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Title Goes Begging

American May Be Heir To Barony Of Manchester.

Somewhere in the United States there may be a man named Pennington or descended from a family of that name who has an ancient title with a castle and large estates awaiting him in England.

Sir Josslyn Francis Pennington, Baron Muncaster, died the other day and left no known men relatives. The only persons who can prove a valid claim to the title must be descended from a Capt. Joseph Pennington, who died in America about the time of the close of the Revolutionary War.

A search was made for an American heir to the title some years ago, when the fifth Baron Muncaster was growing old. None was found, but it is likely the hunt will be renewed now. The Penningtons date back to 1242 when they first became owners of estates in Furness. Sir John de Pennington was the loyal friend of the unfortunate Henry VI.

When the luckless Henry had been defeated at the battle of Hexham in 1463, he fled over the Northumbrian borders, in the direction of Eskdale. Some shepherds found the fugitive King, and conducted him to Muncaster Castle. He had been there as a guest two years before. On this occasion, when leaving the castle, he made a present to Sir John de Pennington of violet glass bowl, which has become historic. It was to be a mascot to the house. On the tomb of Sir John, in the little churchyard by the castle, the story is thus set forth to the world:

"Kinge Harry gave Syr John a brauve workyd glass cuppe," with his word before "yat whylls the famylie shold keep it unbroken thei shold gratefully thirf," and never lack a male heir.

That cup, reverently preserved, is still at Muncaster, and still unbroken. But the "Luck of Muncaster" has not, unfortunately, been fulfilled. For an heir is now wanting to the estate. At Muncaster the cup has been reverently but not superstitiously treasured, and in memory of the royal visit so long ago the room King Henry occupied has been kept intact. It is still called the King's room and contains the massive oak bedstead on which he slept.

Lord Muncaster was 83, having been born on Christmas Day, 1834. After leaving Eton he entered the army, and at 20 he was serving in the Crimea with the Ninetieth Light Infantry. He saw service in the trenches before Sebastopol and took part in two attacks on the Sedan, being one of the storming party.

A terrible sorrow befell Lord Muncaster early in 1870. In 1863 he had married Miss Constance L'Estrange, a niece of the seventh Earl of Scarborough, and, being fond of travel, they made extensive tours in the East. They were in Athens when a trip was arranged to visit the historic Plain of Marathon. The party comprised Lord and Lady Muncaster, Edward Lloyd, barrister; Mrs. Lloyd and child; Fredrick Grantham Vyner, brother of the late Marchioness of Ripon; Edward Herbert, nephew of the third Earl of Carnarvon and Count Albert de Boyl, secretary to the Italian Legation. Returning

from Marathon, they were surprised and captured by a band of brigands. All of them were roughly used at first but before nightfall the women and children were released, while the men were taken into the mountain fastnesses.

The capture occurred April 11, and on the following day the brigands decided to allow one of the captives to proceed to Athens to negotiate a ransom. Their terms were \$150,000 gold, a free pardon for present and past outrages, and liberation of certain brigands then in custody.

Lots were drawn to determine who should go to Athens to arrange these terms. The lucky straw fell to Mr. Vyner. With splendid self-sacrifice Mr. Vyner, being unmarried, urged Lord Muncaster, to take his place, which he did. On April 13 he left the stronghold, with the final threat ringing in his ears that if any pursuit were attempted the captives would be murdered. Apparently the Greek Government gave a distinct promise that all costs the men should be released, while they were at the same time planning the dispatch of troops to surround the brigands, thinking lightly of the threat that the captives would be murdered.

Spies in Athens apprised the brigands of what was being done, they rushed their prisoners father into the mountains, and April 21 Mr. Herbert and Count de Boyl were shot, and on April 22 Mr. Vyner and Mr. Lloyd. For some nine or ten days intense excitement had prevailed in Britain and when the fatal news came the feeling against the Greek Government was intense, and was by no means relieved by the further tidings that most of the brigands had been killed or brought to Athens for execution.

