The Times-Dispatch
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TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 1911.

RICHMOND GAINING EVERY DAY.

Really, it doesn't matter how one looks at Richmond; it is one of the biggest places in the country. Scott & Stringfellow have been making a financial and economic study of the relation of this town to other considerable communities in the South, and have prepared several statements, which have attracted wide attention. They have now prepared a third statement which shows that Richmond, sixth of the cities named in population, is third in bank deposits and second in deposits per capita. We are only comforted for the discovery that Houston, Texas, that place of all others in the South and ninth in population, is first in deposits per capita, is fifth in deposits. It is catching up at a rate nobody can understand. When Mr. Scott was in Houston three years ago he was very much impressed by the evidences of development and progress he saw there, greater than he saw in eight thousand miles of travel covering a territory reaching as far West as Salt Lake City and as far South as Galveston. We are glad of it, in a sense, because Houston is a Southern town, and can, evidently, take care of itself. The point just now, however, is Richmond. The present statement of Scott & Stringfellow is for January 7, 1911, as follows:

Total Deposits All Banks—	
New Orleans, La.	$90,100,000
Louisville, Ky.	50,353,000
Richmond, Va.	41,398,000
Memphis, Tenn.	41,012,000
Houston, Texas	33,541,000
Atlanta, Ga.	30,716,000
Dallas, Texas	28,696,000
Nashville, Tenn.	23,088,000
Birmingham, Ala.	21,077,000
Savannah, Ga.	18,405,000
Charleston, S. C.	17,729,000
Norfolk, Va.	16,346,000
Total Deposits Per Capita—	
Houston, Texas	$430
Richmond, Va.	326
Memphis, Tenn.	313
Dallas, Texas	312
Charleston, S. C.	306
Savannah, Ga.	283
New Orleans, La.	267
Norfolk, Va.	244
Louisville, Ky.	226
Nashville, Tenn.	210
Atlanta, Ga.	199
Birmingham, Ala.	160
Population Census 1910—	
New Orleans, La.	339,000
Louisville, Ky.	223,000
Atlanta, Ga.	154,000
Birmingham, Ala.	132,000
Memphis, Tenn.	131,000
Richmond, Va.	127,000
Nashville, Tenn.	110,000
Dallas, Texas	92,000
Houston, Texas	78,000
Norfolk, Va.	67,000
Savannah, Ga.	65,000
Charleston, S. C.	58,000

Next year Richmond will be bigger than ever, and at its present rate of progress will be within the next two decades the largest city in the South. It has just begun to grow.

A CAUSE OF CITY GROWTH.

What causes the average man to emigrate from one place to another?

There are only two normal economic reasons.

First, he can better himself financially.

Second, he seeks better and more pleasing conditions under which to live.

The first of the reasons is that which is sometimes disproportionately considered by those who plan for larger cities. The second is of almost equal importance. Between two cities of equal opportunity for financial betterment, the emigrant will choose that one which is the more pleasant to live in, which offers him and his children the better chance to improve themselves physically and mentally. Just here is the point where civic improvement touches city growth.

Atlanta has come to the safe conclusion that "it cannot hope to hold its reputation by complacently sitting back and admitting its census figures. What is Atlanta doing in the way of civic improvement to hold her rank?" quoting the Atlanta Journal.

Atlanta is the second city in the South in point of population. Memphis is fourth. Atlanta spent last year for the maintenance and extension of her system of parks and playgrounds $58,472. Memphis spent for the same purpose $399,150.

Commenting on this most striking comparison, the Atlanta Journal says:

"There is no timelier lesson for Atlanta to study and none that lies closer to the city's prestige or the people's daily interests—their health and enjoyment and their children's opportunities.

"There must come an awakening in Atlanta on the subject of parks and playgrounds and public recreation centres. Whoever fancies that these institutions are so many furbelows without practical value or necessity must come out of his cave and take a look over the country and realize that the world does move.

"This city cannot hope to hold its reputation by complacently sitting back and admiring its census figures. A reputation remains an asset only so long as it is treated as a responsibility; unless it is lived up to it will pretty soon be lived down to.

