

THE REFUGEES

By A. CONAN DOYLE,
Author of "The Return of Sherlock Holmes"

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She swept out with triumph in her eyes. It had been a terrible fight, but all the greater the credit of her victory. She took a little pink slip of paper from an inlaid desk and dashed off a few words upon it. They were, "Should Mme. de Maintenon have any message for his majesty he will be for the next few hours in the room of Mme. de Montespan." This she addressed to her rival, and it was sent on the spot, together with the king's order, by the hands of a page.

CHAPTER VIII.

FOR nearly a week the king was constant to his new humor. The routine of his life remained unchanged, save that it was the room of the frail beauty rather than of Mme. de Maintenon which attracted him in the afternoon. And in sympathy with this sudden relapse into his old life he cast something of his former bristly. His walk was brisker, and he gave a youthful flourish to his cane as a defiance to those who had seen in his reformation the first symptoms of age.

And as the king brightened, so all the great court brightened too. The salons began to resume their former splendor, and gay coats and glittering embroidery which had lain in drawers for years were seen once more in the halls of the palace. The Montespan anteroom was crowded every morning with men and women who had some suit to be urged, while her rival's chambers were as deserted as they had been before the king first turned a gracious look upon her. Faces which had been long banished from the court began to reappear in the corridors and gardens unchecked and unrebuked, while the black cassock of the Jesuit and the purple soutane of the bishop were less frequent colors in the royal circle.

But the church party was never seriously alarmed at this relapse. The grave eyes of priest or of prelate followed Louis in his escapade as wary huntsmen might watch a young deer which gambols about in the meadow under the impression that it is masterless when every gap and path is netted and it is in truth as much in their hands as though it were lying bound before them. They waited, therefore, and they silently planned how the prodigal might best be dealt with on his return.

To this end it was that his confessor, Pere la Chaise, and Bossuet, the great bishop of Meaux, waited one morning upon Mme. de Maintenon in her chamber. With a globe beside her, she was endeavoring to teach geography to the lame Duc du Maine and the mischievous little Comte de Toulouse, who had enough of their father's disposition to make them averse to learning and of their mother's to cause them to hate any discipline or restraint.

Mme. de Maintenon dismissed her two pupils and received the ecclesiastics with the mixture of affection and respect which was due to those who were not only personal friends, but great lights of the Gallican church. The last few days had cast a pallor over her face which spiritualized and refined the features, but she wore unimpaired her expression of sweet serenity.

"I see, my dear daughter, that you have sorrowed," said Bossuet, glancing at her with a kindly and yet searching eye. "I have indeed, your grace. All last night I spent in prayer that this trial may pass away from us."

"And yet you have no need for fear, madame—none, I assure you. Others may think that your influence has ceased, but we, who know the king's heart, think otherwise. A few days may pass, a few weeks at the most, and once more it will be upon your rising fortunes that every eye in France will turn."

The lady's brow clouded, and she glanced at the prelate as though his speech were not altogether to her taste. "I trust that pride does not lead me astray," she said. "But if I can read my own soul aright there is no thought of myself in the grief which now tears my heart. It is for the king I grieve, for the noble heart, the kindly soul, which might rise so high and which is dragged so low."

"For all that, my daughter, you are ambitious. Would you not love to turn the king toward good?" "I would give my life for it." "And there is your ambition. Ah, can I not read your noble soul? Would you not love to see the church reign pure and serene over all this realm, to see the poor housed, the needy helped, the wicked turned from their ways and the king ever the leader in all that is noble and good?" Her cheeks had flushed, and her eyes shone as she looked at the gray face of the Jesuit and saw the picture which his words had conjured up before her.

love the king." "At least I have never told him so," she faltered. "And will you never?" "May heaven wither my tongue first!" "But consider, my daughter. Such love in a soul like yours is heaven's gift and sent for some wise purpose. We speak for the interests of the holy church, and those interests demand that you should marry the king."

"Marry the king?" The little room swam round her. "Marry the king?" "There lies the best hope for the future. We see in you a second Jeanne d'Arc who will save both France and France's king."

