

SIDELIGHTS ON NOTABLE PEOPLE BY THE MARQUISE DE FONTENAY

Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, who has been for some weeks past in the United States, and who is now at Jamestown in connection with the tercentennial festivities there, does not in any sense represent King Leopold at the celebration there, and must have been considerably entertained by the statements which have been published to the effect that he was at Jamestown as the delegate of the Belgian monarch. True, the prince is the king's only grandson. But he is not speaking terms with his grandfather, who held no intercourse with him for several years past, and while in Belgium's diplomatic and consular representatives, and to apply for whatever diplomatic or consular assistance that he may need to the representatives of Austria-Hungary. He regards himself as an Austrian, was born in Vienna, was educated in Austria, and is an officer of Austrian Habsburgs.

The prince's mother is that Princess Louise of Belgium, whose differences with her father, King Leopold, and with her former husband, Prince Philip of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, have furnished so many chapters to the chronicle scandal of the courts of Europe in recent years. The marriage between Princess Louise and Prince Philip was shattered by divorce a little over a year ago. Young Prince Leopold sided with his father, and likewise shared the latter's oft and publicly proclaimed opinion that King Leopold had behaved abominably in the entire affair, and that his sordid avarice, his entire lack of any sense of parental affection, and his cynical indifference to public opinion and to the obligations of his name, and rank were largely responsible for what was so long known as the "Coburg scandal." Much of Princess Louise's misfortune was attributable to monetary difficulties, which she would probably have been spared had her father not withheld the fortune that belonged to her, and in fact, young Prince Leopold, forced as he is to share the general conviction that King Leopold is largely accountable for the unhappiness of his father and mother, and for the unenviable notoriety attending the various episodes in connection with their disputes, cannot be expected to entertain kindly sentiments towards the ruler of the Belgians.

Prince Leopold has an only sister, Dorothea, by name, and married to the German Empress' only brother, Duke Ernest Günther of Schleswig-Holstein. He is a nephew of Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria, a grandson of old Princess Clementine, who died about three months ago, and through her, therefore, a great-grandson of King Louis Philippe of France. On terms of cousinship with most of the reigning houses of Europe, and as the scion of the sovereign family of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and likewise elsewhere in Germany, in favor of excluding the present duke, the success of his being by birth and early education an Englishman and a member of the English royal family. The party in question selected Prince Leopold as its candidate, and as next in line of succession after the English prince, on the ground that he at any rate was not a Briton. But Emperor William, who may be described as having acted as a second father to the duke, until he attained his majority, championed his cause with such vigor that the movement in favor of Prince Leopold's proclamation as sovereign of the duchies came to naught.

At the time of the death of the late Duke Alfred of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, seven years ago, a strong movement was started in the duchies of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and likewise elsewhere in Germany, in favor of excluding the present duke, the success of his being by birth and early education an Englishman and a member of the English royal family. The party in question selected Prince Leopold as its candidate, and as next in line of succession after the English prince, on the ground that he at any rate was not a Briton. But Emperor William, who may be described as having acted as a second father to the duke, until he attained his majority, championed his cause with such vigor that the movement in favor of Prince Leopold's proclamation as sovereign of the duchies came to naught.

Of course, Prince Leopold still remains in the line of succession to the throne of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. But between him and the crown there are now the lives of the present duke, who is but 23, of his little boy, Prince John, only a few months old, and of the sons of the Prince of Wales, though they, like Prince Arthur of Connaught, may waive their rights, and prefer life in England as a member of its royal family to the circumscribed existence of one of the petty sovereigns of the German Empire.

Prince Leopold will be immensely proud on the death of his father, Prince Philip, when he, following the example of the late duke, will be compelled to assume the name of Kohary in addition to that of Coburg. This is a condition of the ownership of the great Kohary estates in Hungary. Away back in 1818 Prince Ferdinand of Coburg, a great-grandson of the emperor, and in straitened circumstances, managed to secure the hand of Antonie Kohary, only child and sole heiress of the colossal rich Prince Francis Joseph Kohary of Hungary. The old prince, who was a great Hungarian noble, and the grandmaster of the court of Budapest, absolutely declined to give his girl in marriage to Prince Coburg unless the latter undertook that he and every member of the house of Coburg who succeeded in the Kohary estates should assume the name and armorial bearings of the Koharys, in addition to those of Saxe-Coburg, so that the name of Kohary might be perpetuated at all times. This stipulation has been complied with, and it is by reason thereof that Prince Philip of Coburg, now known as Prince of Coburg-Kohary.