The Birmingham News points out that the strides which Memphis has made in the direction of city development and the expenditures it has been able to make on public parks and playgrounds were largely caused by the working of the commission form of government in Memphis. Under this new form of city administration, modern methods were installed in the government of Memphis, difficulties were quickly overcome, and the city developed in the way most profitable to all of its citizens.

The moral of all this is that no progressive city can neglect or fail to develop a system of parks and playgrounds. Richmond already has some excellent parks, but there is plenty of room for development and improvement. The experience of other cities demonstrates forcibly that a system of playgrounds well fitted up and kept in good condition will constitute a dividend paying asset of the city. If Richmond is to grow, it must have every facility which adds to growth; and not the least among these facilities are playgrounds and parks. The progress of other cities in these two respects must be watched, and Richmond must not lag behind, but strike a faster gait.

RESTORE THE WILLIAMSBURG COURTHOUSE.

The United States is known to many people as the country without a history. Our oldest buildings, our most ancient historical places, indeed, even our earliest traditions, are but as affairs of yesterday to the people of Great Britain, and but of an hour ago to those of Egypt. So much the greater is our duty to hold on to that which we have.

Unfortunately, a few days ago, the ancient courthouse at Williamsburg was gutted by fire. Around this building cluster some of the most hallowed recollections of the colony and of the Commonwealth. It was built in 1769, and tradition has it that the model was taken from an old design by Sir Christopher Wren, who had then been in his grave for many years. Under its roof met the general court of the Colony of Virginia, and for many years the United States Court had its sessions there.

Comparatively small in size, its architecture was of that modest and graceful design of which too little is seen in these days. Those great lawyers, of whom Virginia produced so many in her earlier years spoke in its halls, and to the lover of the past their presence seemed to cling about it.

Some court building must now be provided for the use of the county of James City and for the city of Williamsburg. City and county together will join in this work. Surprising to say, there is a sentiment to build a new structure, presumably of bare and bald brick, born of the ideals of an age whose tendency seems to be toward display without beauty.

There is no disposition here to meddle in the affairs of the officials of Williamsburg and of James City county. They are fully competent to make proper provisions for their court building. But this is a matter in which all of Virginia is interested. Our landmarks are too few. The walls of the old structure are intact. The county and city can restore the courthouse for less money than that for which they can build a new one. It is to be hoped that they will rebuild the relic of colonial days exactly on the lines of the building as it stood a few days ago, and as it stood when the fathers of the Commonwealth pleaded their causes within its walls. Here is a field for some resolutions by the various patriotic organizations, the Daughters of the American Revolution and for the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities.

A SOUTHAMPTON DEMOCRAT.

It looks as if there are to be a number of legislative candidates recruited this year from the field of journalism. Why shouldn't this be the case? Anyway, Brother Land, of the Blackstone Courier, is to make the race, and now Brother Stroud, of the Southampton Democrat, is a conditional candidate.

Brother Stroud is not "hankering for office," but the business men of Franklin have been getting after him to run, and our contemporary likes this, as he properly thinks the office should seek the man.

If he do run, Brother Stroud insists that he be not expected to travel about the county "harassing the voters for their votes; that the voters are all the questions they desire as to our position; that we be not expected to speak disparagingly of either of the (other) candidates, for they are all high-toned gentlemen and worthy of the honor they seek; that we be not expected to kiss every baby we see or give a drink to every fellow who desires to slake his thirst."

That sounds like politics on a high plane, and surely is the right way to talk about it. Mud-slinging and abuse are tiresome, and the people are tired of them.

Here are some of the laws Brother Stroud favors: The Torrens land registration law; "the abolition of the fee system where it can be abolished to the advantage of the county and State, and substitute a salary commensurate with the duties and responsibilities of the office. The fee system is an incubus, and should be gotten rid of as soon as possible." Further, Brother Stroud favors any law that will make for the education of the children of the State, an anti-nepotism law, a law preventing one man from holding two offices, either elective or appointive, a road improvement law.

This is a candidacy that will be followed with interest.

THE INITIATIVE OF YOUTH.

There is a common belief that only lawyers of long years of experience are to be trusted with important cases and that to their younger brethren only the morsels from the litigation table can be given. Of course, the belief is based on the idea that only with years does wisdom come. There is a deal of truth in that, but there are many reasons why great causes should in many cases be committed to young lawyers. The fledgling who has to win his spurs will, as a rule, try harder for success than the blase practitioner who has much less at stake, and he is unlikely to venture into fields of research that his younger brother will have the hardihood to investigate for possible fruits.