Madame sat silent for a few moments. Her face had regained its composure, and her eyes were bent vacantly upon her tapestry frame as she turned over in her mind all that was involved in the suggestion. "But surely—surely this could never be," she said at last. "What king of France has married a subject? See how every princess of Europe stretches out her hand to him. The queen of France must be of queenly blood, even as the last was."

"All this may be overcome." "And then there are the reasons of state. If the king marry, it should be to form a powerful alliance, to cement a friendship with a neighbor nation or to gain some province which may be the bride's dowry. What is my dowry? A widow's pension and a workbox."

"Your dowry, my daughter, would be those gifts of body and of mind with which heaven has endowed you. The king has money enough and the king has provinces enough. As to the state, how can the state be better served than by the assurance that the king will be saved in future from such sights as are to be seen in this palace today?"

"Oh, if it could be so! But think, father, think of those about him—the dauphin, monsieur his brother, his ministers. You know how little this would please them and how easy it is for them to sway his mind."

"The faces of the two ecclesiastics who had dismissed her other objections with a smile and a wave clouded over at this." "My daughter," said the Jesuit gravely, "that is a matter which you may leave to the church. It may be that we, too, have some power over the king's mind and that we may lead him in the right path, even though those of his own blood would fain have it otherwise. The future only can show with whom the power lies. But you, love and duty both draw you one way now, and the church may count upon you and you upon the church. It will serve you if you in turn will but serve it."

"What higher wish could I have?" "You will be our daughter, our queen, our champion, and you will heal the wounds of the suffering church. The Huguenots must go. They must be driven forth. The goats must be divided from the sheep. The king is already in two minds. Louvois is our friend now. If you are with us, then all will be well."

"But, father, think how many there are! And think, too, of their sufferings should they be driven forth!" "Their cure lies in their own hands." "That is true. And yet my heart softens for them." "Pere la Chaise and the bishop shook their heads." "You would befriend God's enemies, then?" "No, no; not if they are indeed so." "Can you doubt it? Is it possible that your heart still turns toward the heresy of your youth?" "No, father; but it is not in nature to forget that my father and my grandfather—"

FORTY LAMP GLOBES BROKEN IN TRANSIT

Will Cost City of Paducah \$600 to Replace

Board of Public Works Lets Contracts for Boyd and Nineteenth Streets.

MORE WANT ELECTRIC SIGNS

The breaking of 40 street electric light globes shipped here by the General Electric company, of Cincinnati, cost the city \$600, according to the figures of Superintendent Keebler of the light plant, and the board of public works referred the report to the general council at the regular meeting yesterday afternoon. Superintendent Keebler stated that the company contracted to have all machinery and equipment here by October 15 and arrangements were made at the power house for the installation. The new machines were set, but one had to be taken down and replaced by an old one to furnish electricity to 40 old lights which were not removed because 40 new globes were broken. The kind of electricity used in the new and old lights differs. The damage was in cost of resetting the machines.

The contract for grading and graveling Boyd street from Sixth street to Seventh street was awarded to E. C. Terrell at 40 cents the lineal foot. Other bidders were Robert Boswell, 45 cents; Eaker and Husbands, 50 cents; W. Y. Noble, 50 cents.

The contract for grading and graveling Nineteenth street from Broadway to Guthrie avenue was awarded to E. C. Terrell for 37 1-2 cents the lineal foot. Other bidders were W. Y. Noble 57 cents; Eaker and Husbands 55 cents.

The Columbia Construction company which is putting in rails for the traction company, was permitted to use Hannon "nose brick" in reconstructing Broadway from Fourth street to Fifth street. They could not get the Puritan brick inside 60 days, while the Hannon brick is here.

Action on a request from the West Kentucky Coal company to rent wharf space to moor its docks, was deferred.

The traction company was ordered to improve streets where it has extended new tracks. The company gave a bond to put the streets back in good condition.

An application from the Jake Biederman Distillery company for a permit for an electric sign on South Second street was referred.

Improvements to surface water drainage at the city engineer's office were reported completed.

Louis Clark was granted permission to put up an electric sign in front of his grocery on South Second street.

