The Times-Dispatch

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THURSDAY, JULY 22, 1909.

AN ADMIRABLE PLATFORM.

In proportion as the gubernatorial candidates show a want of interest in future legislation affecting Virginia's progress, the attitude of legislative candidates on these matters becomes increasingly important. In the present campaign the two aspirants for the governorship have made but sparing contributions to the progressive thought of the State. For this reason an unusual interest attaches to the platforms of the legislative candidates, and the people consequently demand with intelligence and persistence that the prospective lawmakers shall make plain exactly what ideas and policies they stand for. To this demand the candidates have responded with varying success.

Of all the platforms which have been put out during this campaign, whether from would-be governors, would-be legislators, county conventions or what not, decidedly the best of which we have any knowledge is that offered by Colonel Eugene C. Massie, of this city. Colonel Massie has been twice elected a member of the House of Delegates, and is now a candidate for a third term. The need of better enforcement of existing laws he concedes at once; but he adds, with entire truth, that progress and reform are no less needed, and concisely outlines the direction which, in his judgment, new legislation should take. The platform upon which he appeals for votes may be thus summarized:

1. Local option and strict regulation in dealing with the sale of liquor; opposition to State-wide prohibition and to submitting that question to popular vote.

2. Immediate reform of the tax laws by amendment, and a permanent tax commission to complete these reforms.

3. Reform of the land laws and the introduction of the Torrens system of land registration.

4. A bureau of banking, with sufficient powers for the safe regulation of our State banks.

5. Conservation of natural resources, including forests, game and the oyster rocks.

6. A modern system of juvenile laws and a juvenile court.

7. Institutes for the feeble-minded and for dependent, wayward or delinquent girls.

8. Co-operation with other States to promote uniform legislation for the regulation of trusts.

9. Amendment of the United States Constitution for a Federal income tax.

10. Certain amendments to the Constitution of Virginia.

11. The enlargement of the powers of the State Board of Health in every possible manner.

12. Good roads, better schools, adequate pensions.

The Times-Dispatch happens to agree with practically all the proposals here set down. But its tribute to the merits of this admirable statement is not dependent on that fact. In clearness, in explicitness, in breadth of view and completeness, Colonel Massie's platform is a model. It shows, as no other platform within our recollection has shown, precisely that well-informed, progressive and far-sighted understanding of the needs and problems of Virginia to-day which should be the first requisite in every candidate for high State office. No one who votes for Colonel Massie will have to buy a pig in a poke. No one who takes the trouble to read this statement can help knowing exactly where he stands, and exactly what he may be expected to do on all the leading questions of the day. With his views they may not agree, but through his presentment of them they cannot fail to recognize an honest man, an able student and a progressive statesman. If the people insist that every man who comes before them for votes shall make his views known in a statement just like this one, they will assure themselves a Legislature more than usually competent to make wise and helpful laws for the State.

FREDERICKSBURG AND THE HIGHWAY.

Fredericksburg is one of the oldest and most interesting cities in Virginia. It was at one time a considerable port, reached regularly by lines of sailing vessels from across the Atlantic; but time and circumstances have taken from it some of its former prominence. In the new propaganda for good roads, the old city has a remarkable chance to stimulate its trade activities and ally itself with a lively movement for progress and growth. Standing on what is designed to be some day a great artery of traffic between North and South, the city would constantly feel the tide of new life sweeping about and through it. Almost exactly half way between Richmond and Washington, Fredericksburg is the key to the projected highway between these two cities. Upon its interest and energy depends to a large extent whether or not the highway shall become an accomplished fact.

This road means as much to Fredericksburg as to any city in Virginia; and it would be a heavy loser if another route should, after all, be chosen. Happily, Fredericksburg is fully alive to the importance of these considerations. Its Board of Trade is pulling hard to secure the highway; a separate Good Roads Association has been formed to raise funds and promote the good work; and it seems evident that whatever its public-spirited men can do to bring the road that way will be energetically and eagerly done.

THE FACTS ABOUT THE FIVE-FOOT SHELF.

The publication of Dr. Eliot's "five-foot shelf" of books was premature and unauthorized, and the list itself was incomplete and inaccurate. This is the substance of a letter written by the former president of Harvard, evidently annoyed by much unfair criticism, to his publishers. That the list as recently printed in the newspapers did not purport to be complete was distinctly stated at the time, but this fact was for the most part ignored by hasty commentators. The doctor was represented as resting his belief in the unique merits of his collection upon the thirty or so books named. Now he tells us that "at this date [July 10] not more than half of the books have been decided on." The completed and authentic list, not to be ready for some weeks, is intended "to give faithful readers who know no language but English a true picture of man's imaginings and reasonings through more than twenty centuries." Critics will be better able to appraise the list in that light when they have seen it, which they have never yet done.