Here is a case in point. Walter C. Sheppard, of New York City, is a young lawyer, as years in practice go. He spent a few years as a real estate lawyer in a large office and then he was appointed special counsel to the city of New York. Into his hands were committed cases involving condemnation proceedings. Sheppard didn't like the way things were going, and so he began to root around among the almost hopeless mazes of the New York statutes. As a result, he ran across an ancient and forgotten act of the Legislature, in ignorance of which New York City had been paying out thousands of dollars too much. Sheppard instituted proceedings and saved New York City several hundred thousand dollars by invoking this buried law. In all probability an older and less vigorous man would never have thought to excavate among the laws for this statute. Sheppard departed from the beaten track of routine, but he made good with his idea.

Of course, he is only a young lawyer. Had about seven years' experience at the bar. Came from Texas and, if Texas would turn out more like him, its existence might possibly be justified. His case is cited simply because it proves that sometimes the young barrister is the man for the job. Initiative and inquisitiveness are peculiarly the attributes of those who have not tarried long at Philippi.

THE CLOTHING MONOPOLY.

The Census Office has lately given out some figures as to the percentages of monopoly in the clothing business. These figures cover ten years of monopoly, and show the full effect of monopolistic tendencies in the last five years.

In ten years there has been a decrease of 25 per cent. in the number of separate establishments. There were 1,231 ten years ago. Mills have been absorbed or shut down until only 913 are left, yet the capital on which the public must pay dividends has been increased 62 per cent. There is $162 of it now for every $100 ten years ago.

On annual totals for the same period worsted suitings increased 136 per cent. in selling price at the mills, while they were increasing 119 per cent. in quality. Worsted dress goods increased 231 per cent. in price at the mills while they were increasing only 83 per cent. in quality.

How much longer will this sort of thing keep up, freezing out individual competition and the poor man at the same time? Is there a law of averages governing the cost of living?

THE PENSION FRAUDS.

Secretary of the Treasury MacVeagh has made up his mind about the pension question. He says:

"We have a perfectly enormous Civil War pension list, which is not a credit to us. It never had a scientific or a just basis, although a worthy motive gave it origin. It has lost its patriotic aspects and has become a political list, costing the Government about $160,000,000 a year."

Though spoken temperately, this utterance is most significant. When the Republican Secretary of the Treasury in a Republican administration is frank enough to say that the public coffers are being looted, it is a very good sign that we are on the road to reform and retrenchment. How long shall we endure what the Cleveland Plain Dealer calls "fraud, graft and the shameless looting of the public treasury, perpetrated in the name of patriotism and through the means of pension legislation?"

It is to be hoped that the press and the periodicals of the country will keep pegging away at this matter, revealing theft, bringing loot to light, until Congress shall take radical action in the pensions fraud.

THE CIVIL OFFICERS OF THE CONFEDERACY.

General William R. Cox, one of the small band of surviving Confederate generals, has written a very pertinent letter to the Raleigh News and Observer about the civil officers of the Confederate States of America. His remarks are called forth by a letter from General Marcus J. Wright, the gallant Confederate general and historian, requesting a correct list of the representatives of the Old North State in the Confederate Congress.

General Cox says in part:

"I can but realize that while our military achievements, which justly won the admiration and praise of all impartial historians, have been appropriately exalted, the civil administration of the Confederate government, which furnished the ways and means for supplying our armies, has been too much overlooked.

"I venture the assertion that but few of the present generation would be able to promptly recall even the names of the members of the Confederate Congress from North Carolina, while in that body were some of the ablest and most distinguished statesmen and publicists who have adorned the councils of our State."

It is a lamentable fact that what General Cox has said is a true indictment of the Southern people. What he says about North Carolina is equally applicable to Virginia, as it is to every other State in the South. The men in the Old Dominion to-day who can name all the members of the Confederate Congress from this State can be counted on one's fingers. Perhaps there are not many who could name all the members of the cabinet of President Davis, or who could name all the Virginians in it. How many Virginians can name the Speaker of the Confederate Congress? Yet he was an eminent Virginian. How many can name a few of the Confederate diplomatic agents?

