THE EVENING STAR.

With Sunday Morning Edition.

WASHINGTON.

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The Duluth Speech.

The death of Proctor Knott has brought his Duluth speech into notice again. Many persons are reading it for the first time, and some express surprise at the fame it brought its author. It does not strike them with the force it did their fathers. They are inclined to wonder at the taste of forty years ago in that line.

Taste in banter and irony changes, and what convulses one generation may move but mildly, if at all, the next. The setting is not the same. Time takes away much that assisted in the creation of the first effects. A deliverance may not wear well with the author himself. It is not known—at least it has not been published—how Mr. Knott after a season regarded the speech which obscured all his other speeches and gave him a secure renown.

While Judge Gresham was Secretary of State a friend found him in his quarters one evening in shirtsleeves and slippers stretched upon a couch reading a pamphlet. Fearing he had interrupted the perusal of a state document of importance, the visitor asked pardon and was about to withdraw.

"No, no," replied the judge. "It's nothing official. Only an old speech of mine on Gen. Grant I delivered several years ago at a Grant anniversary meeting. I came across it awhile ago by accident, and have been re-reading it, and I'm sorry. It was complimented by the press at the time, and I thought well of it myself, but there's little flavor to it now. To be frank, I wonder at the notice it then received."

The visitor asked the judge if he had ever heard what Lord Byron confessed one night to a friend who had found him with a book in hand and in a brown study. The judge had not. The poet said to his caller: "Come in. I've just finished reading for the first time in several years the fourth Canto of 'Childe Harold.' You remember its reception by the public? It was very flattering, and I was greatly gratified. But it does not stir me now, and I'm d——d if I see why it should ever have set the reading world wild."

The caller politely demurred, and said that it still gave him a thrill.

"Well, thanks. But I'm afraid you are a friendly liar, trying to warm up a fellow after his fires have died down."

Judge Gresham seized upon the suggestion. Maybe the trouble was with him. He hoped it was. And then he made allowances for the spirit that had filled him while he was preparing the speech, for the fire he had put into it while delivering it under the inspiration of a large and friendly audience, and expressed the hope that his later judgment was wrong.

And yet the Duluth speech after forty years retains a delightful bouquet for any reader who knows the subject, has a taste for real wit and smooth periods, and has escaped the influence of the slapstick forms and fun of this rushing age.

Independence Day Programs.

It is announced that the committee in charge of the citizens' celebration of Independence day will proceed with the execution of the prepared fireworks program, even though the full amount necessary is not yet subscribed, by a margin of $500. This is the proper spirit to show, and it is to be hoped that the work will go forward in accordance with this plan. The District is assured at least of the enjoyment of immunity from the old-time nerve racking noises and dangerous forms of so-called celebration on July 4. Whether the people as a whole are entertained by a pyrotechnic display, the city will be peaceful during the day. It is for the citizens to decide what they want in the way of a community expression of Independence day spirit. If they fail to pay the bills this year incurred in a judiciously arranged program, under the competent direction of a carefully chosen committee of business men, the result will probably be that next year the project of a general display will be abandoned, for committees do not relish being repudiated and left to bear expenses incurred in the general interests.

Meanwhile satisfactory evidence is at hand that the day will be appropriately marked by neighborhood groups and suburban organizations. The old Fourth of July idea remains vital, even though the law has intervened to prevent slaughter and torture. There will be plenty of colored fire and rockets and wheels and set pieces and balloons on the night of the Fourth, to remind the youngsters of the meaning of the day, and there should be no lack of patriotic feeling.

It is now assured that the barbarism known as the "old-fashioned Fourth"—the Fourth of a decade and less ago, when the children were annually maimed and slain by scores—will never again be tolerated in this community. Year after year the cities that have thus freed themselves from the atrocious practice of unlimited powder burning are joined by others, persuaded by the eloquence of statistics. It is not too much to hope that in perhaps less than another decade the country will have cured itself of its bad habit of sacrificing human life on the altar of patriotism in time of peace.

Even a weather prophet has his off days when he fails to "put 'em over the plate."

A Not Impossible Colloquy.

Said the old member of the House to the new: "I mentioned your suggestion to my friend who is grumpy because of having no investigating work to do, and he asked me to put the matter in shape. I did so, but he's afraid of it."

"Have you a copy?"

"Yes."

"Read it."

"'Whereas the House is making a specialty of investigation. All the Departments are covered. Nearly all branches of business are. No time limit is set as to burrowing. It may go back many years, at the discretion of the burrowers. The quick and the dead alike are under fire. The shroud itself is no shield.

"'And whereas a widespread interest has been awakened, and promises to grow, the committee have all been photographed, and copies distributed to an alert and accommodating press. Voters are studying the countenances of statesmen of whom until recently they had heard nothing.

"'And whereas, while this is fortunate for those in the spotlight, it makes wretched those left out. The neglected are deprived of their sleep. Their renominations are threatened. They have not the consideration at home or here to which they think themselves entitled. Indeed, they are being punished.

"'And whereas justice cries out against punishment for the innocent, and the law—often another thing altogether—declares against excessive punishment, even for the guilty.

"'And whereas among the neglected is the Hon. Earnest Ferret, the representative in this body of the steenth district in the state of Z. As his name implies, Mr. Ferret has exceptional qualities for the duties of an investigator, has the respect of his associates, and would be happy to put his talents at the service of his beloved country.

"'Therefore, be it resolved, that a committee of twenty-three, to be selected by the committee on committees—after a confidential consultation with the Speaker—be appointed to investigate why Mr. Ferret is not an investigator; why his talents are forced to lie idle at this time.