Superintendent Keebler recommended that old material at the city lighting plant be sold.

OUR READERS APPRECIATE ADVICE

The "Vegetable Prescription" Filled Many Times in Two Weeks

No Sufferer of Kidney or Bladder Troubles or Rheumatism Should Leave It Untried.

DID YOU MIX SOME?

That the readers of this paper appreciate advice when given in good faith is plainly demonstrated by the fact that one well-known local pharmacy filled the "vegetable prescription" many times within the past two weeks. Most of these folks naturally bought the ingredients only and mixed them at home. The announcement of this simple, harmless mixture has certainly accomplished much in reducing the great many cases of kidney complaint and rheumatism here, relieving pain and misery, especially among the older population, who are always suffering more or less with bladder and urinary troubles, backache and particularly rheumatism.

Another well-known druggist asks us to continue the announcement of the prescription. It is doing so much real good here, he continues, that it would be a crime not to do so. It can be repeated too often, and further states many cases of remarkable cures wrought.

The following is the prescription, all vegetable ingredients, making a harmless, inexpensive compound, which any person can prepare by shaking well in a bottle: Fluid Extract Dandelion, one-half ounce; Compound Syrup Sarsaparilla, three ounces. Any first-class drug store will sell this small amount of each ingredient, and the dose for adults is one teaspoonful to be taken after each meal and again at bedtime. There is enough here to last for one week, if taken according to directions. Good results will be apparent from the first dose.

DISSOLVE REICHSTAG.

Threat of German Emperor if Money Does Not Come.

Berlin, Dec. 13.—Emperor William has authorized Chancellor Von Buelow to dissolve the Reichstag and order new elections, if the supplementary appropriations asked for by the government are not granted by the house.

The question of the Reichstag appropriating enough money to keep the present army in German Southwest Africa in the field is, according to the conviction of the government, equivalent to the question whether the colony shall be given up or retained. An appeal to the country, if necessary, will be made on that issue, the government's position being that if the present garrison of German Southwest Africa is reduced from 12,000 to 2,500 men, as the Center party and the Extreme Left contend should be done, the insurgent natives will obtain possession of the colony.

How They May Re-enlist.

Washington, Dec. 13.—In a special memorandum to General Ainsworth, military secretary, Secretary Taft, by direction of the president, today specified the form of procedure to be followed by the dishonorably discharged negro soldiers of the Twenty-fifth regiment who may wish to re-enlist in the army. The secretary directs that "the applicant will present to the recruiting officer such evidence in writing as he desires to show that, notwithstanding such order of discharge, he was never implicated in the murderous raid upon the town of Brownsville, nor withheld any evidence which might lead to the discovery of the perpetrators thereof. This evidence, together with the application, should be forwarded by the recruiting officers to you for the consideration and investigation of this department." Representatives of the Constitutional League from New York are here asking a congressional investigation of the discharge of the soldiers.

Latins Best in Ditch.

New York, Dec. 13.—John F. Stevens, chief engineer, and J. G. Sullivan, assistant chief engineer of the Panama canal commission, arrived today on the steamer Panama from Colon. Concerning the rumor reported from Panama Dec. 3 that he might resign from the commission, Mr. Sullivan denied the rumor that he intended resigning.

In speaking of the conditions on the isthmus Mr. Stevens said: "There are at present at work on the canal 17,000 men, 5,000 of whom are white. There are no Chinese among the workmen. The best workmen are the Italians and Spaniards. There has not been a death since July, when I went down, and very little sickness."

"Has a reformer any chance in politics?" "It all depends," answered the cold-blooded campaigner, "on whether he is set in his ways or is willing to be taught."—Washington Star.

NO JURISDICTION IN CIRCUIT COURT

To Try Violators of Sunday Laws, The Contention

Special Judge Appointed to Try Alleged Murderers of Dr. Cox and Marcum.

OWENSBORO HAS A LOCKOUT.

