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### BJORNSTJERNE

BJORNSON

WRITES A REMARKABLE LETTER TO CAPTAIN DREYFUS.

The Great Norwegian Writer Evidently Gave His Pen Free Swing When He Wrote the Epistle Translated From a Recent Issue of the Vienna Neue Freie Presse.

Bjornstjerne Bjornson, the great Norwegian writer, addressed an open letter in the German language to The remarkable document, published in a recent issue of The Neue Freie Presse in Vienna, is in-

translation-

"I am one of those perhaps few who said to himself and others from the first moment, that is, when I read of your degradation: Thus acts a man who is strong in his in-nocence. For this reason I waited and waited that your case should come up again. I never saw a French uniform but that it was darkened by your misfortune. I suffered with you in wakeful nights; I worked for you in my surroundings; I formed a small Dreyfus congregation while I waited. Since Lazare's first book I have followed all movements and changes in your case. I read everything that brought light. First the entire Zola trial; then everything that led to revision, the proceedings before the court of cassation, the proceedings the new court-martial - all this I followed in extenso.

"I know all the acting persons. I believe I can see which witnesses against you became perjurers, which are blind fanatics and which carry a blockhead under their hat. But the most miserable aspect is furnished by those braves who have been misled

by scoundrels. The French conceit which Tacitus found extraordinary and which beyond doubt has contributed most to the misfortune of France is also the principal cause of your misfortune, my dear Captain Dreyfus. It appears

most glaring in uniform. "Not to speak of it that it is entirely precluded that French generals nay make a mistake-no, to what does the word of an emperor and a king amount against the word of French officers! Or, more correctly, only they can speak the truth; or, still more correctly, only the Frenchnen have the right to speak. others have to keep silent and have to listen to what the Frenchmen say. If we dare, despite this, to open our mouths, because we knew the connec-tion of things, then it is called interfering with France affairs-the greatest lese-majeste which was ever witnessed. For this the characteristic example: The official documents- and declarations of other nations become air compared with what the French have filched from the stairways, from domestics, in the stove, the waste

basket, or the closet. "What the other world thinks and says is immaterial for the reason that it is not read. They do not un-derstand the languages. The French language is the only one possessing clearness and beauty-what good ar the others! If a Frenchman perchance knows another language it is sufficient to make him appear suspicious The possibility of being a traitor is reat in that case. Dreyfus Picquart, Freystaetter and others are examples in this respect. Henry understood French only, and this is, so to speak, the principal proof of his honesty. If a Frenchman reads other newspapers beside his own and forms divergent opinion, as, for instance, concerning the Dreyfus trial, an opinion which corresponds with the views of those who are in possession of the documents and the evidence, then he belongs to a syndicate which was formed for the ruin of France, or he has been bribed by such a syndicate. For all foreigners are enemies of France who have nothing else in mind than the ruin of France! Enemies of France are furthermore all Protestants and Jews, even those

who live in France. Therefore, cast them out, out to the other enemies. "Only one single exception is made: of our money! Our money may come to France. Our faith, our sense of justice, our witnesses may not come

-but our money "You, my dear Captain Dreyfus, belong to the enemies, and here is the explanation why everything bad is believed of you and why you can be treated as they please. Aye, the honor of the generals demands it thus. There is, as is known, an hon-or which is closely connected with cruelty. It is not necessary to go back to the triumphs of the ancients, with the shackled prisoners at the triumphal chariots. We have only to think of you, of you in chains and behind stockades.

"The delight with which General Roget tortured you now before the court, you unfortunate who had not suffered enough, shines over the world as an example of French culture and Christianity. How must the Catholic Christianity. How must the Catholic Church, and particularly the Jesuits, be thanked because with their sanctimonious mien and words they have preserved Gallian cruelty so well. Let them keep on, and their best pupils, the French generals, always at the

"No, and a hundred thousand fold no! replies the whole civilized world.

And loudest and strongest a small energetic band of Frenchmen, representatives of France's highest genius, representatives of the noble tradition of the proplemation of the proplemation of the proplemation of the proplemation. of the proclamation of human rights, which like a stream of light flowed over the world and gave it a new inspiration. These few have made a revolution, a revolt against the dan-gerous isolation, the heroditary Chinaism which roots so deeply in the conservatism of the French mind that fructified in less than a hundred years seven revolutions or coup d'eyears seven revolutions or coup d'etat. It never surrenders without revolution or coups d'etat. Even your
small fate, my dear Captain Dreyfus,
until lately apparently could not be
regulated etherwise than by revolution er a coup d'etat. For in France
all questions end in the street.