The late Dr. J. L. M. Curry made a most valuable contribution to Southern history in his "History of the Civil Government of the Confederate States," but his work was brief. It is to be hoped that not only shall we have a comprehensive history of the Confederate Government, but also that we shall have the civil side of the war fully set forth in school histories and other historical literature.

THE FUTURE OF THE HORSE.

The degree to which the horse is being supplanted by motor-propelled vehicles can be estimated when it is said that a careful investigation shows that about 70 per cent. of the automobiles now operated are used for business purposes. The automobile is still employed extensively for pleasure, but it is rapidly projecting itself into the field of business activities.

In view of the enlargement of the automobile industry, the interesting question is: "What will become of the horse?" It is safe to predict that our ancient animal friend will not be sent back to obscurity. People who ride and drive for real pleasure have not diminished in numbers. The horse is needed also for hunting and racing. He cannot be replaced on the farm. The cavalry cannot do without him, and universal peace and the disbandment of national armies are yet vain dreams.

The automobile may drive the horse out of the business world, but in social life, in sport, in agriculture, he will always hold his own.

"MUSICOLONY."

There is afoot a plan to establish in Rhode Island a summer village of persons interested in music. A tract of 350 acres has been secured in the town of Westerly, on the ocean, and many musicians have agreed to lend their aid to the project. An auditorium will probably be erected and an annual music festival will be held with an exceptional company of stars on the programme. The enterprise has great possibilities and will be watched by people all over the country.

It is expected that there will be a vacancy on the United States Bench in South Carolina within the next few weeks, and the whole Republican party, consisting of Durant, Cochran and Harris, has been camping in Washington for the last week trying to knock this particular persimmon down.

Said a wise one of the party in power at Washington yesterday: "It looks as if the next President will be a Democrat, and that his name will be Woodrow Wilson. But, of course, you know that there is Champ Clark and your old friend William Jennings Bryan. While there are these, life for the Republicans is not entirely without hope."

If the plain people would like to find out how things are done at the National Capital, they should knock around there for a day or two while the circus is in session just to see the queer things men will do and say for their friends.

Everybody in Washington is speaking well of Hilles, who is deep down now in "this vale of tears," wondering why he ever left his nice warm cot whether he wanted to or not. He will probably reach the conclusion of Norton after a bit that there are a great many things that are "a durned sight better business than loafing round the throne."

If it keep on growing, after a few years Washington will be as big as Richmond now is.

It would look as if the Southern city third in bank deposits and second in deposits per capita ought to be able to raise $150,000 for the building of a railroad without much trouble.

Some days ago a bronze tablet was presented to the R. E. Lee Memorial Church at Lexington, commemorative of the distinguished service and life of General Thomas H. Williamson, professor of engineering in the Virginia Military Institute from 1844 until 1888 and of the noble life of his wife, Louisa Garnett. In the War for Southern Independence, he served ably as a lieutenant-colonel of engineers in the Confederate Army. For forty years he was a vestryman of the church in which this memorial tablet has been placed. He and his wife were "faithful and zealous co-workers in establishing this church." The tablet was erected by Mrs. John B. Purcell, of this city and bears this beautiful inscription, "The glory of children are their fathers." Thus are two lives of noble service to the country finely kept in remembrance.

"A chapter on the law of aviation" is the latest addition to a recent law book published in New York. A little while longer and then we shall have aviators haled into court for exceeding the speed limit.

There are four Quakers in Congress. Three are from Pennsylvania, and the other is from Delaware. They do not "swear" their allegiance to the United States before taking their seats, but "affirm" it, as their religion does not allow swearing. "Affirm" means more to them, perhaps, than "swear" does to many others in Congress.

The Orange Observer says:

"Beauty, like the flowering blossom, soon fades; but the divine excellence of the mind, like the medical virtues of the plant, remains in it, when all those charms are withered. And that is why we are so intensely fond of that person of the opposite sex who possesses a brilliant mind."

This is indeed a feeling tribute to Brother Addison, of the Lynchburg News.

The Orange Observer, feminine gender, says:

"He is but half-prepared for the journey of life who takes not with him that noble, modest, gentle friend who will never forsake him in any emergency, who will share all of his sorrows, greatly increase his joys, lift the veil from his heart and throw sunshine around the darkest scenes."