Frankfort, Ky., Dec. 13.—An important motion was made before the court of appeals this morning which, if granted by that court, will prevent the circuit court from taking up violations of the Sunday laws and leave the grand juries powerless to interfere. The motion was made by Attorney Benjamin Warfield, of the L. & N. railroad, who asked for a writ of prohibition to prevent Circuit Judge Peak from considering the indictments returned against the L. & N. and the Louisville & Eastern for violating the Sunday law by working on the Sabbath at Board's station, where some trouble recently took place between the two roads over an attempt of the Louisville & Eastern to lay its tracks there. Mr. Warfield claimed that the fine for the offense charged was from \$3 to \$50, and that the case was therefore beneath the jurisdiction of the circuit court. The court of appeals took the motion under advisement.

To Try the Hargis.

Frankfort, Ky., Dec. 13.—Wm. Carnes, of Grant county, was appointed special judge of the Breathitt circuit court to try the murder case of Jim and Elbert Hargis, "Bill" Britton, John Abner and John Smith. The cases grow out of the assassinations of Dr. Cox and Attorney James B. Marcum.

Lockout at Owensboro.

Owensboro, Ky., Dec. 12.—As the result of the organization of woodworkers' and wagonmakers' unions here last Saturday night, several of the largest plants in this city will cease operations for the present, as they declare they will not consent to putting the union label on their goods or to being bound by union rules. The Hickman-Everetts Wagon company has already shut down for the present, throwing 200 men out, while the Owensboro Carriage factory will stop its machinery tomorrow.

Have Narrow Escape.

Maysville, Ky., Dec. 13.—A G. & O. passenger engine struck a derrick projecting over the track last night, stripping off the bell, cab and smokestack. The engineer and fireman ducked, saving their heads from being torn off.

HAS JEROME MADE GOOD?

To the universal question, "Has Jerome made good?" a writer in the new editorial department of The American Magazine (December number) makes the following answer:

"Jerome is a fearless, honest, intelligent man, who loves his city, his state, his country and his kind. He cannot do a mean act—or a meaningless one. He has many faults. He has no tact. He talks too much. He airs his contents arrogantly, even brutally sometimes. But there is a certain relief in this in contrast to the silence of the bosses. He came into the open single-handed to fight two of as vicious machines as ever got into operation. He did it with splendid fire and force. He attacked not only the bosses, but the thing which at that moment was stirring us all—the abuse of trust funds by the insurance companies. Jerome did not control the indignation he felt in the matter any better than the rest of us. And he promised repeatedly, that if elected district attorney, he would punish somebody. He was elected, and I for one went back to my place satisfied to wait for results. I have been waiting ever since, and nothing has happened. Now I am a reasonable person. I appreciate the difficulty in making good promises made in a campaign. I don't ask their literal fulfillment. All I asked of Mr. Jerome was to convince me he was making a sincere and persistent effort to help solve the insurance problem; or, if he found he could do nothing, to explain in terms I could understand why it was. This would be making good, in my judgment."

"But Mr. Jerome did neither the one nor the other. He gave no evidence of whole-heartedness in attacking the problem. He treated contemptuously the demand to tell why he was lukewarm. The louder the clamor grew over his inactivity the more derged he became. Mr. Jerome seems to have interpreted the demand that he explain as coming solely from the sensational newspapers, and he let it be understood that they could not drive him to action or to speech. But the newspapers which

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pursued only voiced, in a hysterical way, the demand of his supporters. It was I, his friend, who did not understand his position, and felt that an explanation was due me. When it did not come, but instead there came Mr. Jerome's announcement that he would run for governor, I had no heart to work for him. What assurance had I that, if elected governor, he would do better? None whatever! The failure to make good on the insurance matter prevented Mr. Jerome's nomination at Buffalo, and the fact of having done so forced Mr. Hughes' at Saratoga.

"But his inaction and silence had a still worse effect. It unsettled belief in the possibility of accomplishing reforms through regular processes. It turned thousands of men from a belief in orderly progress. Breaking down the faith of an individual has always been counted one of the worst offenses. How shall we class breaking down the faith of a whole community in the value of its government? It was an assault on the credit of the law, and remains utterly without explanation."

Caesar was revising the calendar. "I was trying to fix it so magazines would really come out on the first of the month," he explained. Failing in this, his weakened brain took to writing poetry.—New York Sun.

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