"But that little band of France's
neblest men has made an opposition

neblest men has made an opposition which in this moment prebably was

not possible in any other country but France. Great dangers breed great courage; just indignation breeds defiant genius; the greatest isolation breeds the Jesus who fraternizes all

"And those tranquil men in the studios and the laboratories, who strangers, when the justice and honor of France was at stake! Workme gathered about them, for heart and ustice they had in common. Orators who stood up at the risk of their lives. Journalists, who founded their papers under the rain of fire of the enemy like in an assault upon a I will mention of this he roic band but one, because he reprefortress. sents the most intimate in the French genius. He even bears the name of his country, probably because his abilities thrive best in French soil-Anatole France. This white hand which enchases year in and year out in silver and gold and precious stones was raised with quick motion one day in a meeting of socialists and anarchists and asked to be heard. The injured truth had made brethren of the white and the sooty craft, brethren of men who are as different in their views, their knowledge and their conditions as if they inhabited two worlds.

X"That was a look into the future To look at like Frenchmen and Germans side by side, inspired by the same indignation and the same devotion. What matters it that the man who was here defended by the Germans was a French officer, an Altatian, who dreamed of reconquering his country. Here they all met in a greater fatherland in a battle against common danger, the excesses and the egotism of militarism. Even dubious papers and characters with decent man does not like to come into touch stood here in the same rank under the same leader-

ship. "It is said of the first Christians who believed in the reappearance of the Redeemer that on a certain day they ascended the mountains to meet Him at the first, if He should descend from heaven, the empire God in His arms and the bands of

angels with Him. "Now we know: It is not thus that comes the empire with its better jus-tice and its human bliss, which is longed for by every father and mo-ther for their descendants. Now we know how much misery and trouble, how much sacrifice in sorrow and death it has cost to bring the 'empire of God' as close to us as it is now-thousand years distant from the goal!

"But we also know that aspiration is the most potent force in the world. No one who only once in his life has climbed the high mountain whence he saw others look for the same promised land, far beyond the misery of this world, can be bowed down again. Why, just your fate, my dear Captain Dreyfus, among so many thousands of others who suffer injustice, has caused this great ascent and this meeting of the longing of humanity-I could explain it. But I content myself to say: Your aftic blessing to hat tion has become a manity. Henceforth it will be more difficult to do injustice to envone, even to a Jew. Her eforth more courageous men and women than forwill rise in defence.

"And this small progress--the greater one—becomes a monument of world's laws do not admit of honor to you, dear Captain Dreyfus, ted upon the mistakes and the crimes of the accusers by the immolation of the defenders, but first and last by your suffering and your

"Therefore you must not look upon your fate as if it bore only mis-fortune. No; look upon it as if you were the chosen one of the mysterious powers of the dark aim of selfpreservation of society, chosen to vanquish the evil, to work deeper at its own destruction

"A sign of light! We now confront danger stronger and more con-scious. Upon the long path of mankind the eyes of martyrs look admonishingly upon us—from afar and quite near. If your eyes close to-morrow, dear Captain Dreyfus, then it is only that they may assume greater brightness upon the pathway of suffering.

Even now you are hallowed by suffering and you are cleansed by the millions of tears that have been shed

When I read the letters from Devil's Island which you, I cannot say wrote, but which you bled, drop by drop, I felt that they felt warm upon many a horny hand and made it weaker for evil. They also fell into many a soft soul and strengthened its desire to help the unfortunate. I saw you patient before the tribunal. You made no complaint, you did not respond evil to evil, not even then its breath struck your face. Then I thought, now he sets an ex-When the news of the last terrible injustice was brought to you your first thought was not of yourself, but of your wife: 'Console

"My love and my respect seek you I do not come alone. The small Norwegian nation feels like I do. Here is scarcely a house which does not have a newspaper. All ask for Drey-

fus, all are your friends.

"And in this you shall see the fu ture. For it is only at a distance that the final judgment of history will be heard. 'Aulestad, in Norway, September,

How Horses Are Bleached.

One of the most interesting and One of the most interesting and novel schemes that is resorted to when it comes to "dectoring" up a horse for sale is "peroxiding." Horses just suitable for carriage work, save that they do not quite match in color, are now "chemically blundered" to the tint desired in the twinkling of an eye. A "peroxided horse" shows what has been done to him soen after his new owner takes him soen after his new owner takes him away, and frequently he has to be "touched up." This bleaching does not injure the horse any more than it does the average girl, but the chemically tinted coat seldom looks well when closely examined, the dark roots of the hair showing on eareful inspection. Yet it deceives on careful inspection. Yet it deceives the average buyer and so answers tts purpose,-London Sport.