With the criticism, not to say abuse, of Dr. Eliot for undertaking this work at all, we have had no sympathy whatever. A brand-new theory in emeritus ethics is evolved when it is adjudged an offense against the proprieties for the retired president of a university to work for pay. If the character of the work is here called in question, the question argues an elaborate and wholly superfluous suspiciousness. It is hard to think of any labor more legitimate, more honorable and more appropriate to a former college president than the editing of a selected library of classics designed to give a liberal education to those who make friends with it. The story that Dr. Eliot had sold his name and his intellectual chastity for so many pieces of silver, making an ignoble conspiracy with a publishing house to help it get rid of surplus stock, impressed us as too silly to rank even as a clever invention. This story is now denied by the publishers. "It was this educational purpose," writes Dr. Eliot, "which interested me in your undertaking," and his character, his long record, and all the reasonableness of the situation make it superfluous to seek any other explanation than his own.

THE LETTERS AND THE STATE.

Many of our State contemporaries have been as silent about that disinterred correspondence as The Times-Dispatch, showing good sense by devoting their editorial time and space to really live topics like good roads and the upbuilding of Virginia. On the whole, though, the documents have reverberated rather loudly through the hundred counties. Upon the degree of General Mahone's Democracy in 1879-1880, there appears to be some division of opinion. But there is much less upon the spectacle of balanced support and dovetailed allegiance which these letters are regarded as presenting. This is the sole focus of interest. The State, as voiced by its press, has not as yet grasped why the judge, while voting with the Funders, was pledging support and wishes of success to the leader of the Readjusters.

For its part, The Times-Dispatch sits joyously upon the fence, a paper without a candidate. If opinions knock at its mind, it endeavors to suppress them and look non-committal. After a somewhat careful examination of the returns, it may say with safety and propriety, however, that the judgment of the press upon the point mentioned above has been tolerably severe. Four-fifths of our outspeaking contemporaries, perhaps, consider that the young Mann of 1879 has arisen like the incarnate Past to plague and distress the older Mann of 1909. If their inferences are correct—heaven forbid our having any views about the matter!—who will contemplate without emotion such a rank exhibition of Mann's inhumanity to Mann?

THE OLD DOCTOR OF CLARKE.

Eighteen little guests of the "Old Doctor of Clarke" are back in Richmond, looking strong and brown and healthy. Eighteen more left a few days ago to stay with the good doctor until September 1. Thus the charity of one physician has been a blessing to almost forty children this summer.

Cold figures cannot measure the benefits derived by these children from their visit in the country. Coming from crowded homes of poverty in the hot city districts, these boys and girls have had, perhaps, their first opportunity of enjoying the pleasures of out-of-doors life. With happy memories and restored health, they return better able to combat the heat during the remainder of the summer.

Heavy as is the expense of providing for the wants of so many children through the summer, we doubt not that the Doctor of Clarke has been fully repaid for his charity. He has seen pale faces grow rosy and has watched weakened little bodies become stronger. He has watched the keen joy with which they have spent their happy days. He has seen the tears of regret which they shed at leaving, and he has read the grateful letters written by hard-working fathers and drudging mothers. And his reward has been in these. He has felt the same joy that Hans Andersen and Wilhelm Grimm and Eugene Field knew from close contact with children.

The example of this good physician should be followed by others. There are dozens of farms in Virginia, owned by generous men and women, which might be made a perfect Paradise for poor city children. The expense of providing for the wants of a few children, on a farm where there is plenty, is nothing compared with the pleasure given the children. City men, in like manner, could foster a peculiarly healthful charity by paying the expenses of a few such children for a month or two on some Virginia farm.

This would be charity in more than name. Hundreds of children pass their summer in the city, often wearing out their strength in dusty streets or crowded yards. A few weeks' vacation in the country for such as these means a better chance for the child in the battle of life.

THE UNIVERSAL TRANSFER.

The legal right of the city of Richmond to demand a "one-color" or universal transfer system from the local traction company has not yet been finally determined. It is certain, however, that there is no step that the company could take which would do more to promote that atmosphere of general good feeling so valuable to any public service corporation. The company appreciates the annoyances of the present transfer system, and the people in their turn can appreciate the difficulties of introducing a new one. But it is certain that these difficulties are not insuperable and that a general transfer system can be devised which will vastly promote the convenience of the public, while not inflicting any hardship upon the company. It is agreeable to note that the company will institute such a system, in temporary form, within the next thirty days, to be replaced by a permanent arrangement later on. The reorganized Virginia Railway and Power Company starts out with an unusual fund of public good will, which this policy of reasonable concessions to reasonable demands will certainly enhance and cement.

Colonel Roosevelt is writing a book, as his enemies will doubtless be charmed to hear.

The Argentine minister has the advantage of some of the Bolivians. He has been officially authorized to leave Bolivia.