"'That said committee be authorized to send for persons and papers and administer oath.

"'That it be further authorized to appoint a clerk, an assistant clerk, a stenographer and an assistant stenographer; a messenger, an assistant messenger and an assistant to the assistant messenger; a photographer, and a press agent to see that the pictures are distributed and get good space in the newspapers, together with flattering notices of the individual members.

"'That five thousand dollars be appropriated to pay the expenses of the investigation—the amount to be deducted from the total of the campaign claim respecting the economy record of the present House.'

"And you say Mr. Ferret declines to introduce that resolution and speak to it?"

"He does."

"Then excuse me for saying that your friend is pigeon-livered and lacks gall. He would not know a chance for immortality if he met it in the road, tagged. He deserves obscurity, and I hope it may continue to be his portion."

Mafficking.

May 19, 1900, London received word that Mafeking, which had been besieged by the Boers for 125 days, was relieved. The British capital went wild with delight. It sang and marched and shouted all day, and by night it had worked itself up to a high pitch of excitement. Hundreds of thousands of people were in the streets, tramping to and fro, and gradually the throng of jubilant celebrators got out of control. It became a mob, and behaved badly. From the purlieus of the city came the hooligans, young roughs on the criminal border line, intent upon making mischief. They tainted the crowd with their malevolent spirit, and for several hours London was a scene of rioting that gave sober citizens cause to dread the break of another day. Some thought that the often heralded social revolution had arrived. But with the dawn came order. The hooligans slunk back into their slums, and the innocent jubilators, who had been carried into excesses of celebration, wondered how they had ever lost their self-control.

London has no relish for memories of Mafeking night, May 19, 1900. It regards it as a sad blot on the record of patriotic sentiment, and seriously deplores all reminders in the way of street disorder. Naturally, in a city of its size, rough crowds occasionally form, and now and then hooliganism, the unbridled, ill-tempered pranking of idle young men, is in evidence. The police are under strict orders to check it, but they can do little short of giving battle when the immense mass of London's population begins to move in earnest.

It is noted in dispatches from London that the street crowds Thursday night, following the coronation, were more rowdy than enthusiastic, and that "mafficking" was the order of the hour, the banging of hats, the deliberate jostling of quietly inclined onlookers, the organization of bands to surge through the ranks by sheer momentum of brute force and on the way to pick such pockets as were within reach. To "mafflck" is to behave as did the hooligans of May, 1900. The word is now an accepted part of the British vocabulary, and it possesses a sinister significance to the thoughtfully inclined, who realize that in the depths of London's darkest slums there lurks an evil thing, a spirit of protest against existing conditions, the creature of unemployment and ignorance, of class hatred and starvation, of sloth and degeneracy. The prayer of England is that this spirit may be laid at rest, through the exorcism of education and employment, the adoption of better modes of government and the provision of wider opportunities for self-support to the hundreds of thousands now on the very verge of despair.

As the silly season coincident with hot weather progresses, the suggestion occurs that one way to dissolve the Standard Oil Corporation would be to stand it out on the sidewalk and let it melt.

It has been thoroughly demonstrated that the crown is becoming, the scepter in good repair, the throne sufficiently substantial for the demands upon it and civilization may proceed.

An Elizabethan ball was a picturesque feature of the coronation, but as for Queen Elizabeth—well—er—would the present Queen of England exactly have approved of her?

Just for the sake of old times Sir Thomas Lipton might say something about sending along another challenge.

In arranging to dissolve, the powder trust is expected to take due precautions against financial explosion.

Southern Maryland Development.

Scarcely a year passes that news of some project for planting a great industrial colony in southern Maryland does not find its way into print. The worst of it is that many of these projects do not appear to advance beyond the publicity stage.

The opportunity is there. Lands once fertile, but now infertile, worked nearly to exhaustion by careless cultural methods and a succession of the same crop, may be bought for little money. It has been repeatedly demonstrated by numerous examples that these lands properly treated in the light of the knowledge of modern husbandry may be restored and made profitable and productive. The country is thinly peopled because of the attraction of big cities and emigration westward and meager immigration. Western emigration, search for new lands and quest of enlarged opportunity incident to newer regions have affected southern Maryland in the same way that these causes have borne upon all the older agricultural regions of the Atlantic seaboard.

The agricultural conditions of which southern Maryland generally has cause for complaint are not always, as popularly supposed, due to lack of enterprise and thrift. The farmers, as a rule, know the value of planting leguminous crops to increase the amount of nitrogen in the soil, but the process takes time which most of the farmers in the face of pressing necessities cannot afford and requires capital which in many instances is lacking.

Southern Maryland has all the climate that is needed—a long growing season—a late autumn and an early spring. It has vast water protection which equalizes the temperature. It has geographical proximity to the great markets. The geographical advantage is neutralized by inadequate transportation facilities, but this drawback can easily and possibly soon may be overcome. That part of the country is naturally tributary to Washington, but commercially tributary to Baltimore. Such a condition might be changed.

The Maryland immigration bureau has done valuable work in aiding the settlement in Maryland of hardy, thrifty immigrants, but the task has its difficulties. In the matter of agricultural immigration the big and fast developing west has the preference. It is new country. It has been advertised. In many ways its advantages have been exaggerated, but the flow of immigration set that way, the immigrants prospered and the letters that go back to the fatherlands and the motherlands across the seas are mainly favorable. Stories of quick millions are always coming out of the west. Stories of the failures do not travel so fast or so far.