How Nature Manages these Splen did Spectacular Exhibitions

An Eminent Scientist Gives Many In teresting Facts Concerning These Lovely Apparitions of Nature's Brush.

I asked an eminent scientist how no ture manages those splendid spectacular exhibitions which are called sunsets.

"That's simple enough," he said. "When the air is moist, it absorbs the blue rays of light and lets the red rays pass. Therefore the sun is sometimes red. Then when the sun drops below the horizon we are able to see only the vertical rays, which often strike masses of vapor which we call clouds, and are reflected. "Rays of light are composed of wave

or vibrations of different sizes, speed and intensity. The short waves are blue, the long ones are red, and the intermediate waves represent the different primary

"When a blue and a red wave get mix ed, they form a purple wave, and other colors are made by different combina-tions, just as a painter mixes his paints on his pallet. As waves of light strike the clouds together they produce some rare tints, some glorious combinations, which artists have never been able to imitate, and if the banks of vapor floating on the horizon are of irregular shape they produce the fantastic effects we adso much.

"Is the display assisted by refraction from the meteoric dust in the atmos-

"Perhaps so, but usually not to any appreciable extent. There isn't enough to take into consideration. The the atmosphere that surrounds the earth is equal to more than 200,000,000 cubic miles, a quantity so vast that the human mind can scarcely comprehend it, and hence, if 1,000,000 meteors were to fall at once, they would not be any more no ticeable than a puff of dust.

"There have been phenomena," contin-ued the scientist, "which have added to the beauty of sunset displays. In August, 1883, on the little island of Krakatoa, in the strait of Sunda, between Su matra and Java, there was a terrific volcanic eruption — the greatest cataclysm that has occurred within the memory of man. Some 30,000 lives were lost. eruption was followed by extraordinary atmospheric phenomena, visible over th greater portion of the globe.

"It was attributed to volcanic dust which was projected in stupendous quantities for miles into the air and carried around the world by the currents that are constantly moving in the upper atmosphere. It made the sunsets of that year remarkable and unprecedented for their

The Royal Raiments of the Mon arch Valued at Many Millions

Dramatic Description of the Grand Dis pray in this Noted Apartment.

The remotest past lives again Prof. Benjamin Ide Wheeler's "Alexander the Great," with Castaigne's full-page illustrations, in The Century. Having subdued Greece, the young King is now fairly launched career of conquest in Asia, to revenge the Persian onslaughts upo western civilization. One learns from the piquant pages of his latest biographer all that is to be known about one of the greatest men of all time; and the scenes and customs of the ancient world are revived by many a graphic touch. Thus, the splendors of the court of Darius are brought before us in these two brief

paragraphs: The court of the king was main tained with extraordinary dignity and splendor. The person of royalty was surrounded with everything capable of giving it elevation, dignity and charm in the eyes of the masses. Surrounded by a vast body of attendants, body-guards, servants, eunuchs and court officials, the king was removed as far as possible from the vulgar eye. He gave audience seated on a golden throne, over which was stretched a baldachin of purple, supported on four golden pil-lars glittering with precious stones. In his presence his courtiers prostrated themselves in the dust. ever stood in his presence to address him hid his hands in the sleeves of his mantle, as token of his abnegation of will to restrain or harm. He was never seen on foot. He some-times appeared on horseback, more often in a chariot. Guards and scourgers went before his car to open the way. There followed the chariots of Mithra, and Magi carry-ing the sacred fire. Around him and behind him were the staff-bearers and his body-guard. On solemn occasions the ways were purified with frankincense and strewn with myrtle. The king's attire was valued, Plutarch says, at 12,000 talents (about \$17,-

(000.000)Atossa, the daughter of Cyrus, ranked as the Queen of Darius.

Among his wives of second rank the first place was held by the daughter of Gobryas, who had borne him three sons before he came to the three sons before he came to the throne. Below the secondary wives were the concubines, who formed a numerous boby. Three hundred and twenty concubines of the last Darius (III.) were found among the cap-tives after Alexander's victory at Issus. The stories that passed current among the Greeks concerning the ex-tent of the kings' - retinue and the lavishness of their court, and which come to us particularly through the pages of Xenophon in his "Cyrus's Education and Training" and of Plutarch in his Life of Artaxerxes, are the natural tribute which the wonder of the plainer people pays to the grandeur, luxury and circumstance of an older civilization

No matter how blase a woman pre-tends to be she is bound to experience a feeling of pleasurable excitement when she raises the first layer of tis-



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