Which shows that the Observer knows the value of a quart of Scotch.

FOR THAT SOUR STOMACH
You cannot take a better remedy than the famous
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Voice of the People

Fireproof Public Buildings.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—The destruction by fire of the old courthouse in Williamsburg (erected in 1769), with all the old chancery papers going back to the time of the American Revolution, is a misfortune not only to Williamsburg, but to Virginia at large. But this and other similar catastrophes have their lesson which should not be disregarded. It is only a short time since the great library at the university was destroyed by fire, and the conflagration of the Capitol of the State of New York at Albany, with its precious contents, has not yet ceased to occupy some space in the newspapers. These things are enough to make us tremble for our literary material everywhere in Virginia.

I think a determined effort should be made to safeguard against fire as far as practicable. The condition of our clerks' offices and State Library, and the libraries of the different public institutions, should be made the subject of legislative inquiry, and with a view to this end the Governor might secure from the clerks and the different librarians reports to be laid before the next Legislature. Every county in the State should be compelled to put up a fireproof courthouse and clerk's office, and means should be provided to guarantee the safety of the different public libraries.

These repeated warnings should make even the private institutions regardful. When I think of the exposed condition of the priceless collection of paintings, curios, books and manuscripts in the Virginia Historical Society, I feel that a solemn obligation devolves upon its officers and members to raise enough money for a fireproof building. Cannot this be done? The society has a large membership, and, with the help of the city and State, something might be accomplished if the matter was pushed. Owing to the indefatigable work of our recent historians we can now claim that the first century of our State history, as a community has been well written; but the nineteenth and twentieth centuries have only been scratched over. Progress is making immense strides, and the ideal man who shall have the talents, the means and the leisure (the three elements necessary) to grapple with the past, is surely coming. But it is all important that the material for his immortal works shall be preserved in the meantime. Some years ago I used my best endeavors to get the Legislature to appropriate $5,000 for copying the early county records down to 1700. About half the ground was covered by the appropriation, and the copies placed in our State Library have proved ever since an invaluable source of information. As duplication is one means of preservation, the work ought to be continued by other and similar appropriations till all the county records are duplicated down to the American Revolution.

LYON G. TYLER.

Williamsburg.

For Martin and Swanson.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—When a man's soul is filled with patriotism and love for his great country and his native State, he feels like he must give utterance to his thoughts, and let all the people have the benefit of his inspired judgment.

Mr. Editor, what are we confronted with to-day? And what is the issue now before us? I, myself, answer. Are we to turn out of office our two great and distinguished United States Senators—Hon. Thomas S. Martin and Hon. Claude A. Swanson, the latter the successor to my illustrious and noble friend, the late Hon. John W. Daniel, who was the finest and the greatest man Virginia ever produced? He reflected honor upon his country, and so will that noble and gifted man, Hon. Claude A. Swanson who has been appointed to succeed him.

Mr. Editor, my heart goes out in love and admiration for faithful public servants, and when we consider what a great pair we have in the United States Senate from Virginia it should make our hearts feel glad.

Mr. Jones and Mr. Glass are perfect gentlemen, and I understand they are fond of talking, and can talk well. Mr. Editor, I like to hear a good talker, but they say talk is mighty cheap sometimes. Words sound all right when they are put together nicely, but what the people of Virginia want is less words and more action. You can buy a dictionary now for 60 cents, and a second-hand one for 15 cents. At these prices you can get all the words you want. But when you go to a bookstore and ask the dealer to sell you talent and brains and energy he will tell you, if he has the right judgment, that such things are born in men, and not carried around in ordinary baskets. A whale needs the great ocean to swim in, and a lion requires a mighty forest, while a tadpole can swim in an ice pond and a mole can thrive in a little garden.

Mr. Editor, the genius and the achievements of Senator Martin and Senator Swanson entitle them to a field as broad as the universe. They are whales, they are lions, and are too strong, too valuable, and too important to swim elsewhere than in the great ocean and mighty forest of the United States Senate. They are the men to guide our noble ship of State and to preserve our forests.

Respectfully,
SAM STERN.

The Upper Room.