Of Kohary to the similarity of the name of Cohen, there are many who have taken it for granted that old Prince Kohary, the father-in-law of Prince Ferdinand of Coburg, was a Jew. But this is not the case. True, in some of the members of the Saxe-Coburg family, but they are by no means restricted to those members of the dynasty that are descended from Prince Francis Joseph of Kohary, and if there is any Semitic strain in the blood of the Saxe-Coburgs it is of a more remote character and must be looked for elsewhere.

Sir John Brodick's succession to the Viscounty of Middleton, through the death of his father, serves to recall the fact that he, together with Lord Curzon and Lord Coleridge and several other former members of the House of Commons, who were the oldest sons of peers initiated a movement to decelerate the succession of the family honors, and to retain all the privileges and prerogatives of a commoner in lieu of those of a peer. Each of them was convinced that his political future and his chances of becoming prime minister would be irretrievably ruined in the event of his being compelled to leave the Lower for the Upper House of the National Legislature. The matter was examined by the highest law officers of the crown, and the principal legal experts of the Opposition, who were unanimous in declaring that the succession to a peerage was not optional; that an heir had no power to refuse the succession to a peerage, and that from the moment that the succession to a peerage took place the peer in question, while becoming endowed with all the prerogatives and immunities of his new rank, forfeited those of a commoner, among them his electoral franchise.

The new Lord Middleton, who must not be confused with Lord Middleton, brother-in-law of Sir William Gordon Cumming, is descended from John Middleton, who in the reign of Edward VI. bore the title of the king's embroiderer, and whose son, Sir Thomas Brodick, was governor of the Tower of London in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The Viscounty of Middleton was created in favor of Alan Brodick, who for many years was speaker of the Irish House of Commons, and afterward lord high chancellor of Ireland, and he took his title of Middleton from

the property of that name in County Cork, which had been granted to his father, Sir John Brodick, by letters patent of Charles II. The new Lord Middleton has held office as minister of war, and likewise as secretary of state for India, when his quarrel with his old schoolmate and close friend, Lord Curzon, contributed in no small measure to the latter's resignation of the viceroyalty of India.

Lord Middleton, while painstaking and conscientious, is most unfortunate in his manner, and is wholly lacking in tact. Thus, toward the close of the life of Mr. Gladstone, while the latter was championing Irish home rule, Sir John Brodick, as he was then, got himself hissed and hooted off the platform of a Tory, and therefore anti-home rule meeting in England, by contemptuously referring to "the grand old man" as an "ass, unfitted by age for any further work or use, and in whom, therefore, no dependence should be placed." In fact, he was mobbed to such an extent that he would have been subjected to bodily injury had it not been for the presence of his first wife, Lady Hilda, daughter of Lord Wemyss. Lady Hilda died in 1891, and a couple of years later he married Miss Madeline Stacey, daughter of that popular hostess, who is far better known by her former name of Lady Jeanne than by her present title.

Another instance of lack of tact was shown by Lord Middleton, when, during his term of office as minister of war, he attended the great maneuvers of the German army arrayed in a khaki uniform. The English delegation included, besides himself, Field Marshal Lord Roberts, Gen. Sir John French, Sir Edward Kelly Kenny, and several other gray-haired veterans of the South African war. Not one of them wore campaign uniform. The only member of the party to do so was the subject of our notice, Lord Middleton, who, donned it on the strength of his being honorary colonel of some militia regiment. The Kaiser did not fail to see the humor of the affair, and indulged in some merriment at the expense of his uniform. It was believed at the time he was poking fun at the American officers. But this was soon shown to be a mistake. The sole object of his good-natured ridicule was the most inefficient and unpopular statesman who had ever held the office of secretary of war in England.

