

NAPOLÉON ACHILLE MURAT, FLORIDA'S CITIZEN PRINCE



Old Portrait of Prince Achille Murat in Tallahassee Public Library.



Photograph of Princess Murat in Tallahassee Public Library.

TALLAHASSEE, the capital of Florida, was for some years the home of Prince Napoleon Achille Murat, son of Joachim Murat, whom Napoleon made king of Naples. The prince and his wife were buried in the Episcopal cemetery of the town, and visitors to Tallahassee may still see their graves and also the house in which the princess lived before her marriage, with her parents, Col. and Mrs. Byrd Willis. The plantation of Prince Achille is near by, a portrait of the prince and a photograph of the princess are in the public library, and many white haired men and women are still living who remember the interesting, strangely assorted but devoted couple.

Among those who remember the princess with peculiar affection is Fanny Taylor, a very old negro woman, the daughter of Patsy Lee, who was the personal maid of Katherine Willis in Virginia before she went to Florida and was still her maid after her marriage.

Patsy, with several other former slaves, was remembered in the will of the princess, and Patsy's daughter still lives in a cabin near Bellevue, which was the last home of the princess. The cabin is new, but is on the site of the former cottage, in which were recently burned many historic and beautiful pieces of Murat furniture, because, as Fanny expressed it, "there was no mink about to put out the fire." The cabin is as clean as a pin, in honor perhaps of the fact that in it are gifts from royalty.

Fanny showed a recent visitor with modest but evident pride two silver teaspoons, three forks and an old fashioned twisted gold brooch given to her mother by Princess Murat. From a wash cloth of finest birdseye linen hemmed with almost invisible stitches, and the last one ever used by the princess, Fanny unfolded two locks of gray hair, one of the mistress and one of the maid. The last and most cherished possession displayed was a small photograph of the princess taken during the latter years of her life.

Of both the prince and princess their former slave remembers many interesting incidents. One of these was the well known anecdote of how during an absence of the princess the prince dyed all the household linen, the lingerie of the princess and every dress that the servants did not hide from him a vivid pink. The dye used, tradition says, was pokeberry juice.

On another occasion he invited a Tallahassee friend to stay for dinner, urging the fact that he had killed a "turkey buzzard" and was having it cooked. A sadist pudding was another of the odd culinary conceits remembered against him.

Nothing could have been more royally brilliant than the prince's first 20 years nor more democratically dull than the last 20 years of his life.

He was last 20 years old when Napoleon made Joachim Murat king of Naples; and as he heir to the throne little Achille was known as the prince royal of the Two Sicilies and with his younger brother, Lucien, spent a pampered childhood at the court which his father and mother established.

When Achille was fourteen years old his father and Napoleon became estranged, and at this most inopportune time the king of Naples also lost the loyalty of his Italian subjects. In an effort to regain his power by force he was captured and executed and his wife and sons were sent as prisoners to Austria.

It was after several years of wanderings over Europe that Prince Murat drifted to America at the age of twenty, and it was in Florida that he spent most of the remainder of his short life. When Colonel Murat, as he was called by most of his American

friends, arrived in Tallahassee the belle of Florida was Katherine Willis Gray, a young widow who lived with her father, Col. Byrd Willis, who had sought and made his fortune in the new territory of Florida.

Mrs. Gray had married a Scotsman at the age of fifteen and was left a widow at sixteen, and as her child also died she returned to live with her parents at Willis hall, near Fredericksburg, Va., and accompanied them when they moved to Florida. The Willis home in Tallahassee on South Monroe street, near the capitol, was a center of the social life of the state.

The beauty and charm of the young Virginia widow, who was then only twenty-two years old, immediately captivated the son of Caroline Bonaparte and his courtship seems to have been as ardent as might be expected from a temperamental Frenchman. However, the young woman was not only beautiful and wealthy, but her mother was Mary Lewis, a niece of George Washington, and not even the dazzling fact that Colonel Murat's mother was a sister of Napoleon could blind the eyes of the blue blood of Virginia to the knowledge that his father, Joachim Murat, was the son of an obscure innkeeper.