"And when they had sung a hymn, they went out into the Mount of Olives."

Silence—that thrills and vibrates
through the gloom,
And follows the lost echo of His
tread
Who moves to Calvary; the words
He said
Pause, winged, in the room.

The door yet swings ajar; a flickering
gleam
Of dying light o'er all faint shadows
cast;
The couches vacant lie of forms just
passed
In Olivet to dream.

Upon the Paschal board the broken
bread,
The empty cup, set forth His death
revealed
By Him, the Lamb prefigured; still
unsealed,
His blood as yet unshed.

Silence—one deep, awed pause; Futurity,
With myriad steps, even now draws
near
This holy room, to kneel forever here
In perpetual memory.

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Daily Queries and Answers

Must Serve Army Time.

I would be pleased to have you answer the following: Can Italy or any country impress a former subject, who has never served the required time in the army, after he has renounced his allegiance and become a citizen of the United States, while visiting his native country?

B. J.

Yes, the United States government will not interfere in any case to prevent a foreign-born citizen who returns to his own country from serving the time he owes to the army in his native land.

Origin of "Sirloin."

Please print in the Query and Answer Column the origin of the name sirloin, as referring to beef. E. O.

The sirloin of beef is said to owe its name to King Charles the Second, who dining upon a loin of beef, and being particularly pleased with it, asked the name of the joint. On being told, he said, "For its merit then I will knight it, and henceforth it shall be called Sir Loin."

In a ballad of "The New Sir John Barleycorn" this circumstance is thus mentioned:

"Our Second Charles of fame facete,
On loin of beef did dine;
He held his sword, pleased, o'er the
meat,
Arise, thou famed Sir Loin."

In another ballad, "The Gates of Calais," it is thus noticed:

"Renowned Sir Loin, ofttimes decreed,
The theme of English ballad;
On thee our kings of deign to feed.
Unknown to Frenchmen's palate;
Then, how much doth thy taste exceed
Soup, meagre, frogs, and salads."

KING IN YOUTH WAS ARDENT POLO PLAYER

BY LA MARQUISE DE FONTENOY.

KING GEORGE was in his younger days an enthusiastic polo player, and while still Duke of York, was able to hold his own with the best players of the two services, on the polo field, where all are equal, and where there is no time, even for the most unconscious concession to rank, in the hurly-burly of the game. He has not played for several years, but still retains a very great interest in polo, and it is to this that must be ascribed the exceptional compliment which he paid to the English team due here this week for the purpose of endeavoring to recapture the International Polo Cup, in summoning them to Buckingham Palace, for the purpose of bidding them farewell, and good luck in their enterprise.

The team is headed by Captain J. Hardress Lloyd, who learned his polo in India with the Fourth Dragoon Guards, and who, like Captain Herbert Wilson, another member of the team, and who won the Distinguished Service Order in the South African War, is a brother-in-law of the Earl of Huntingdon. They sailed from Liverpool on board the Lusitania on Saturday, and are looked for here the day after to-morrow. Another member of the team present at the audience was A. N. Edwards, of the Ninth Lancers, a regiment famous for its prowesses on the polo field. The King kept the three officers with him quite a time. In fact, the audience was of a prolonged character, and he showed himself not only most gracious towards them, but also very keen about the recovery of the cup. It may be recalled that when in July 1909, the American team won back the cup after it had been ever since 1886 in the possession of the English Polo Association, Queen Mary, then Princess of Wales, handed the cup to Harry Payne Whitney, the captain of the American team, at the conclusion of the deciding game, of which King George, then Prince of Wales was one of the most interested spectators.