An agricultural immigrant using the same thrift and industry on an acre of Maryland or Virginia land would no doubt reap as much profit as on an acre far into the west. But it is not easy to convince a man to this belief. The promised land must always lie a long way off.

An eastward flow of immigration has been noted in several parts of the west. In some of the fertile farming regions of the middle west there has been a decrease of the rural population. Urban attractions have drawn some of these people from the country, some have sought cheaper lands farther west and many have taken up the cheaper lands in the older farming districts of the east and south.

The ad writers have been mentioned as the true poets of the present generation. They have a distinct advantage in a check-book backing that enables them to defy the waste basket.

Of course, some elements of American scholarship are disappointed because Woodrow Wilson does not use more Latin and Greek quotations in his speeches.

A national convention in Baltimore would have the advantage of a location permitting the delegates to make side trips to Washington.

Various letter-writers have thought they were making a personal hit when they were merely preparing a good laugh for the jury.

Cavalieri has evidently decided that public discussion of her matrimonial affairs does not constitute good advertising.

"The house fly must go" is one of those epigrams which continue to lack the force of practical application.

Castro continues a vain search for some doormat with "Welcome" on it.

Another summer mistake is to confuse over-exertion with recreation.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

Disregarded.

"I see you put up a sign 'no mosquitoes.'"

"Yep," replied Farmer Corntossel; "but the mosquitoes don't pay any more attention to it than gunners pay to the sign 'no trespassing.'"

A Secret of the Ledger.

"What's the reason my son-in-law doesn't speak to me?" asked Mr. Cumrox.

"The duke is very angry," replied his daughter. "He has discovered that you ordered your bookkeeper to charge the money you paid for him to the profit and loss account."

A Changed Coast.

When pilgrim fathers found a place
Upon a stern and rock-bound coast,
They founded an important race;
A much admired and honored host.
But could they come again today
Upon that rock-bound coast to dwell,
They'd have to move. They couldn't pay
The price of board at a hotel.

Complimented.

"Aren't you annoyed by that breach of promise suit?"

"Not at all," replied the serene citizen. "I consider the assumption that I would be a desirable husband rather flattering."

An Exception.

"Time flies," said the ready-made philosopher.

"Yes," replied the bird man. "It's remarkable how time has managed to keep at it without getting a fall."

Alignments.

"You should endeavor to make friends of your enemies," said the diplomatic person.

"Yes," replied the plain politician; "but it is sometimes difficult to do so without making enemies of your friends."

Neglect.

They sing of the roses that blush but to fade;
They sing of the wild flowers that brighten the glade;
With rapturous joy
Our songsters employ
Their arts on the useless adornment displayed.
There are chanting and cheers for the blossoming scenes,
But nobody sings of the cabbage and beans!

Alas! 'Tis too oft the unfortunate lot
Of the plain, honest friend to be swiftly forgot.
We enthuse o'er the bird
Who from treetops is heard,
But who never helps out in the pan or the pot.
We welcome the robin again and again—
But nobody sings of the duck or the hen!

THE HOME OF PRESIDENT HAYES

BY WILLIAM E. CURTIS.

Special Correspondence of The Star and the Chicago Record-Herald.

FREMONT, Ohio, June 16, 1911.

Deeded to State.

Col. Webb C. Hayes has deeded to the state of Ohio for the benefit of the Archeological and Historical Society of that state Spiegel Grove, a beautiful twenty-five-acre cluster of native American trees, a portion of the historic site of the free city of the neutral tribe of the Eries, which was the home of his father, the late Rutherford B. Hayes, President of the United States. The conditions are that the state legislature shall erect a fireproof building and become responsible for the perpetual care and preservation of the books, state papers and other manuscripts and shall maintain forever the residence as a typical American home; preserve and protect the road known as the Harrison military trail of the war of 1812, and permit the transfer of the remains of Rutherford B. Hayes and Lucy W. Hayes from Oakwood cemetery, Fremont, to a knoll in Spiegel Grove, to be buried there beneath the monument under which they are now lying. It is also stipulated that Spiegel Grove shall be forever preserved and maintained as a public park and that no building or structure other than those named shall ever be erected within it. In the event that these conditions are neglected the property will revert to the heirs of the grantor.

Spiegel Grove is one of the finest groups of forest trees in the country. Most of them are primeval, others are mementoes planted by the late President Hayes, including a willow from St. Helena, another from Washington's grave at Mount Vernon, two oaks grown from acorns from the charter oak at Hartford, tulip trees from the Virginia home of James Madison, and others of similar interest. All trees of importance are marked with tablets giving their botanical names, and several have additional tablets of dedication to famous men.

Spiegel Grove was the site of a village of the Wyandot, or Huron, Indians, and a station upon the great natural trail of the earliest French explorers, missionaries and Indians in passing from the great lakes to the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. The trail is still preserved for half a mile through Spiegel Grove, and the ruts made by the heavy wheels of the wagons of the command of Gen. William Henry Harrison at the time of his march northward to the battle of the Thames are still clearly defined, and are protected by guards.

During the war of the revolution Daniel Boone and Simon Kenton were led captive along this trail, and many other Indian prisoners, including the Moravian missionaries Zeisberger and Heckewelder, and others less famous. Nicolas, the renegade Huron chief; Pontiac, Tecumseh, and other famous Indians camped in Spiegel Grove. No other spot in the country combines more natural beauty and early historical interest.

* * *

Early Transfers.