Lord Muncaster never quite threw off the gloom of this terrible tragedy. For years he was never seen to smile. To commemorate his English companions, and especially Mr. Vyner, he erected a costly window in his church near the castle.—Baltimore Sun.

Service Flag.

Our townsman, J. C. Cawood, has, at his house, a service flag showing his contribution to the war in the person of his two sons. A service flag is brick-shaped, with a red border about its four sides and having a white center, on which are sewed stars equal in number to the men who have gone from any certain family, house, office building, business corporation or other sources, each single star representing one officer or soldier.

With its large contribution to the armies and navy of the United States, Big Stone Gap would make a brave, martial showing, if such flags were flown all over town where they may rightfully be displayed. The Minor building, for instance would need a large one, and many a home would be entitled to such a flag with one or more stars.

Letter to Santa Clause.

Big Stone Gap, Va. Dec. 3. Dear Santa Clause:

I will write you a letter to tell you what I want. I want you to bring me a drum that will make my pa sick and drive my mama crazy. I want a train that will run around the room. I want a nice rubber ball to smash all into flinders the great big mirror in the hall, and lots and lots of other things. Master John G. Long.

TO PREVENT HOARDING OF COAL.

State Administrator Byrd has announced the following rules governing the distribution of coal, in effect immediately:

1. No person shall be allowed to buy coal from retailers in Virginia or direct from the mines for household purposes until his supply on hand at his home, or elsewhere, is two tons or less.

2. Providing that any person has not more than two tons of coal on hand, such person shall be allowed to purchase for household use not more than two tons.

3. Every coal dealer shall require each purchaser of coal of more than four bushels to sign a written statement under oath, showing the amount of coal on hand at his home, and elsewhere, and how much he has ordered but not received.

4. Every such purchaser shall be required to pledge himself not to buy, or attempt to buy, any more coal until his supply of coal at home, and elsewhere for home use, shall be two tons or less.

5. Schools, colleges, office buildings, apartment houses, hotels, department stores, and other business houses and industrial plants without Government contracts, who obtain coal by wagon delivery in less than carload lots, are not permitted to buy coal until they have on hand at their place of business, or elsewhere, not over fifteen days' supply. They shall then be permitted to purchase coal for fifteen days' additional supply. Industrial plants requiring coal in carload lots will be classified and allowed to obtain coal by special order of the State Administrator.

6. Every person purchasing for the institutions and concerns mentioned in Rule 5, shall make a statement, under oath, showing the amount of coal on hand at his place of business, and elsewhere, and how much he has ordered elsewhere, but not received; and further, shall pledge said institution or concern that it will not buy any more coal until the amount on hand available shall be fifteen days' supply.

7. Coal dealers are requested to make the amounts of coal supplied less than the amount mentioned above wherever, in their opinion, necessities of the community permit.

H. F. BYRD.

Federal Fuel Administrator for Virginia.

Mr. Byrd, in announcing this rule said:

"In order to avert the threatened coal famine in Virginia, it is imperative that the most equitable distribution possible be made of the available supply. Consumers favorably situated will not be permitted to obtain coal when others are unable to obtain it. For this reason I think it necessary to limit coal for household consumption to a maximum of four tons on hand at all times. With the proper distribution no one need fear that he will suffer for lack of coal. Our coal distribution, however, must at once be put on a war basis and equitably distributed to all consumers. There is going to be a square deal in coal in Virginia. Those people who have hoarded up coal will not be benefited as in case of shortage such coal will be commandeered and used to prevent suffering among those who have been unable to obtain their supply.

"I appeal to all patriotic Virginians to assist in complying with these regulations. They are imperatively necessary at this crisis."

Executive Meeting

Of Federated Leagues of Wise County.