The American consul at Santos, Brazil, has just resigned. Maybe John Hays Hammond would consider this, then.

Some think that it may be the lazy worm that the Democratic party has got.

A lady at Atlantic City tried to kill herself, crying that she had "lost her God." Of course the lady was mistaken. She was simply at Atlantic City.

Possibly M. Clemenceau will decide to spend the rest of the summer with the former Shah and the ex-Sultan.

Lieutenant Roelker's "whereabouts," says an Annapolis dispatch, "are now unknown." H'm. Whereabouts are, or whereabouts is? The Grammar Corps of the Norfolk Landmark will please write.

Hon. Sereno Payne, whenever engaged in bitterly socking it to Hon. Nelse Aldrich, appears in a glorious halo which has at other times been adjudged missing from his tout ensemble.

Did you ever have an Urgent Deficiency bill in your house, reader?

Team-work is lacking between the critics and Orville Wright, who appears not to have noticed their positive statements that he couldn't fly, anyhow.

According to the always reliable Columbia State, an Ohio editor has married a girl who had been contributing verse to his paper. Every bachelor editor in the world wants it understood that this does not constitute a precedent.

For the moment, the ultimate consumer has a friend in the weatherman, at any rate.

Maybe Aviator Latham got seasick while crossing the English Channel. People usually do.

As far as that goes, Kenesaw Mt. Landis used to be considered something of a Standard Oil butter.

Tariff bills must originate in the House, but they have sometimes been known to end in the White House.

Sic 'em, Mr. Payne! Have at 'em again!

Aviation is not the only going-down profession in the world. It is worth bearing in mind that more cabinets are falling in Europe than aeroplanes.

MILLIONAIRES ABROAD.

Novel Reasons Assigned for Their Residence in England.

We do not know where Lord Northcliffe found the American millionaire whose explanation, published in the London Daily Mail, and reproduced in the cable dispatches of the Sunday Times, of why so many Americans of wealth prefer to dwell in England, is so gratifying to the English editor. It may be true that England is "the most delightful residential country in the world," and it is certainly a pleasant country to visit if one has plenty of money. That any large number of Americans of wealth are permanently establishing their homes there, however, we doubt. Men whose business is international divide the year between England and America. The Daily Mail's American millionaire's reasons for prefering England to this country are purely personal, and are not all credible.

Notoriety is not the penalty of wealth here, but, if not actually of the wealthy person's own seeking, is due to individual defiance of social laws, showy extravagance, or business complications. Scandal is as rife in England as in this country, while self-effacement is as easily obtainable here as there. There are many men here of as great wealth as the late Mr. Morrison's whose names rarely, if ever, appear in print. As for the statement that "constant dressing up" and social formality are necessary here and not in England, it is simply preposterous. To be sure, it is true that men of letters and artists mingle in London society, while the restricted "society" of New York, for instance, is apt to give them the cold shoulder. But a great many American millionaires have no standing whatever in that society, which counts for next to nothing in our national life, while a man of wealth in New York may lunch and dine with the authors and artists and actors of his own and foreign lands as often as he chooses, if they care to break bread with him.—New York Times.

Borrowed Jingles.

THE CHEAP THINGS.

Oh, I love the sparkling water in the little babbling brook, for I've always found it wholesome, and I've always found it free; I can drink it down and no one makes an entry in a book, and there comes no bill collector with a long account to me. And the good old-fashioned sunshine is a very pleasant boon; let us therefore all enjoy it while it doesn't cost a cent; they'll be pumping it through pipe lines and through meters pretty soon, and the moon and other planets will be advertised for rent. Ah, the balmy air of summer, as it comes in gentle gust! Let us breathe it by the bushel while it's plentiful and cheap; the supply will soon be cornered by some enterprising trust, and the price to the consumer will disturb him in his sleep. Let us listen to the robins as they warble through the land, for their songs are not expensive and their beauty never fails; we shall live to see their music sold in table form, or canned, and distributed by agents who get rake-offs on their sales.—Walt Mason, in Washington Herald.

MERELY JOKING.

Business Precedent.

Hotel Clerk: "Just sign your name, please. The other guest would like to register."

"Don't you try to hurry me, young man. I don't never sign nothing that I ain't read carefully."—Life.

Evidence of Inebriety.

Nell: "I'm afraid Mr. Guzzler had too much drink at the dinner last night."

Bell: "What makes you think so?"

Nell: "When the charlotte russe was served he was trying to blow the froth off."—Philadelphia Record.

In Perfect Innocence.

The Beauty (turning from long gaze in mirror): "I do envy you!"

The Friend (pleased but incredulous): "You envy me, my dear! I wonder why?"

The Beauty: "Because you can see the real me. I can never see anything but the mere reflection."—Punch.

Without a Doubt.