Viscount Dillon, who was a leading figure in the recent suit brought by Lord Chesterfield for the recovery of a valuable suit of armor, is famous at home and abroad as the greatest authority in Europe on the subject of ancient armor, his expert knowledge in connection with which led King Edward to appoint him to the office of curator of the armory of the Tower of London. The first thing he did after his appointment was to reorganize the entire collection, and to eliminate therefrom a most extraordinary quantity of shams. To such an extent was this the case that he was denounced as "the great iconoclast" of the most cherished of popular illusions regarding the Tower of London, which every American going to London makes a point to visit. Thus, he removed from the collection the headsman's axe, long shown as having done duty at the execution of Queen Anne Boleyn, declaring it to be a swindle, since Anne was beheaded by a sword, and not with an axe. Then he took the armor suits, one by one, and demonstrated that the familiar lay figures were most ridiculously arrayed, in pieces of armor manufactured in different centuries, and at different epochs, and that the weapons described as having been spoils of the Spanish Armada could never have figured as part of the equipment of the celebrated fleet of King Philip of Spain. By the time, however, that he had completed his task of reorganization, the collection presented a very different appearance, and while many familiar pieces were missing, having been consigned to the scrap heap, as frauds, even more flagrant than that of Queen Anne Boleyn's axe, the exhibition has the merit today of being absolutely correct, and in every sense of the word authentic.

Lord Dillon has been a frequent visitor to the United States, and among the features of his own private collection at Ditchley Park, his ancestral home in Oxfordshire, are a number of flint implements found on the site of the Virginia town, which takes its name of Ditchley from his old English home. It was while visiting Ditchley, Va., some thirty odd years ago, that Lord Dillon made the acquaintance of the Canadian girl, Miss Julia Stanton, who became his wife. He has royal blood in his veins. For among his ancestors is Lady Litchfield, the illegitimate daughter of Charles II., who was indeed one of the former chatelaines of Ditchley Park, where all the Merrie Monarch's confidential correspondence with her is still preserved in an antique brass-bound chest. A number of English sovereigns have been entertained at Ditchley Park, notably Queen Elizabeth, and the grand old panelling of the billiard room is still adorned with several heads of red deer shot in 1608 and 1610, by King James I. and by his son Henry, Prince of Wales, in Ditchley Park. James, indeed, was so pleased with Ditchley and with its owner, then Sir Theobald Dillon, that he bestowed upon him the Irish Viscounty of Dillon of Costello-Gallen, in County Mayo.

The present Lord Dillon is the seventeenth viscount of his line; and although he is president of the society of Antiquaries, and of the National Portrait Gallery, as well as a trustee of the British Museum, a former officer of the army, and one of the most useful members of the peerage, he has no seat in Parliament, not being a representative peer of Ireland. While he himself and his wife are members of the Established Church, his only son and heir, Captain the Hon. Harry Lee Dillon, has become a convert to the Church of Rome.

Signor Giolitti, Italy's new premier, is to-day the one great statesman of international reputation in the Peninsula. He has repeatedly held the office of prime minister—the first time in 1892—and hailing from Piedmont, the son of a petty local official of the little town of Mondovi, who died soon after his birth, he is in every sense of the word a self-made man, who to-day, as a Knight of the Most Holy Order of the Annunciation, which is the Italian counterpart of the English Order of the Garter, is a titular cousin of the King and Queen, ranking as such immediately next to the members of the reigning family. In fact, there are only half-a-dozen non-royal Italian knights of this order, and they enjoy precedence over all other dignitaries and officials of the realm.

Giolitti cannot, however, be said to present a very knightly appearance; an appearance that has anything in common with the picturesque Chevaliers of the Order in olden times. For he is terribly unkempt, and his angular, elongated, saturnine features, and his eternal long black frock-coat, several sizes too large for him, and of excessive length, are the delight of Italian and foreign caricaturists. He speaks with a somewhat strong Piedmontese accent and without any pretense to oratory, and in his younger days—he is now in the neighborhood of seventy—was marvelously strong in the hands and arms, a friendly grasp of the latter being like a judgment from heaven. One could hear the bones of the recipient's hands cracking in his mighty clutch, like those of the folks who were put to the "question" by the torturers of the Middle Ages. He used to be very fond of imitating those feats of strength performed by Emperor Alexander III. of Russia, such as the bending in two of a horseshoe in one hand, folding double a silver five-franc piece, or tearing in half an entire pack of cards, with the utmost ease.

On one occasion he happened to come across three Contadini, or peasants, in the outskirts of Rome, who were ill-using a child, and alone gave all three of them such a drubbing that two were landed in the hospital, while the third esteemed himself lucky to escape with his life. Altogether, Giolitti, who is the soul of honesty, wholly devoid of affectation and pose, and most simple in all his habits and in his mode of life, is the most picturesque and interesting figure in Italian life of to-day, next to his sovereign.

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