In 1817 the Indian title being extinguished, Spiegel Grove was entered as a homestead by J. B. Stewart and William Oliver, afterward sold to Jacques Hulburd, and later to Martin Baum, by whom it was transferred in 1845 to Sardis Birchard, the uncle of President Hayes. Mr. Birchard, who was a man of sentiment, called it Spiegel, a German word connected with fairy tales that were dear to his childhood, and built the present mansion in 1859.

Sardis Birchard was a native of Vermont, and, being left an orphan, was adopted by Rutherford Hayes, husband of his sister, and father of the future President. When his sister became a widow he assumed the care of the family, and treated Rutherford Birchard Hayes as his own son. He never married, and his sister kept house for him. He had extensive business enterprises, was a banker, contractor, railway builder, and had an active part in the development of this section of Ohio until his death, in 1874.

President Hayes came here to live in 1873, and enlarged the house by the addition of several rooms. In 1889 still further extensions were made, but as it now stands it was the home of the ex-President, and was identified with the serene and dignified contentment that characterized the later years of his life. He loved the place more than any other spot on earth, because of its natural beauty, the grandeur of the trees, the historical associations, and his attachment to his uncle, from which it was inherited. It is a large house, the rooms are unusually spacious, the ceilings are high, the halls are wide, and there is a veranda eighty feet long and fourteen feet wide, extending along two sides, so arranged as to furnish a promenade thirty-three laps to the mile.

The drawing room is forty-six feet long, and is connected by an open archway with a library of the same length, where a valuable collection of books is arranged; the dining room is of similar dimensions, large enough to seat seventy-five or eighty guests. The furniture consists chiefly of heirlooms descended from the Birchard and Webb sides of the house. An antique clock which ticks circumspectly in the corner was brought from the ancestral Hayes homestead in Brattleboro, Vt. On the top of this clock sits an owl, which, by dangling on the plumb line of the Washington Monument during the administration of President Hayes caused a decided sensation. The engineers thought the structure was "wobbling." Two mahogany serving tables were used by President Madison in the White House, and other furniture represents other administrations, with superb Korean and Chinese chests.

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Historical Relics.

Almost everything in the house is historical or in some way associated with the lives of Presidents of the United States. There are several notable paintings, including an original portrait of Washington by Gilbert Stuart, several portraits of President and Mrs. Hayes, a bronze figure of Lincoln, a cast of his hand, seals used by him and by President Jackson, and other relics. Among the books are many rare and valuable volumes, autographed presentation copies and editions de luxe, presented to the late President while he was in the White House, and six great vellum volumes of autograph letters received by him.

In a glass case hanging to a pillar in the main hall are two swords, two pistols, a field glass and an empty revolver holster used by President Hayes during the civil war. Eight Presidents of the United States from Washington to Roosevelt saw active military service, but only two of them were ever wounded in battle. James Monroe received a slight wound when he was serving as lieutenant with Washington at the battle of Trenton. Gen. Hayes was wounded in battle six times, and had four horses shot under him, during his service from 1861 to 1865. He received his most severe wound at the battle of South Mountain in the Antietam campaign, in 1862, when he was colonel of the 23d Ohio, and as soon as he was able to be removed was brought by Mrs. Hayes to Fremont to recover. His law partners, Col. Stanley Mathews and Gen. R. P. Buckland, were both also distinguished soldiers. A portrait of President Hayes in the uniform of major general hangs beside the relics, and nearby, suspended from an archway, hang the old flintlock muskets used by Rutherford Hayes of Vermont and James Webb of Kentucky, the grandfather of Mrs. Hayes, during the war of 1812. A silver tablet presented to Mrs. Hayes by the soldiers of her husband's regiment on the occasion of her silver wedding, which was celebrated at the White House, bears an engraving of the log cabin in which she lived for two winters in her husband's camp in Virginia, with verses inscribed to "Our Mother."

* * *

Death Chamber.

The bedroom in which both President and Mrs. Hayes died is on the ground floor opposite the drawing room and overlooks the most beautiful scene in the grove. It is a large apartment, furnished with colonial mahogany, and the books and pictures remain exactly as they were arranged by President Hayes after the death of his wife. The sudden and unexpected death of Mrs. Hayes as she was sitting in her chair one afternoon created a shock to the community as well as to the household, and particularly because of a remarkable coincidence. She was photographed a few days before wearing the same gown and sitting in the same chair in the same posture in which she died. A print of the photograph hangs upon the wall.

The funeral ceremonies will long be remembered. The surviving members of the 23d Ohio Volunteers gathered from all parts of the country to march as a guard of honor to "The Mother of the Regiment."

A little less than four years later another great concourse of statesmen, soldiers, representatives of military, educational and philanthropic organizations with which President Hayes was connected gathered around his bier, Grover Cleveland, ex-President and again President-elect, being chief among the mourners. He was followed by a delegation from the cabinet of President Harrison, by William McKinley, who was then governor of Ohio; other officials of the state and many eminent men.

Four years later there was another but a very different gathering at Spiegel Grove, when President and Mrs. McKinley and other distinguished guests attended the marriage of Fanny Hayes, the only daughter of the house, to Ensign Harry Eaton Smith of the United States Navy, now on duty at the Naval Academy.

During the lifetime of President Hayes Spiegel Grove was the scene of several notable gatherings of the Loyal Legion, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the members of the 23d Ohio Volunteers and other patriotic and philanthropic organizations. Since his death a monumental gateway to the grounds was dedicated by Admiral Clark, the captain of the Oregon, and other famous men. The gateway consists of ten-inch Rodman guns standing upright, one bearing the inscription, "Old French and Indian Trail 1755," and the other "Harrison Military Trail 1812."

* * *

Hayes' Will.

In his will President Hayes bequeathed Spiegel Grove and all the personal property connected therewith to his children to be held in common without sale or division. Five years later the Archeological Society of Ohio endeavored to raise a fund for its purchase, and issued a confidential circular saying:

"The place known as Spiegel Grove is of great historical interest, being located in the old Indian reservation or free territory, maintained at the lower rapids of the Sandusky river for a long time prior to the revolutionary war. The old Harrison trail, so called, a military road, leads from Fort Stephenson to Fort Seneca through the grove and is preserved as its principal driveway. Of all the homes of our twenty-four Presidents, covering a period of 110 years, the only ones that have been preserved are those of Washington at Mount Vernon, Jefferson at Monticello, Madison at Montpelier, Jackson at the Hermitage and Lincoln's modest home in the city of Springfield; but in every case mentioned more or less time has elasped before the homes were acquired and put in a state of preservation, and few or no personal relics were secured. Spiegel Grove is now in a perfect state of preservation, and all of the valuable historical effects of President Hayes remain there intact. Unquestionably this is the largest and most complete, and perhaps the most valuable, collection of documents, papers and books ever left by any of our Presidents. President Hayes was a great reader and a man of scholarly tastes and attainments. He acquired the finest library of American history, perhaps, ever owned by any private individual, and during his public life he preserved all papers and memoranda in an orderly and accessible form."

The society, however, did not succeed in raising the required endowment and the entire Spiegel Grove property, library and collections became the property of Col. Webb C. Hayes, by deed, from the other heirs in the settlement of the estate in 1899, since which time he has maintained it as the Hayes family summer home.

* * *

Carefully Preserved.

Everything has been preserved as it was left by President Hayes at the time of his death, just as he would have preserved it, and it is the expectation that no alterations will be made except in the transfer of the books and papers to fireproof buildings.

A short distance from the house, on a shaded knoll, are three granite boulders marking the burial place of the war horse ridden by President Hayes—"Old Whity—a hero of nineteen battles, 61-65;" "Old Ned, age thirty-six," and "Piddig," a Filipino pony ridden by Col. Hayes during the Spanish war.

In addition to the relics of his father and other historical mementoes, Col. Hayes has contributed to the collection many rare and valuable curios secured by him in China and other parts of the east while he was serving in the Spanish war and on the staff of Gen. Chaffee during the siege of Peking. He has a Chinese bedroom and a Filipino bedroom, both filled with beautifully carved bedsteads and other furniture from Peking and Manila.

The most important of all the contents of the house are found, of course, in the library, and the attic contains many chests packed with the official papers of the administration of Gen. Hayes as President of the United States. He kept everything with scrupulous care and his archives were methodically arranged by his secretaries before they were packed. They have not been opened since they were brought here, but as soon as a fireproof building is erected it is the intention to arrange them in such a manner that they may be accessible to students, historians and all who are interested.

Plans of the building have already been made. It is to be a structure of modest but dignified architecture arranged especially for the books and papers.

FIFTY YEARS AGO IN THE STAR

Confederate Forces.

The Confederate forces, which had been holding a line extending from below Manassas to and including Harpers Ferry, were concentrated more closely during the middle of June, 1861, in order to oppose the federal army then assembling at Manassas. Harpers Ferry was abandoned for this purpose. In The Star of June 18, 1861, is the following discussion of the situation following that change:

"The disunionists must either have a tremendous force on the other side of the river or their line of defense is an exceedingly weak one through its extent. We have every reason to believe that the latter is certainly the case. Their front exposed to the forces of the United States extends certainly from Manassas Junction to Edwards Ferry—a distance of fully thirty miles—which for its proper defense will require a well appointed force of more than 60,000 men, whereas we feel sure that they have not more than half that number, if more than a third of it, now operating on that line. Our belief is that Patterson's approach, or the first forward movement on the part of Gen. McDowell's command, will prove that, as at present posted, their line will be broken at the moment it may be seriously menaced."

* * *

Military Balloon.

Early in the war efforts were made to utilize balloons for observation and signaling purposes. The first experiments in that direction were made in this city. In The Star of June 19, 1861, is a description of a test that occurred on the Mall:

"For some time past preparations have been making to introduce balloons into the service of the United States for the purpose of making observations of hostile camps, intrenchments, military movements, etc. Yesterday afternoon the first practical experiment to that end was made in the grounds surrounding the Columbia Armory, in this city. Prof. Lowe, the balloonist, had charge of it and succeeded admirably.

"The balloon ascended several hundred feet and was held at the desired altitude by a stout cord. Mr. Lowe was accompanied in the car by Messrs. George H. Burns and Charles Robinson, telegraphers, and two telegraph wires, attached to the battery worked in the War Department, connected with a small field telegraphing instrument worked by Mr. R. The distance between the instrument thus elevated and the battery was about half a mile. The following dispatch was transmitted to the President when the balloon was at the greatest altitude:

"'This point of observation commands an area nearly fifty miles in diameter. The city, with its girdle of encampments, presents a superb scene I have pleasure in sending you this first dispatch ever telegraphed from an aerial station and in acknowledging an indebtedness to your encouragement for the opportunity of demonstrating the availability of the science of aeronautics in the military service of the country. T. S. C. Lowe.'

"It was regarded questionable before that experiment was made whether unknown atmospheric influences might not prevent the due operation of electricity in working the telegraph at a high altitude, which did not prove to be the case, as the communication between the operators at the two ends of the wires was as perfect as though it had been suspended over the usual poles within fifteen feet of the earth's surface. Doubtless with the aid of powerful telescopes the use of this balloon will enable the commander of a force to inspect thoroughly the interior of the works opposed to him and to know instantly any movements of troops of the enemy; and that, too, without the slightest danger to those making the observation. It will be remembered that to the balloons used by the French in the late Italian campaign no telegraphing apparatus was attached; that achievement having been left to American genius and enterprise."

* * *

Field Wire.

Of interest along the same line is the following paragraph printed in The Star of June 21, 1861:

"Yesterday Telegraph Engineer Rogers of New York put in operation on the other side of the river his newly invented telegraphic cordage or insulated line for field operations, and it proved eminently successful. It is run off reels upon the ground with great rapidity, as required for instant use, across streams, through woods or over any localities. Lines were yesterday in extraordinary short time thus laid between the headquarters of Gen. McDowell and two or three of his most advanced camps, and were worked in immediate connection with the telegraph station in the War Department. The heaviest artillery may run over this Rogers cordage without damaging its effectiveness in the least. It differs in many respects from the field telegraph used by Louis Napoleon in the Italian war and embraces many advantages of convenient and certain operation under any possible circumstances over that which contributed so signally to the success of the French arms."

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Confederate Design.

"Numerous letters from parties in the south to persons in loyal states," says The Star of June 22, 1861, "have embraced intimations that, according to the plans of the traitor commanders, Washington city was to have fallen into their hands on or before this particular morning at daylight. These letters—from different writers in different southern states to different individuals—have been sent to the military authorities here. Their statements, backed by other positively ascertained facts, lead irresistibly to the conclusion that it had been determined to make the threatened attack in the course of the past week. The attack has not been made, only because it would have been madness to make it. Of men there is no lack, within reach of the conspirators' call. But of all the other elements of success in war they are afflicted with a woeful paucity. We doubt not that by their system of forced conscription they could have placed 100,000 men (unreliable for the most part) in the field, if they could have armed and provided for them—which they found impossible. We do not believe that the army massed under Beauregard between this city and Culpeper Court House numbers more than 20,000 in all; if but simply because the conspirators have no means of sustaining more, if so many, in any one body and neighborhood."

ANNIVERSARY OF NORMAN TREATY

Celebration at Rouen.

A thousand years has passed since the treaty of St. Claire-sur-Epte was signed between Charles the Simple, King of France, and Rollo, chief of the Scandinavian pirates, recognized by right of conquest as Duke of Neustria or Normandy. Normans and their guests interested in the Norman conquest have just now completed at Rouen the commemoration of that conquest. There were congresses and expositions to glorify and fete a conquest that is written largely in the world's history. The fetes were religious first, then political, literary, historical and artistic, with the spectacular, fireworks, illuminations, etc.

The thousandth Norman anniversary, indeed, is a complete review of a subject which is vague and mixed with legends and myths.

The year 911 was marked by an event which has left its imprint indelibly upon France and England, and it may be said with truth upon all Europe and America. The Scandinavian pirates, yielding to the wise overtures of Charles King of France, ceased their destructive incursions along the Seine, Marne, Loire and Oise and agreed to a pact of peace on condition of a concession.

Eudes, son of Robert le Fort, Duke of France, Count of Paris, had preserved Paris from the fate of the countries along the river, in which churches and monasteries had been burned and the inhabitants massacred. But Tours had been burned and with it twenty-eight churches, including the abbey of St. Martin. Chartres owed its safety to its bishop by the miraculous virtue of the virgin's robe, one of the most venerated relics of the church.

The rural population, ruined by incessant attacks of the "pirates," had no longer the courage to resist; the seignors would act upon the defensive, but took no measures for common defense against the pirates, who might have been dislodged from the estuary which was their effective base of operations. Dukes, counts, bishops, abbots, forming classes independent of royalty, were not possessed of sufficient cohesiveness to unite for a supreme struggle against the invaders.

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Charles' Stroke.

Charles the Simple, who had reigned at first with Louis le Begue, in 893, became the sole King of France in 898, and having seen from the commencement of his reign that the only solution of the question was a pact of peace, boldly announced his purpose and consummated the treaty of St. Claire with Rollo. Then in 911 the suzerainty of Rollo was established in the duchy of Normandy, which included the cities of Rouen, Caen, St. Lo, Lisienc, Bayeux and Evreux.

The assimilation of these wild men was quick and almost beyond our comprehension. And perhaps they were not so wild and savage as they have been represented. The history of the Norman is almost mythical, and writers maintain that the marriage of Rollo with Gisele, the daughter of King Charles, is a legend which may not be justified by documents. It was stated, however, that twenty years before, Rollo had married the daughter of the Count de Bayeux.

Thirty years after the treaty of St. Claire, one of the first dukes of Normandy, Guillaum Longue-Epee, wishing to have his son Richard learn the Danish language, was compelled to send the boy to Bayeux to a professor there, because at Rouen in the society of the dukes French had became the only language.

If the Normans of the second generation could so quickly learn the language of the country and forget the German idiom it was a proof that the new occupants (who had taken the name of Normans) had reached a degree of civilization different without doubt, but as advanced as that of the Franks. The Scandinavians were not in any event barbarians, as were the Huns or the Vandals; they were not recalcitrant to Christianism, because, in the seventh century, such hardy missionaries as Willebrod and Ansgaire converted them to Christianity.