A meeting of the executive committee of the Federated Leagues was held on Thursday afternoon, November 15th at 2:00 o'clock at the home of Mrs. W. W. Kemp in Norton. Those present were Mrs. Cuido Heuser, president; Mrs. R. T. Irvine, vice president; Mrs. R. W. Holby, secretary; Mrs. W. W. Kemp treasurer; Mrs. E. E. Goodloe, chairman executive committee; Mrs. J. L. McCormick, Big Stone Gap, Mrs. Sizer, Coeburn, Mrs. Dunley, Toms Creek, Mrs. Grear, St. Paul, Mrs. Alexander, Imboden, Miss Jane Morgan, county nurse, Appalachia, Mrs. L. O. Pettit, Big Stone Gap.

The session was called to order by Mrs. Heuser. The first business taken up was the report of Miss Morgan for October which shows she has done very effective follow up work at the Pound, Blackwood, Roaring Fork, Inman and Imboden. She is now in Appalachia. The Federation reported she was giving entire satisfaction in her work. The Federation procured a Ford runabout for her from Archdeacon Rich, which they have put in running condition at an expense of \$54.33 to facilitate her getting over the county more easily. The Federation reported \$1200 on hand and effort is being made to raise \$300 more for Miss Morgan's expenses. Motion was made and carried to increase Miss Morgan's salary to \$125.00 per month beginning November. The amount she was receiving not sufficient to cover living and transportation expenses. An effort is being made to secure a telephone for Miss Morgan. The treasurer was instructed to pay bill for repairs on car. Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. Grear and Mrs. McCormick were appointed to raise additional money needed for Miss Morgan's salary.

Mrs. Grear reported a subscription of \$25.00 for Federation given by St. Paul club. Mrs. Heuser, team manager, in the Food Conservation Campaign, reported Wise County led the state and Big Stone Gap the town in the county. The women of the Federation did splendid work throughout the county. A letter was read from Miss Randolph. Motion was made and carried to publish this letter.

Dear Miss Heuser:

Just a line to acknowledge your letter, and thank you for your cooperation. You have a right big problem in tuberculosis in Wise, and it is a comfort to know that you women will help on it. I hope we can have some clinics in Wise this year. I am anxious for your Executive Committee to keep the central agency, because 20 of your men were rejected because of this disease, and there are one or two of them, I am sure, who need your help.

I shall not pester you with letters. This is to acknowledge both of yours. We are only too glad to pay the expenses of the trip to Wise, and we think you are more than returning it by an active Seal Campaign which will not only return the dollars and cents, but which will also return in interest and co-operation the little effort I put into that wonderful drive across your mountains.

Cordially yours,

Agnes W. Randolph

The seals taken for this year to help in the tubercular work are, as follows: Big Stone Gap, 5000; Appalachia, 3000; St. Paul

2000; Imboden, 600; East Stone Gap, 1000; Coeburn, 3000; Wise, 2000; Norton, 5000.

Mrs. Irvine said that Mrs. Ransom suggested that Miss Morgan have an advisory committee to assist her. This committee was left to the discretion of the president. Motion was made and carried that we take up rescue work as women. Mrs. Irvine read a letter from Mr. Coultts in Manufacturers Record, which is most encouraging to the Federation, and the kind and laudable things he attributes to the League is much appreciated. The following resolutions will be sent to our senator and representative in House of Legislature: Resolved that the General Assembly of Virginia be petitioned to enlarge the Tuberculosis Sanitarium at Catawba to at least double its present capacity, in order to meet the urgent needs of those in our state, who are suffering from the White Plague: Resolved further that a copy of this resolution be sent to our representative in the State Senate and in the House of Delegates with the request that it be laid before the respective bodies for consideration.

No further business coming for discussion and action the meeting adjourned.

Chairman of Publicity.

Perhaps it wouldn't make any difference to the imperial government if the enemy does capture the fatherland. The Kaiser could transfer himself and his dynasty to Turkey and continue his plans for worldwide development and domination.

U. S. Soldiers are in Need.

Women of the Gap, members of the Red Cross, are urged to work, surgical dressings and hospital garments must be supplied. Your sons and your neighbor's sons are going to be wounded. They'll need the dressings. Are we women to fail when we are called upon? No. Go every Thursday and Saturday to the work room and be a worker.