Beside which the prince was eccentric to a degree that was almost ill bred. He spoke a burlesque of the English language and was perhaps easily affected, but certainly often affected, by wine. He was, however, an intensely interesting companion, and was eagerly sought socially and valued as a sincere and unchanging friend.

returned with his wife to his American freedom.

During a year's stay in London the beauty and the charming personality of the princess made a great impression among English nobility, and they were of real financial assistance to members of the exiled Bonaparte family, especially Louis Napoleon, the cousin of Prince Achille. The following year Prince Louis Napoleon came to America expecting to visit his "Cousin Kate" and "Cousin Achille" at their southern home, but he was recalled from New York by the illness of his mother.

The prince, with his active mind, became at one time very much interested in the study of law, to which he devoted his entire time and quickly mastered it. He was admitted to the bar in New Orleans and formed a partnership with Mr. Garnier, and for several years made his home in the congenial French city, where he divided his time between his beautiful town house and a large sugar plantation which he bought on the Mississippi river. Not understanding the culture of cane, he lost a great deal of money, but learned at the same time a great deal about the people and their life, which he recalls in his books on America.

Returning to the ever cherished neighborhood of Tallahassee the prince and princess spent a number of years at Econohatchie, another of their plantations, and it was then that the fighting blood of the Bonapartes was aroused by the continuous outrages of the Indians, and the prince in command of a regiment fought with Americans for American rights.

The prince was a brave and daring soldier, quick, firm and resourceful, but his wife proved herself a mate worthy of a Bonaparte by following him through every peril of the campaign, nursing him through an almost fatal case of fever and remaining with him until the bloody little war was over.

At lovely Econohatchie, with its giant live oak trees hung with long gray moss and the whole world about it fragrant with flowers, Prince Achille Murat died April 15, 1847, and it was at Econohatchie that his widow spent the summers during the twenty years she survived him. She died August 6, 1867.

Bellevue, just two miles from Tallahassee, is more closely associated with the princess after the death of Prince Murat. She bought the place and with her favorite slaves settled there to spend the remainder of her life. It is a pretty white cottage of four immense high pitched rooms, set on a beautiful hill overlooking Tallahassee to the east. An oleander lined walk leads from the road to the doorway, and all about the house are enormous magnolia trees, covered most of the year with big white blossoms, red berried holly trees and grapefruit trees which at all seasons are beautiful with either fragrant waxy blossoms or pale yellow fruit.

The entertainments given by the princess at Bellevue were noted all over the south for their lavish hospitality, and were enhanced perhaps in interest by the service of solid gold and the imperial livery of the Bonapartes. The privilege of using the red and gold livery was bestowed with \$40,000 on his "Cousin Kate" by Louis Napoleon after he had become emperor.

In the cottage were also a marble bust of Caroline Bonaparte, many exquisite pieces of French furniture and other handsome gifts presented to her by Napoleon when, with the other members of the Bonaparte family, she went to Paris for his coronation. On many occasions she was selected by him for especial honors and welcomed as a princess of France.

On one occasion she was invited to a court function at the Tuilleries and was told that she would know her position at table by the rank of the person with whom she went in to dinner. As one after the other of the dignitaries present passed out before her to dinner her heart sank at the sight of the few nonentities left. Her unaffected surprise and delight greatly pleased the emperor when he himself came quickly in, offered her his arm and seated her beside him at the table.

The emperor was never tired of listening to the animated stories of his American cousin and he and Eugenie begged her to make her home in France, but Mme. Murat could not forget the friends left in Florida and that many plantations and slaves needed her personal attention, so she returned to America and to Bellevue.

When the close of the war left Mme. Murat penniless, although possessed of thousands of acres of fertile farm lands, and she and her several hundred slaves faced starvation, the emperor came to her assistance and gave her a large yearly income, on which she not only lived in great comfort but with which she did a vast deal of charity, helping many stricken families and friends in Florida and Virginia.