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Norman Warriors.

The Norman companions of Rollo were before all else courageous and disciplined warriors. They were tall, had blue eyes, red faces, blond or red hair. Their beauty and their force are legendary. Armed with heavy axes they seemed rather more fit to kill beasts than to combat men. But these vikings were not, as supposed, miserable pirates, half naked and wearing skins of beasts and traveling in light boats. On the contrary, they were energetic warriors, well clothed, often with magnificent vestments and possessing large, well equipped vessels which they called "langskibs." They were not "dreadnoughts," certainly, but they were remarkable boats for those days.

In 1880 there was discovered at Gokstad, near Sandefjord, at the entrance of the Gulf of Christiania, a Norman vessel, well preserved and belonging to the period of the Norman invasions of France. It measured twenty-four meters long and five meters wide and was capable of carrying sixty to seventy men. The rigging and masts were complete. This "langskib," of which Copenhagen sent a reduced model to Rouen, is perhaps one of the 700 barks, carrying more than 40,000 men, which wintered in the docks of the Island of Oesel, plowed the Seine from Rouen to Paris, and were wrecked in their attempts against the famous wooden tower during the siege of 886.

The conquest of Italy and of Sicily by the Normans and the creation by the descendants of Tancrede de Hauteville of the kingdom of Sicily appears to be an extraordinary romance, instead of a serious page of history. So also the creation of the principality at Antioch and the attempt to place themselves upon the throne at Constantinople.

These sons of Normandy had established a duchy in Apulie, founded a kingdom in Sicily conquered the Campania, the land of Otrante and the Calabria, and caused the orient to tremble.

While Norman chevaliers were carving kingdoms in Italy and the orient, the Norman nobility crossed the channel and overthrew the Anglo-Saxon royalty and usurped the throne.

William the Conqueror defeated and killed the Anglo-Saxon King Harold at the battle of Hastings October 14, 1066.

History does not recount a more important event than the results of the defeat of the Anglo-Saxon dynasty at Hastings. That hardy enterprise was conceived and executed with courage and energy characteristic of the great leader. The duke was the son of the famous Robert le Diable and of Arlette, daughter of a cloth dresser. He was not a follower of warriors, but a real leader of men, a chief who conceived, combined and conducted. The Norman race under his aegis took on a magnificent rise among nations.

History depicts William the Conqueror as of herculean stature, a body like a wrestler, the arms of an athlete, the voice of a stentor; in moral qualities he was possessed of a rare political prescience. The conquest of England was not the fancy of an adventurer, but a work which had been wisely studied and prepared. He had the force of character necessary for the enterprise and knew how and when to apply it.

The tapestry of Bayeux has immortalized these valiant Norman chevaliers with smooth, beardless faces, short hair, bare necks, armed with a casque and a coat of mail descending to the knees.

An interesting incident of the fetes was the successful execution of a project formed by five students of Christiania to follow in a "drakar," or Norman bark, the sea voyage accomplished by the ancient Normans. The voyage consumed just twenty-one days from Christiania to Rouen, using sails and oars. The ovation given them on arrival by the assembled thousands amply repaid the students the pains of their difficult and somewhat dangerous undertaking, for notwithstanding that all Scandinavians are good sailors, nevertheless they did not possess the great muscular strength of their maritime ascendents, the followers of Rollo.

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Mystery Unsolved.

It is the creation of such commemorative fetes as those at Rouen which may lead to special studies and investigation, and unfold the secret which is still hidden in the voiceless stone of the statue of the Norseman erected in America. It is a marvelous story, this Norman conquest, and Dudon de St. Quentin, in his History of the Ducs de Normandie, written upon the order of Count Raoul d'Ivry, brother of the Duke Richard, said:

"O France thou who was crushed and thrown into the dust, here has come to thee from Denmark a new race. An alliance is concluded; peace between her and thee; that race will carry thy name and thy empire up to the very heavens."

William was crowned King of England at Westminster. On returning from his conquest of England he re-entered Rouen as a conqueror; fetes were given in his honor, proving thus that the Normans were proud of the victory. The Bishop of Evreux in saluting him declared that he had valiantly extended Norman power and had elevated the nation far above that achieved by any other duke.

That formidable push given to a conquering race had for result the extension of Norman influence in Italy and the orient, and with this the propagation of customs, civilization and language of the French.

In the commencement the Normans had "devoured" the land they conquered as a horde of savages. But later they acquired honors, riches and civilization and this "directed them into the road of wisdom and penitence."

The Normans possessed marvelous facilities of assimilation and a vast sense of opportunity. William the Conqueror and his successors, who had a foot on each side of the channel, were veritable statesmen. The Norman possessed a thousand years ago all the qualities required to organize conquests.

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No Caste Created.

The Domesday Book did not establish a caste. It made no difference between conquerors and conquered, the Normans and the Saxons. Certainly there is nothing more curious than the history of that Norman feudality transplanted into Greek and Mussulman countries, which was so clever as to replace populations speaking different dialects, which respected their laws and religions without seeking an impossible fusion.

Normandy was conquered in 1204, the king at Paris, Philippe-Auguste, prevailed over the king at Rouen, Jean Sans Terre, and henceforth Normandy, consisting of the duchies of Maine, Anjou, Touraine and the Poitou, passed to the crown of France.