"Pop, I've discovered why those natives that assist a hunter in Africa are called 'beaters.'"

"Quite sure, are you, Little Nimrod? What's the answer?"

"Why, when the game turns on them, they beat it!"—Cincinnati Tribune.

Manifest Affluence.

"Those new neighbors of ours must be well fixed."

"What makes you think so?"

"They gave a party yesterday, and they didn't have to borrow a thing from us."—Detroit Free Press.

Gruesome Relics.

Doctor (to lawyer going through the Medical Museum): "Your profession does not offer any opportunity for the collection of professional relics."

Lawyer: "I am not so sure about that. I have a unique collection of family skeletons at my office."—Puck.

MENTIONED IN PASSING.

THE hookworm or "lazy bug" has been found in certain army recruits. Young gentlemen in training for naval officers, however, still display considerable energy.—New York World.

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More than 600 moonshine stills were destroyed in Georgia last year, and the understanding is the industry is just in its infancy."—Houston Post.

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At least, the ex-Shah of Persia is relieved of the monotony of proclaiming a new constituton every day or so.—Washington Herald.

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Professor Anderson's study of the condition of Yale's men's hearts will probably continue until some time after the summer resort season is over.—New York Evening Post.

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Better prepare for the coming of the airship—when the next skyscraper is planned it should have a landing on the roof.—Florida Times-Union.

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Hampton's Magazine asks: "What shall we do with our millionaires?" Has anybody ever suggested that we can do anything but ape them?—New York Evening Mail.

THE BOY SHAH OF PERSIA.

Young Ruler Will Find the Peacock Throne an Uncertain Seat.

The youth whom the Nationalist party of Persia has raised by force of arms to the Peacock throne may not mind the disillusionment, but it is said upon good authority that the famous chair is not all that stories of Oriental splendor ascribe to it. Revolutions in Mohammedan countries have let in the light upon many cherished traditions, and the seat of the Great Mogul has not escaped. . . . The Nationalist party and its allies in repeating the success of their coreligionists in Turkey are confronted with many of the serious problems with which the Young Turks are struggling. They have perhaps even a less civilized people to mold into a constitutional government, and still greater danger of absorption by some great power of Europe. . . . The leaders who are now in the ascendency are said not to favor so extreme a course, but to desire a conservative law more in accord with those that formerly existed but were not enforced. They have, however, their host to reckon with in this regard more within their own ranks than without. One of the first duties of the new government in order to secure the respect of Europe will be the control of the rough element which enlisted in their propaganda. "Walking arsenals," one correspondent calls them; men who carried bombs in addition to rifles, pistols and revolvers. Such as these very likely have views of their own as to the rewards they earned in the struggle for Persian freedom. The moderation with which the Nationalist forces have been credited indicate that they are at least amenable to discipline.

Framing a form of government strong enough to hold the country together and prevent foreign intervention on one hand, and to suit the fancies or theories of the educated and accord with the ideas of liberty and freedom held by the great mass of wild, half-civilized tribesmen on the other hand, is a situation that will still keep the famous Peacock throne a very uncertain seat.—New York Sun.

A NEW BUTTER.

Oil Trust Invades the Field of the Cow and Makes a Substitute.

It seems incredible, but it is seriously announced that the Standard Oil Company has discovered or invented another by-product of petroleum, and that it is a cheap, palatable, and wholesome substitute for table butter and absolutely free of any deleterious substance whatever. It is given out that the manufacture of the product is now in progress, and that the American breakfast is to be materially cheapened by it.

But what about the butter trust that cajoled and bullied Congress into taxing out of competition, with its wares oleomargarine, that, pound for pound, was more wholesome than the average "creamery" butter sold at the corner grocery? Will that trust allow Standard Oil to impair the legalized graft it enjoys by operation of the taxing power for private greed only through an act of Congress? We doubt it.

Oleomargarine, as it was manufactured in the last decade of the last century, was a valuable, healthful, nutritious article of food, preferred to dairy butter in tens of thousands of households of our urban population. The manufacturers had discovered a coloring matter, rich, golden, absolutely harmless, that made oleomargarine attractive to the eye and alleviating to the imagination. The sale was enormous. But the butter trust, that produced it, could not abstain from a practice of fraud; and persisted in giving it a false flag. That gave the dairy folk opportunity. They appealed to Congress, and bullied their infamous 10 cents a pound tax on oleomargarine through both Houses, and thus banished colored oleomargarine from market. But the dairy folk appropriated the coloring matter, and since their graft was doled them, nobody has bought first-class creamery without paying for it a bounty of from 10 cents to 20 cents a pound on the purchase above a fair price.

May be Standard Oil is to the rescue; and, if so, many a housewife will rise up to call it blessed.—Washington Post.

The Courts of Europe

By La Marquise de Fontenoy.

Claims Baronetcy.

ALAN STEPNEY GULSTON, of Derwydd (which means "The Druids' Home"), Llandebis, Carmarthenshire, has announced his assumption of the baronetcy of the late Sir Emile Cowell-Stepney, who was found dead the other day at a village railroad station in Arizona. But while it is perfectly true that Alan Stepney Gulston is a descendant of the seventh holder of the Stepney baronetcy, he can only claim this descent in the female line, and the descent of baronetcies is restricted exclusively to the male line direct. True, under present conditions there is no law to prevent Alan Stepney Gulston from assuming the baronetcy and he cannot be penalized for the usurpation, unless he should happen to become insolvent, and it could be shown that he had obtained credit on the strength of his alleged baronetcy, in which event he would lay himself open to criminal prosecution for obtaining goods under false pretenses.

The original Stepney baronetcy was created by James I. in 1621, but became extinct with the death of Thomas Stepney, the ninth baronet, in 1825. He had two sisters, and it was to the younger of these, Justina, that he left his property. She married General Andrew Cowell, and the son of this union, who by the terms of his uncle's and mother's wills assumed the name and the arms of Stepney, in addition to his father's name of Cowell, was created a baronet in 1871 for military services. The late Sir Emil, who died the other day, was his son.

Now, the ninth and last baronet of the original creation had an elder sister of the name of Elizabeth, who married Joseph Gulston, a member of Parliament. But she was estranged from her brother. It is her grandson, Alan Gulston, who is now claiming his granduncle's baronetcy, which became extinct in 1825.

Sir Emile leaves a daughter, Miss Catherine Cowell-Stepney, who has inherited all his property. The latter includes about 10,000 acres in Wales. He likewise owned at one time some 15,000 acres of land in California. What disposition will be made of the latter remains to be seen, as there is likely to be litigation. For it has been reported that Sir Emile had, on the strength of a decree of divorce which he had obtained in the State of Idaho, contracted another marriage in this country. This divorce was, however, never recognized by the English tribunals, and was declared by them to be invalid when it came up for discussion during the proceedings which Lady Cowell-Stepney instituted some years ago against her husband in the English courts, which granted her, not a divorce, but a mere judicial separation, on the ground of desertion.

Miss Catherine Cowell-Stepney, who is about thirty-three years of age, lives with her mother, Lady Cowell-Stepney, a daughter of the late Lord De Tabley, and in this way is connected with the Wadsworths, of Genesee, N. Y., and Mrs. Arthur Post, of New York. Lady Cowell-Stepney's eldest sister is the mother of that Sir Bryan Leighton who volunteered for service under the American flag during the war with Spain and went through the entire campaign.

Sir Emile was undoubtedly half insane. Indeed, it was on the strength of affidavits of the late William E. Gladstone, of Lord Currie, of Sir Robert Mead, Under Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, and of Sir Percy Anderson, of the Foreign Office (with which the baronet had been connected for a number of years), regarding his delusions that the Court of Chancery made an order in 1891, granting the custody of his daughter to her mother. Afterwards Sir Emile was under the treatment of the late Sir William Gull, of Dr. Bordesley, and of other eminent physicians and specialists for mental ailments, besides being in the custody of an alienist for more than a year. Had this been known, it is doubtful whether Sir Emile would have succeeded in obtaining his papers of naturalization as a citizens of the United States. He was very proud of his citizenship, and in writing to his fellow-members of the Travelers and Brooks, two of the most important clubs in London, to which he belonged up to the time of his death, always begged that they should address him as "Mr. E. Stepney," since on becoming an American citizen he had "dropped the baronetcy for good and all."

With the death of Prince Anthony Sulkowski, the Prussian branch of this one-time important, princely and ducal house becomes extinct. For the prince was predeceased by his only son, Alexander, who died four years ago, leaving a widow, but no issue; while Prince Anthony's second alliance, with an elderly woman of the name of Josephine Schmidt, who survives him, was also childless. This is on the whole fortunate, since of the formerly vast possessions of these Prussian Sulkowskis, virtually nothing remains, their great estates near Lissa, in the Province of Posen, being mortgaged up to the very hilt, and all their superb art treasures long since dispersed.

Their connection with the Austrian Sulkowskis is very remote. In fact it is necessary to go back to the middle of the eighteenth century in order to establish any relationship. The chief of the Austrian Sulkowskis is Prince Joseph, who is likewise Duke of Bielitz; a most eccentric creature, who cannot set foot in Austria, or visit his vast estates there; owing to the fact that he is a fugitive from an Austrian lunatic asylum, to which he was committed as insane. He has some property, however, in Germany, and the German courts have pronounced him to be possessed of his reason, and perfectly capable of managing his own affairs. Up to the time of his commitment he disposed of enormous wealth, never traveled anywhere but by special train, always insisted on hiring an entire hotel to himself, and used to carry about with him all over Europe a private circus, with a menagerie of wild animals, for his own private amusement.

His first wife was his sister's governess, whom he married with the avowed intention of exasperating his father. He succeeded in this filial project; for the old gentleman had a fit, to which he succumbed within a few hours. Immediately after his father's death he discarded the governess, and when she obtained a divorce from him he married one of the bareback riders of his private circus, of the name of Ida Jaeger, who was clever enough to get him judicially declared insane in Austria before he had time to get rid of her.

By the second wife he has a daughter, already herself a divorcee, and who will inherit a considerable portion of his wealth. He has also a number of half-brothers and half-sisters. Some of these were born in this country, where the name of Sulkowski was at one time quite familiar.

Considerable curiosity has often been expressed as to how it came that the Sulkowskis, despite their great wealth and their high rank (they are all princes and princesses of the empire, with the predicate of "serene highness") should have consented to bury themselves for a number of years in the small town of Bremen, O. It is difficult to write definitely about the matter, and I can only say that the departure of the late Prince Louis Sulkowski, Duke of Bielitz, from Austria for the United States, where most of his children were born, between the years 1850 and 1860, was immediately following a shocking tragedy—one of the darkest that has ever sullied the annals of an illustrious family. It was nothing more nor less than the murder, under the most atrocious circumstances, of the mother of Prince Louis. She was assassinated one March night in 1848, at the Furstenhof, now the leading hotel of the town of Mysloewitz, in Northeastern Austria, but formerly the ancestral chateau of the Sulkowskis. While the actual deed was done by peasants, who were able to effect their escape to America, all the evidence went to show, in the most conclusive fashion, that one of the unfortunate woman's younger sons, Maximilian Sulkowski, was responsible for the crime and morally guilty of matricide. The horror excited by the murder was so intense that Prince Max disappeared and his elder brother Louis, likewise found it well to leave Europe, settling in New Bremen. When he returned to Austria, nearly eighteen years afterwards, the crime had been well nigh forgotten.

I may add that when Prince Louis emigrated to America he left his duchess behind him. Within a month of her death he married a German-American woman of the name of Marie Gemperle, a native of New Bremen. It is the eldest son of this union, Prince Alfred, who on the death of his half-brother will succend to the dukedom of Bielitz, and to the vast entailed estates.

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STATE PRESS

The Press Association Must Be Supported.

We cannot agree with our contemporary that the Virginia Press Association has accomplished nothing practical. For one thing, that organization brought into existence the present law requiring Boards of Supervisors to publish in detail their receipts and disbursements. But aside from all else, the practical papers and discussions in the meetings from year to year were helpful to the members, and since the organization was started there has been a marked improvement in the press of the State. It is fair to presume that the work of the association has aided in bringing about this result. . . .However, the association has never lived fully up to its privileges. It has never been as aggressive a body as it should have been, and it is most desirable that the organization be placed upon a better footing. One of the first requirements is for the city dailies to give it a more active support.—Newport News Times-Herald.

The Primary Assessments.

The Democratic aspirants who go before the primary for nomination for office were all heavily assessed by the state Committee and paid the assessments. The date is now passed . . . paying the entrance fee, and yet Chairman Ellyson has sent letters to all the candidates asking them to pay an additional 20 per cent. upon the original assessment. It is said that this demand has met with a remonstrance, and it is intimated that some of the candidates refuse to comply with the request. We sincerely wish they would all refuse. It is a harsh exaction, and there can be no necessity for it. . . . It just amounts to the exclusion of poor men from entering the contest as candidates, and our once free republic will become a plutocracy. Money, and not abilities and character, will become the requisite for political preferment. We enter our protest against it.—Charlottesville Progress.

The Anti-Saloon League's Statement.

In issuing this statement the headquarters committee officially approved the support given Judge Mann by its members personally. No doubt the committee men believed they were acting officially, without partisan feeling, but the most careful editing on the part of Judge Mann could not have made that statement more of a Mann campaign document than it is at present.—Newport News Daily Press.

Wants the Counties to Work for Auto Route.

The enthusiasm manifested at the good roads meeting held at the courthouse on Monday indicates that the people of Fredericksburg at least are alive to the importance and necessity of the occasion. If a great roadway is to be established between Washington and Richmond it ought by all means to pass through Fredericksburg. Any other route would be roundabout and unsatisfactory. Our people are going about the right way to get it, that is, by organization and willingness to contribute individually. The counties all along this route all equally interested, and should take prompt action also. The right spirit seems to prevail in Caroline county, and Spotsylvania and Stafford should follow suit.—Fredericksburg Daily Star.

Must Attend Press Association Meetings.

That the Virginia Press Association needs vigor and life put into its proceedings is a foregone conclusion, but in order for each annual convention to be a success the members should make it a personal duty to be present and enter into the spirit of the occasion. Indeed, there is no reason why the newspaper people of Virginia should not come together once every year and make their society second to none in the South of its kind.

But a few men cannot do this. Every newspaper man who is eligible to membership should come in, catch hold of the proposition and go to work in earnest. Put ginger in the body by giving it your thought, your energy and your attendance.—North Emporia Independent.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH TOLL.

Great Industries Cost the Lives of Thousands Every Year.

A former coroner of Pittsburg has issued a statement in which he holds that one man a day meets a violent death while performing regular duties in the plant of the Pressed Steel Car Company, where a strike is now in progress. A claim that has been repeatedly brought out in the present controversy is to the effect that in this and kindred industries human life is the cheapest asset about the plant.

In this connection it is interesting to note that the figures of the Census Bureau on the subject of violent death carry out this contention. Such a census was taken in 1906, which extended to 48 per cent. of the people. Of these 120.5 persons were killed in each 100,000 population. Upon a basis of 85,000,000 people for the whole country, this rate would amount to 105,765 as the total number of people meeting violent death in a single year. The returns show the number of suicides, homicides, and such other deaths as cannot be regarded as resulting from the industries of the country. These being deducted from the total, there remain some 75,000 who in a single year met death in the industries.

These figures are out of all proportion to those of other countries. In Europe, for instance, the life and property loss from fire is but one-sixth of that in this country. The death rate in mining is about one-fifth that in America. On the railroads the figures are to the discredit of this country, and so it is in all the industries. This country is prodigal in many ways, but above all is it careless of human life. The laws are lax in their requirement of a proper safeguarding of life, and in the placing of responsibility for disaster. Industry has found that it is cheaper to fight damage suits than to make conditions safe. The humanitarian side of the case does not appeal to industry, and the meting out of sudden death has not been made unprofitable. Death stalks abroad, and regularly takes his toll.—Washington Post.

UNIVERSAL ARMY SERVICE.

English Lords Refuse to Adopt Lord Roberts's Plan.

The British House of Lords a few days ago rejected the bill introduced by Lord Roberts providing for universal military service in the Territorial Army of all men between eighteen and thirty years of age. In introducing his bill Lord Roberts painted in rather a gloomy vein the crude state of the empire's defenses, and he declared that those in power were gambling with the country's safety by neglecting its means of defense.

Despite Lord Roberts's pleading, his bill was rejected, as the House of Lords believed that the country was not prepared to accept any form of compulsory military service, and the House, moreover, did not wish to interfere with the development of the government's Territorial Army plans. The aversion to any form of compulsory military service is quite as strong in this country as it is in England, and it is to this fact that our military strength is so negligible and our preparations for possible war so backward.

It is because the officers of the regular army have come to realize the utter futility of ever securing universal or compulsory military service that they have determined to improve the national guard as the organized portion of the militia forces is called. Major-General Wood, in a recent article, advocates the increase of the strength of the national guard for 400,000 men by a system of encouraging enlistments in the guard and by making it popular. He believes that, with the proper encouragement from the business men of the country and the people, the national guard could be made an efficient reserve for the regular army, and that, added to that institution, it would provide an effective first line of defense in the event of war.

Great Britain is seeking to build up a service something like our national guard, which is called the Territorial Army. It was in this force that Lord Roberts desired to make enlistment compulsory, and not in the standing army. But the British, like ourselves, will have no form of compulsory military service, not even in the militia.—New Orleans Picayune.

"PISTOL-TOTING" IN THE SOUTH.

New England Makes the Weapons for Our Negroes to Use.

We seem to have struck a responsive chord in the esteemed Springfield Republican at last on the question of pistol-toting in the South. Some days ago we commented on the pistol-making business of New England and of the effect that this successful enterprise has had upon the homicidal situation in the South. . . .

The admission is also made that "New England profits by the pistol-making business and even by the local violation of the South Carolina statute," but the suggestion is made that South Carolina might develop some self-control in the use of deadly weapons. Then our contemporary indulges in this defense of one of New England's most profitable industries:

"A pistol like a shotgun or a rifle has its legitimate uses, although its ownership or carrying on the person is properly a subject for regulation by the authorities. The twenty-inch law South Carolina now has is most excellent and ought to be rigidly enforced."

We agree wholly with the last proposition of our friend, but we do not agree with it in its statement that "a pistol, like a shotgun or a rifle, has its legitimate uses." There is no legitimate use really to which it can be placed except as side arms for those who are engaged in the military service of the country. It is largely a weapon of offense and rarely a weapon of defense. It is made so that it can be easily concealed about the person, and it has been placed under the ban in this State, because it has been so frequently used with murderous intent. The law in South Carolina prohibiting the sale, transportation or use in this State of any pistol less than twenty inches in length and three pounds in weight was enacted for the purpose of preventing the pistol trade in South Carolina. The law is not enforced. Few regard it. . . .