Mme. Murat made another visit to Paris in 1866, where she spent a year in an effort to regain her falling health. She became seriously ill on her return and after a long illness at Bellevue she went to Econohatchie, where she died.

The Powers saw and trembled for fear that he might be able to enlist soldiers enough to restore his family to their former thrones, and his regiment was disbanded. Prince Achille made a memorable address to his men, speaking to them in seven different languages, one after another, and then

ing somewhat pensively at the gift, the czar asked him what he was thinking about. The artist replied that he was thinking of the time it would take to color the pipe—probably five years.

Learning that the artist would not be leaving the country for fifteen days, the czar took the pipe back again, and sent it to the Palace guard-house, where the following "order of the day" was issued:

"Under pain of the knout none must smoke any other pipe but this. All

the necessary tobacco will be supplied."

The Cossacks went cheerfully at the job day and night, and at the end of the fortnight the pipe was returned to its owner, inscribed:

"Colored in fifteen days by order of Nicholas, Emperor."

Liquidating Accounts.

"The world owes a great deal to medical science, don't you think?"

"Oh, I dunno. Every once in a while it seems somebody pays up."

In Grip of an Octopus.

A naval diver at Toulon was suddenly attacked by a giant octopus while under water in the harbor. He gave the hoisting signal and was hauled to the surface, together with the octopus, whose tentacles, said to be 25 feet long, were wrapped around him. The diver was unconscious. The octopus held fast to the diver until it was stabbed to death. It weighed 135 pounds and the suckers on its tentacles were as big as five-shilling pieces.

"Lordy, Rastus, why don't you let 'em suspenders out, as I tells you? Be-fo' long youah feet won't touch de groun'!"—Pennsylvania Punch Bowl.

SPIES AT CAPITAL

Guards and Doorkeepers Serve No Purpose.

Recent Theft of the Plans for New Battleship Not an Isolated Case—Big Business Interests Seek "Inside Information."

Washington.—The flurry occasioned here recently by the disclosure of the fact that certain tracings of the plans for the projected new battleship Pennsylvania had been stolen from the navy department served to enliven a dull period and add a note of excitement to the waning discussion of the California-Japanese "crisis."

The officials of the navy department seem entirely in good faith in their declaration that the missing tracings are of comparatively small importance, and do not disclose any "naval secrets" which would be of value to anybody.

The experience has been a valuable one, if only because it has brought to notice a condition of carelessness and loose management making it possible for any person in or out of the department to peruse papers or other things of value. The same is true of nearly all of the departments. The corridors of all the public buildings are lined with so-called doorkeepers and messengers; more than would be needed to guard the treasures of royalty. Generally speaking, they serve no purpose whatever except to multiply the annoyance of persons having legitimate business in the department. Right under the noses of this horde of hangers on, and of regiments of clerks—to say nothing of bureau chiefs—informed of supposed value is taken, and no one the wiser.

Evidently the drawing first stolen was disappointing; for several weeks later a duplicate, presumably in a more finished condition, was stolen from the same room.

And there have been other thefts since of things of lesser value, but all contributing to indicate that some one within the navy department was carefully locked and a force of detectives was set to work to watch every person who might have access to the place.

It is typical of the present state of the public mind that there should be all this furor over a thing of this kind, affecting the subject of war. The theft of a so-called "military secret" is received with a gusto attaching to no other kind of theft. Espionage of forts and ships and such like is no doubt a terrible thing, and the foreign "spy" or domestic traitor who does it should be forthwith arrested and visited with dire penalties.

Yet upon second thought one wonders of what special use it would be to a foreign naval commander to know, however minutely, the system of electric wiring on the ship with which he was going forth to do battle. With which of his heavy guns will he aim so accurately as to cut the slender nerve that controls the forward turret or all the turrets of the enemy? Gunbery has attained remarkable perfection, no doubt; but hardly has it reached the point where the location of wires becomes a part of the curriculum of the gunner.