The thousandth Norman anniversary, which has just been concluded, is an event of serious political and historical importance to all, and especially to the peoples who were directly influenced by the Norman conquests. In the congresses which constitute a great part of such fetes, scientific societies of the Scandinavian countries, as of France, Italy and America, contributed valuable literary, linguistic and scientific communications to the archives of the different societies interested in the study of an invasion which challenges our admiration and is yet in many particulars a mystery.

M. Verdier, for example, submitted a precious study concerning the charter of Louis le Hutin or Louis X, King of France; Dr. Chervin, a paper on the medical geography of Normandy, etc.

M. Olaf E. Ray, lawyer, of Chicago, member of the committee of the American-Norwegian association "Sonner af Norge" (Sons of Norway), presented an address to the committee of the Thousandth Norman Anniversary Association of Rouen, expressing the thanks of the American-Norwegian association for the honor done to the people of "Norrona" and for the souvenir to the vikings.

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The Jury System.

Mr. Steenstrup, the savant professor of the University of Copenhagen, declared to the congress that the institution of the jury in courts of justice was due to ancient Scandinavian institutions. The professor, with other things, cited the legend of a judgment rendered by Duke Rollo, who caused a peasant woman to be hanged "because she had stolen a plowshare, and the husband, who was condemned to the same punishment because he had not whipped her sufficiently for the offense." The Norman of today is attributed the particular characteristic of extreme caution, and he is always portrayed thus: "Un Normand a son dit et son dedit," or what he says he unsays. If, for example, you ask him if the apple crop is good this year he will leave you mystified by answering somewhat as follows: "For a year where there are apples there are none, but for a year where there are no apples there are apples."

The Norwegians present at the fetes made a pilgrimage to the little village of St. Claire-sur-Epte, where they placed a commemorative stone in the historic church there in which Charles the Simple, King of France, and Rollo, the first Duke of Normandy, signed the treaty of 911.

The thousandth Norman anniversary, 911-1911, according to M. Grantmesnil, who has written on the subject in Le Correspondent, is "the apotheosis of a race and the glorification of a province which has contributed a large part in enriching the national patrimony."

And M. Grantmesnil might have added the international patrimony.

CH. CHAILLE-LONG.

CORONATION.

From the Atlanta Constitution.

These kings make a lot of unnecessary noise about being crowned.

From the Baltimore Evening Sun.

What's the difference between coronations and vaudeville?

From the Rochester Herald.

When Mr. Morgan is crowned no doubt he will invite King George to be the guest of honor. One courtesy deserves another.

From the Syracuse Post-Standard.

It must give King George's family and kinsfolk queer feelings to hear from so many solemn prophets that there will probably never be another British coronation.

THE CANDIDATES.

From the Dayton Herald.

Prof. Woodrow Wilson is crying to the people to "get control of the government." He offers to manage it for them.

From the Milwaukee Sentinel.

It seems that Senator La Follette's presidential boom has gone to smash against the Canadian border.

From the Nashville Banner.

Mr. Hearst is giving the Champ Clark presidential boom the doubtful benefit of his influence.

From the Toledo Blade.

Mr. Bryan declares that it is his sacred duty to advise the democracy. It is impossible to head off a man like that.

NATURE FAKERS.

I cannot go to London town
To see King George put on his crown;
I cannot see the glad array
Of silks and plumes and jewels gay;
I cannot see the banquet boards,
Where gather all the hungry lords;
I cannot mingle with the dames
Who carry old, decaying names;
But in a cool and quiet spot,
Where toil and strife and care are not,
I sit and read the cable notes
About the deeds of royal goats.
I read about the royal snubs
That fall upon ambitious dubs;
Of scandals in the upper crust;
Of names and fortunes blown to dust.
In fact, they're handing stories out
That England never heard about.
I envy not the folks who roam;
'Tis better for to stay at home
And o'er the cable news to pore,
And read the nature fakers' lore.
Who joins the sweating tourist mass
Sees only things that come to pass.
I'm better off than they, because
I read of stuff that never was.

—Milwaukee Sentinel.

CONGRESS.

From the Charleston News and Courier.

This insurging doesn't seem to be a tidal wave after all.

From the Providence Journal.

The House of Representatives is exhibiting rare courage in one direction and another, but not yet so rare as to induce it to face the dollar-a-day pension bill.

From the Birmingham Age-Herald.

Way back in May—to be exact, May 8—the House passed a reapportionment bill. The Senate has held that bill a month and not a peep has been heard from it.

From the Los Angeles Times.

If Congress would subscribe for the Commoner and the Outlook there would be less difficulty in solving the various public questions. They fairly bulge with more or less able views.

From the Portland Oregonian.

Threatened with deprivation of petty patronage by Congress, President Taft answers that he will be glad to get rid of it. To bother the President of the United States with such minor details is like using a trip hammer to crack nuts.

RECIPROCITY.

From the Wilkesbarre Record.

Reciprocity has driven the high tariff advocates to the wall and it has demoralized the camp of the notoriety seeking insurgents. There must be some virtue in it.

From the Milwaukee Sentinel.

There is not much rooting for Senator Root among the friends of reciprocity.

From the Portland Oregonian.

So long as the friends of reciprocity in the Senate have the votes, they can well afford to let its enemies make the speeches.

From the Columbus Journal.

It is not so certain that the reciprocity bill will pass the Senate. There are votes enough, to be sure. But there are the filibuster and senatorial courtesy in the way. One senator can defeat the measure by talk. By the rules of the Senate he can talk forever. It would be a terrible thing to deny an august senator that privilege.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer.

With some senators reciprocity seems to be mere a state of mind.