It is said that during the last thirty-five years 25,000,000 pistols have been manufactured in this country, most of them in New England, and that the rate of production now is about 1,000,000 annually. We have not the statistics at hand, but we venture to say that more crime has been committed, more lives have been lost, more property has been sacrificed by the sale of 1,000,000 pistols in this country a year than can be credited to the intemperate use of intoxicating liquors.—Charleston News and Courier.

MARRIAGE AS A PROFESSION.

California Bigamist Found It a Paying Financial Investment.

Some men, whether for defense or out of pride, announce to the world especially the feminine portion of it that they are not "marrying men"—that is to say, they have little sympathy with the honored estate of matrimony, or, at least, no intention of entering it.

Not so was it with Christian Johnson, who has just entered upon a sentence of seven years in a California prison for bigamy. Bigamy seems a feeble word in connection with Johnson, who, by his own confession, married a score or two of women—more women, in fact, than he can remember. Johnson explains that he made his living by marrying.

Before retiring from the public gaze Johnson gave an estimate of how much money he had made by his multitudinous marriages, for every wife whom he took to his susceptible bosom, it seems, brought him money. It was for money and not for love that Johnson married. He obtained his livelihood by going to the altar and sealing himself, year after year, as often as he could obtain them, to fresh victims.

Johnson, who is not without a sense of humor—he could scarcely have been under the circumstances—gave to the reporters some rules by which women may be easily won. It would be sad to think, and it will surprise timid bachelors to hear that the charming sex is so easy as this much-married scoundrel avers; and yet we must accept the statement as one founded upon a wide and indisputable experience.

The story of Johnson's career, however, illustrates how lightly matrimony is entered upon by many women, and seems to explain, in part, why in this country there is such an appalling number of divorces.—Washington Times.

THE CHANNEL AERONAUTS.

English Engineers Predicted Calamity If Latham Attempts the Feat.

Tennyson's airy navies and Byron's engines to carry man to the moon are brought distinctly nearer by the piling up every day of news about fresh feats in aeroplaning. What has been called the "patient prudence" of the Wright brothers seems now certain to reap its reward in the near future, by their meeting the terms of their contract with the War Department. The attempted cross-channel flight of Hubert Latham yesterday was sensational both in conception and result, though success was not attained. Doubtless, it will be soon. Meanwhile, how thoroughly experimental and uncertain the art of human flight yet remains, may be seen in the futility of expert comments before the event. The London Times had, ten days ago, an article by a skilled engineer on the projected air-crossing from Calais to Dover by M. Latham, in which the gravest danger was argued if the aeroplane should fall into the sea. Said the writer:

"As it would have been traveling at something like forty miles an hour, even after gliding down from an altitude of 300 feet, the speed of the apparatus on touching the water would not be less than twenty-five miles an hour. The whole machine, with the pilot, weighs about half a ton. Imagine the impact and the effect it would have on the wings, on which, however, M. Latham counts to keep the whole apparatus afloat. They are, it is true, air-chambers a foot deep at the base and tapering to the extremities. But would not the canvas be torn to shreds, even if the whole wings were not wrenched off the machine? The aviator's position would be perilous in the extreme."

Yet, in fact, he was found riding at ease and smoking a cigarette!—New York Evening Post.

COME BACK TO VIRGINIA.

The Call of the Press Is Noted in the Northern States.

Come ye back, ye Southern yoemen; come ye back to old Virginia. Such is the siren song sung by the local press. The good State of Virginia has grown worried about herself because her young men are seeking fresh fields and Middle Western pastures. The census reports of 1900 have been examined for native white population. These show that the interchange with other States left Virginia in 1900 with a net loss of 237,077 persons. This is a net loss equivalent to 20 per cent of her population at that time. In proportion to population, this migratory tendency cost Virginia more heavily than any State or Territory in the Union, except Maine.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch speaks of "uncompensated loss of nearly a quarter of a million of her own native-born," and "another old Eastern State, Massachusetts, with a clean gain of nearly 100,000. Virginia is losing population out of all proportion to her gains, out of all proportion to her actual population, but of all proportion to the experience of other States."

"Is there really no chance for an ambitious young man in the South?" asks the Columbia State. "Is the South really blind to talent? The South ought to have sense enough to keep its young men.—Collier's Weekly.

SHAKE INTO YOUR SHOES

Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder. It cures painful, smarting, nervous feet and ingrowing nails, and instantly takes the sting out of corns and bunions. It's the greatest comfort discovery of the age. Allen's Foot-Ease makes tight or new shoes feel easy. It is a certain cure for sweating, callous, swollen, tired, aching feet. Try it *to-day*. Sold by all Druggists and Shoe Stores. By mail for 25