As for the general plan and construction of the battleship, everything practical that one could learn from drawings may be observed by any visitor upon the beautifully accurate models of the ships of the United States navy which line the corridors of the navy department and afford material for the eloquence of a score of guides.

It is most likely that some poor creature in one of the navy department bureaus saw in these drawings for the Pennsylvania, so ready to his hand and unprotected by even the most superficial system of care, a chance to peddle supposedly valuable secrets to the naval attaché of some foreign embassy. In any club of Washington you can hear plausible tales of this sort of thing, the nation of the alleged offender varying with the nationality of the narrator.

Now, you must be careful of the celery you eat. Almost everything else edible has been condemned or officially "suspected" at one time or another, but celery has managed to escape up to this time. Now the department of agriculture has discovered that there is copper in lots of celery, and has issued a warning to housewives to give it a good washing before putting it on the table.

The copper comes from a spray used by the farmers to kill bugs. The department says:

"The use of salts of copper in food products was decided by the referee board to be deleterious to health. Under food inspection decision, 148 and 149, the importation of canned fruits and canned vegetables greened with copper has been stopped. This is parallel to the laws of France, where the use of copper vessels is forbidden in packing food products."

"The proof of the presence of copper in raw celery was obtained by analysis of samples offered for sale in the markets of the District of Columbia and other cities. Analysis of four different samples of celery showed that before washing the edible part of the outside stalks contained from 9.1 to 29.2 parts of copper per million, or less than one-sixth to one-half of copper per two and one-quarter pounds of celery."

"The copper in the inside or heart of stalks was much smaller in amount

Dense Air Magnifies Sound.

It is said that a man in a balloon may lower an explosive on a cord several hundred feet below his basket and set it off with an electric wire and battery. There is a sharp little "crack" like the report of a flobert rifle, then comes the most terrifying noise, like a great burst of thunder, the loudest ever heard. The actual explosion did not make anywhere near this amount of noise, but the air being much more dense below causes the line of least resistance to be straight up, and so

and ranged from 3.3 to 10.3 parts per million. In the leaves of the celery, however, which are parts of the plant especially sprayed with bordeaux mixture, there were found from 157.6 to 288.4 parts of copper per million parts. The chemists found that most of the copper in the inner and outer stalks disappeared on washing."

The United States Treasury handed in actual cash during the fiscal year ended June 30 the stupendous sum of \$7,071,520,000, breaking all records and stamping the federal treasury, officials declare, as the greatest banking institution in the world.

Reflecting the tremendous growth of the government's business, this high record, including income, outgo and operations within the treasury, exceeded the cash transactions of the previous year by \$169,769,000, and those of three years ago by \$1,478,826,000. The figures show that treasury officials during the year just closed handled in cash nearly twice the amount of the total stock of money in the United States, which is estimated at \$3,720,000,000.

Including bonds, checks and warrants, the treasury handled over \$10,000,000,000 during the year. This vast aggregation of wealth, which does not include the transactions of the subtreasuries, was handled, it was pointed out, without the loss of a cent to the government.

The receiving teller of the government took in over the counter \$75,353,000 during the year; the paying teller cashed \$118,177,000 in checks and warrants; the shipping teller sent \$884,518,000 to various parts of the country, and the "change teller" made "small change" for more than \$50,000,000. The government received for redemption during the year \$306,666,000 in time-worn United States currency and \$675,889,000 in national bank notes.

Not a few of the president's visitors from the upper branch of congress call upon President Wilson to make strong kicks against provisions in the pending tariff bill which hurt their constituents. Officials at the White house assert that they do not believe senators fear President Taft as much as they did President Wilson.

Senator Taylor of Tennessee was one of President Taft's visitors who was always welcome. There was one time, however, when Senator Taylor went to the White house that he did not go in to see the president. It was the day after the Democrats and insurgents in the senate had united to pass a wool bill.

Senator Taylor felt that the president might be just a little irritated, because there was no gainsaying the fact that some little politics had been played in that alliance. Moreover, Senator Taylor is tactful. He put his head in the main door of the executive office, looked around suspiciously, and asked the assembled newspaper men:

"How are things going this morning?"