Our men are in need. Will the women refuse to answer their appeal from the front and from the camp? No. Then make bandages and sew. Since our last shipment, the last of October we have only made 16 pairs of operating socks, one bath robe, five operating gowns, 15 bed shirts, six dozen triangular bandages, three dozen crinoline bandages. Only a few women are working and very little work can be turned out in that way.

We women will have to win this war and this war MUST be won.

WORKER.

Community Meeting.

On Friday night a community meeting will be held at the school house, where a program of interest will be given. It is hoped to have these occasional meetings for the up-building of more community spirit, and especially for the sake of recreation with our children. Fathers are urged to come and help to create a new school interest, as well as the mothers and children.

NOTICE

The Southern Railway Company has made application to the State Corporation Commission for Authority to make the following increases in its rates on coal and coke, carloads:

To	V. & S. W. Southern Ry. (Appalachia Division) See Note 1		Interstate Railroad See Note 2		N. & W. in connection with V. & S. W.			
	Pres	Prop	Pres	Prop	Brice, Marion, Miners, Banner, Pine	Wise, Va. - Ky. Mines	See Note 1	See Note 1
Bristol, Va.	75	85	75	85	75	85	75	85
Southern Ry. Stations								
Bristol and St. Charles								
St. Charles, Va.	25	40	25	40	25	90	25	95
Manass, Va.	25	40	25	40	25	90	25	95
Keokee Junction, Va.	25	40	25	40	25	90	25	95
Imboden, Va.	25	40	25	40	25	90	25	95
Appalachia, Va.	225	240	—	—	—	—	—	—
Big Stone Gap, Va.	25	40	25	40	—	—	—	—
Elverton, Va.	225	240	25	40	—	—	—	—
Conside, Va.	70	80	70	80	70	80	70	80
Oreton, Va.	70	80	70	80	70	80	70	80
Harvey, Va.	70	80	70	80	70	80	70	80
Jasper, Va.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Duffield, Va.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sunbright, Va.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Clinchport, Va.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spicer's Ferry, Va.	75	85	75	85	75	85	75	85
Gate City, Va.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Moccasin, Gap, Va.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hilton, Va.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mendota, Va.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Benham, Va.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mountain, Va.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

NOTE 1—N. & W. mines: Pine, Bamervain, Marion Mines, Brice, Oranno, Va., and Ky. Jet., Wise, Terminal Jet., Va. City Colliery Co.'s, Sidling, Va.

NOTE 2—The rate on Coke from Toms Creek, Va., will be 10 cents per ton higher, both present and proposed, than rates on coal shown under this heading.

Further, the same petitioner asks authority to advance to \$5.00 per car the present charge of \$2.00 per car on coal, carloads, from mining operations located at St. Charles, Va., to washery at Pocket, Va.

Hearing in this matter will be held before the State Corporation Commission at Richmond, Va., on the 11th day of December, 1917, at 10 o'clock a. m., at which time any protests, facts or arguments may be presented to the Commission for its consideration.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY.

NOTICE

The Southern Railway Company and Norfolk & Western Railway Company have made application to the State Corporation Commission for authority to make increases of ten (10) cents per ton of 2000 pounds over the present freight rates on coal, in carloads, from mines in the Appalachian District, including mines on the Interstate Railroad, and Toms Creek, Va., to stations on the Norfolk & Western Railway, Roanoke, Va., and west thereof, including branch lines, and stations on the Virginia Carolina Railway, via Bristol.

Further, the same petitioners ask the authority of the Commission to increase the freight rates on coke, in car loads, as follows: from points in the Appalachian District, including points, on the Interstate Railroad, to the stations named, on the Norfolk & Western Railway:

To	—Rates Per Ton of 2000 Pounds	
	Present	Proposed
East Radford, Va.	\$ 60	\$1.30
Ivanhoe, Va.	1.05	1.30
Max Meadows, Va.	1.85	1.30
Plasterco, Va.	1.00	1.15
Pulaski, Va.	85	1.25
Saltsville, Va.	1.00	1.15

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SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY.

NORFOLK & WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY.