "Big" Hart. Burns left last night with Gee for Waukegan, where he will do his training until about eight days before the battle, then he will start for the east.

Burns looked to be in good condition, and said that he felt fine, as he kept up light training after he had whipped Hart. He says he will work as hard as ever for the battle, as he is confident that he can whip the old man. Burns declares that he has never seen Fitzsimmons fight or even met him on the street, but that is not going to hinder him from whipping him.

The Detroit boxer adds that he endeavored to get on with Jack O'Brien, but that the latter refused to meet him in a twenty-round battle. In talking of his bout with Hart, Burns declares he had no difficulty in winning, because he was too speedy for his opponent, beating him to it every time.

Burns weighs about 188 pounds now, but fights best at 175, at which weight he will probably meet Fitzsimmons.

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POLICE NET CLOSES ON WIFE'S DEATH CAUSED HARVARD INSTRUCTOR BY TRAIN MAN WAS ON

Cambridge Chief Says Muentzer Will Be Caught Within Few Days.

Boston, May 5.—The Cambridge police express themselves as feeling sure that they will soon locate Professor Erich Muentzer, the missing Harvard instructor, who has been accused of killing his wife by administering arsenic to her.

DANIEL O'DAY SICK, TOO

Chief of Standard Oil Offshoots Now on Trust's Ailing List.

New York, May 5.—Daniel O'Day has joined the list of Standard Oil sick men. He has succumbed to the strain of overwork. His physicians have ordered him to take a long rest. He is arranging his affairs for a long stay abroad. He plans to go first to Aix-Les-Bains in about two weeks.

LANSBORO SCHOOL EXHIBITION

Lansboro, Minn., May 5.—The annual exhibition of the Lansboro high school was held last night. The extemporaneous debate for the prize medal offered by T. Thompson attracted the most interest. This was won by Miss Olive Crowe. There were four contestants.

BRIDE KILLED BY CRASH WITH TRAIN BEARING HUSBAND TO MET HER.

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