"The president has wool in his teeth. He can certainly eat 'em alive," answered a reporter.

"Oh, I didn't have any business with him this morning and must hustle up to the capitol," said the senator meekly, and quickly vanished.

Boys Pick Up Gold.

The gold fever has hit Capitol hill and the small boys of the neighborhood of the library of congress spend the idle summer hours waiting for bits of gold to drop from the dome of the beautiful building.

This massive gold dome, which cost \$50,000, is peeling its golden sides and the gold leaf fairly covers the grass below the dome.

An appropriation will be made by congress for money to regild the dome and then the golden shower will be stopped.

Diogenes' Quarry.

Assistant Secretary of the Navy Roosevelt believes he has found the most honest man in the country. He is A. W. Wechsler of Watertown, N. Y.

Recently Mr. Roosevelt received a letter from the Watertown man, inclosing a lead pencil. This is what the letter said:

"Inclosed find your pencil, which you left on my news stand when you wrote your telegram."

Corrects Geographical Error.

Knud Rasmussen, the young Danish explorer, has made the important discovery that the so-called Peary channel at the northern end of Greenland does not exist, and that Peary Land is not an island, but a portion of Greenland. Rasmussen started on his expedition on July 10, 1910. He is a native of Greenland, the son of a Danish clergyman and a pure-blooded Eskimo. From infancy the explorer has spoken Eskimo, and has devoted much study to the language philologically, so that he knows it better, perhaps, than any other person. As a youth he undertook voyages in Scandinavia, the Faroe islands and Iceland.

Too Busy.

Gotham—How many buttons has your wife got on the back of that dress?

Flatbush—Oh, I'm sure I don't know. Gotham—Why, you've buttoned it up for her often enough, haven't you?

Flatbush—Oh, yes, a hundred times!

Gotham—And you don't know how many buttons are there?

Flatbush—No, when I've been buttoning it up I've been too confounded busy to count the buttons!

The sound waves expand mightily in an upward direction, increasing the sound.

Real Nuisance.

Patience—A German scientist believes he has found a cure for the smoke nuisance in cutting a number of windows in a chimney which admit air to mix with the smoke and dilute it until it issues from the top of the chimney very light in color.

Patrice—I can't see how that's going to prevent the cigarette nuisance.

SMART HATS IN BLACK AND WHITE



NOTHING smarter than the black and white checked tailored suits has been developed this season. They are the perfection of tasteful cut in simple, graceful lines, and made up with a perfection of workmanship which is possible only when machines lend their precision in the process of manufacture. Now that designers use so much of the effects to be obtained only by mechanical work, we find the tailored gown indebted to machine stitching for much of its style.

To be worn with this trig costume the "tailored hat" makes its appearance every season, sure of the earliest welcome and the most lasting favor. Two of the very latest of this most satisfactory headwear are shown here, developed in satin. One shows a brim lifting at the side and faced with black while the body of the hat is satin of a sunny whiteness. There is no trimming except a pair of black and white wings mounted with a rosette of feathers. They are out-spread as in flight. This hat is so full of style that it will lend distinction to the plainest of gowns.

One of the new sailors is shown developed in black satin which lies smooth to the frame. It is finished with a pair of wings simulated in satin and posed at the back of the hat. The shape is graceful with an elongated crown and a very slight droop to the brim.

JULIA BOTTOMLEY.

VANITY CASES OF ODD DESIGN

Manufacturers Have Devised Many New Ideas for This Indispensable Appendage.

The vanity case has become so much a part of a woman's outfit that the manufacturers are discovering many odd ways for her to carry it. To take one's powder puff and lip rouge from one's handbag has become commonplace; now a woman can tuck these in her bracelet. One of the new kind has flexible links of gold wire, with the vanity box on top in the shape of an oval medallion with a handsome monogram.

Or she can wear it around her neck as a sautoir. Fascinating vanity pendants are shown of all styles and prices, from tiny ones of French jewelry to diamond studded boxes no bigger than a child's locket. Among the most popular of the vanity cases for the neck are those of colored Russian enamel on a linked chain to match.

Again, one may carry a vanity box on the end of the parasol, or as the head of a big hatpin, disguised as a charm for her chateleine, or even set in one of the big buttons that ornament her corsage draperies. One girl, who wore a watch on the back of one riding glove, had set in the other a small vanity case ready for instant use when she dismounted. Another girl has a similar case in the end of her crop.

The new opera bags include a vanity box, and those that do not may be supplied with them by small pockets sewed to the interior of them.

VEIL ADDS MUCH TO EFFECT

Selection of Material and Its Adjustment Are Matters of the Utmost Importance.

One reason why the French woman—aristocrat or bourgeois—invariably looks so smart, is because of the care with which she selects and puts on her veil. Just now she is wearing with her tailored hat a complexion veil of flesh-colored fine maline which, from a short distance does not show at all, and which makes her skin seem of dazzling fairness. On this veil, in the center of a threadlike flower spray or leaf pattern in self tone, is embroidered a "beauty" spot in black, and the strip of gauze is adjusted so that the spot strikes the face wherever it most becomes it—on one cheek, on the chin or at one corner of the mouth. This complexion veil, like many of those in all-over chenille-dotted or small hexagon mesh, is drawn closely about the face and its ends tucked neatly away under the hat's brim at the back.

Craquele meshes in either bold or modest floral or scroll pattern, Shetland and Chantilly lace veils, are worn with elaborate hats about which they are draped in a flowing, loose manner and their ends allowed to fall gracefully over the back of the figure.

Egyptian Basket.

A reddish brown wicker basket, padded and lined with light brown satin, makes a lovely gift to the graduate or bride, if it contains an exquisitely hand-painted, cut-glass bottle of Egyptian bouquet perfume, and a small satin pad of Egyptian bouquet sachet powder, attached to the handle of the basket by means of narrow satin ribbon. The basket itself will prove a permanent ornament to the dressing table, as a convenient receptacle for trinkets, owing to its padded satin bed.

Traveler's Hint.

Some women, who find the suit case of conventional size often larger than is needed for a short stay, buy the size sold for children's use. These are much easier to carry, and are often amply sufficient. Women going on a long trip will find the little case a great convenience to hold a few belongings for a considerable absence from the supply trunk.

Pretty Baby Caps.

Use white lace allover, and draw the fullness in at the back with ribbon run through a tiny hem. Edge the bonnet with a lace ruffle, and make long strings of fine lace insertion about three inches wide.

Armhole Finish.

An excellent way to finish armholes in a fine lingerie blouse is to sew the sleeves in by machine; then button-hole around the edges with either a coarse thread or soft floss.

SOLDIERS ENJOYED THE WORK

Meerschmum Quickly Colored When Autocrat of All the Russias issued His Orders.

A European contemporary tells an entertaining story of how a pipe was colored "by order of the czar." An artist, who had spent some years in Russia, received as a parting gift from the czar (Nicholas I.) an enormous meerschmum mounted with diamonds. Noticing that the recipient was look-

Almost Nubile Age.

The family had called the other evening. One of them, a man approaching if not actually entering middle age, hero of many a social season but still eligible, amused himself by chaffing the ten-year-old daughter of the house. It appeared that the children had missed seeing the Fourth of July fireworks in the park, by reason of the weather's inclement appearance on that evening, to their great and fully-expressed disappointment then and thereafter. "Never mind, Martha,"

said the giddy bachelor, "I'll make an engagement right now to take you to see the fireworks next Fourth." The ten-year-old eyed him unsmilingly. Her face was grave with the shrewdness of generation on generation of calculating females. "Well," she said, "I guess I'll be old enough by then."

Growing Pickaninny.

"Lordy, Rastus, why don't you let 'em suspenders out, as I tells you? Be-fo' long youah feet won't touch de groun'!"—Pennsylvania Punch Bowl.