Charles D. Rose, member of Parliament for Cambridge, and who has just been elected president of the Royal Automobile Club of England, is half an American, his mother being a beauty in her day, having been the daughter of Robert Emmet Temple, of Rutland, Vt., and a descendant of the brother of the Irish patriot, Robert Emmet. Charles D. Rose has been so prominently identified with the club, having been for many years the racing partner of King Edward when Prince of Wales, that it is astonishing to find him now so enthusiastic on the subject of motor racing. He has engaged a good deal of his attention. He has owned the Emerald, the Satanita, and the Aurora, and in 1896 issued a challenge for the America cup, which was afterwards withdrawn at the instance of the Royal Yacht Squadron, to which he belongs. He is the former business partner of Levi P. Morton in the Anglo-American banking house of Morton, Rose & Co., is the second son of the late Sir John Rose, of Montreal, and after being finance minister of Canada, represented the Dominion as its high commissioner in London, and becoming the principal financial adviser of the then Prince of Wales.

Charles Rose had four sons, all of whom took part in the Boer war, where two of them lost their lives. One of his sisters is Lady Stanley Clarke, whose husband, the general of that name, is a junior quarry to the King and one of the veteran members of the House of Commons. A brother, Capt. Edward Rose, formerly of the Tenth Hussars, spent a considerable time in America with his wife (Lady Cecilia Rose), after leaving the army and sustaining heavy financial reverses. The members of the family are held by his nephew, Cyril, a fellow, whose marriage has hitherto remained childless, and in the event of his remaining without male issue it will descend to his uncle, Charles D. Rose, the new president of the Royal Automobile Club in England.

In view of the movement now in progress in England under the leadership of Lord Curzon, to erect some worthy monument to the great Lord Clive, who may be described as the founder of the British Indian Empire, it may be worth while calling attention to the fact that the title of Lord Clive is borne today by the 15-year-old son of the Earl of Powis. The latter is a great-grandson of the victor of the battle of Plassey, and continues to make his home in London, at 45 Berkeley Square, which was the town mansion of the great Lord Clive. Claremont, however, which was the country seat of the victorious general, and which he built himself at a cost of \$500,000, has long since passed into the possession of the reigning family, was used by Queen Victoria for her honeymoon, was afterwards lent by her to King Louis Philippe, and when Queen Marie Amelie after they had been driven out of France by the Paris revolution of 1848, and is now the home of the widowed Duchess of Albany. But Lord Clive's arms still appear on the pediment of the Corinthian columns which constitute a feature of the facade of Claremont.

Stately as is the latter, it is inferior in grandeur and in interest to Powis Castle in Wales, the principal country seat of Lord Powis, and which in ancient times was known as the Red Castle, and afterwards as Pools Castle. Its connection with the family of its present owner is of great antiquity. For it was originally the seat of Owen Griffith, the last Welsh sovereign prince of Powys Wenwynwyn. The latter's descendants have become extinct in the main line, the castle pass-

ed through the direct side of the house to the Herberts, a junior branch of the house of which Lord Pembroke is the chief. There were Herbert earls of Powis, marquesses of Powis, and even a duke of Powis, who played a great role at the court of St. Germain after the deposition and exile of James II. The great Lord Clive's son married the only sister and sole heiress of the last of the Herbert lords of Powis, and on becoming through this union the owner of Powis Castle and of all the Powis property, was created Earl of Powis of the present creation.

Powis Castle is a huge baronial pile, built on an eminence in the middle of an extensive and beautiful park, and contains a marvelous collection of Indian curios and relics brought from the Orient by the first Lord Clive, who, it may be remembered, stormed Calcutta and inflicted such condign punishment on his ruler for the atrocity still known in history as the black hole of Calcutta. The late Earl Powis was an eccentric individual, and his entire life may be said to have been overshadowed by the fact that he accidentally killed his father, the second Earl, during the present creation, while out shooting. He was not on particularly good terms with his nephew, the present earl, and when the latter, as George Herbert, married the famous beauty, Miss Violet Lane Fox, they had extremely little on which to live. In fact, their circumstances at first were extremely straitened.

Before many months had passed, however, the late earl suddenly died, and the young couple found themselves in possession of a large fortune. The late earl had a passion for hoarding things in out of the way places, and most amusing stories were told of the extraordinary discoveries of hidden treasures made by Lord and Lady Powis when they first took possession. Rooms that had been unopened for half a century or more were investigated, and many precious things in the shape of old plate, jewelry, and the like, being discovered, the existence of which no one had the slightest idea, were brought to light.

Lady Powis still remains to this day an extremely beautiful woman. She is as fair as the lily, with golden hair, a smiling face, and a perfect figure. Prior to her marriage she was subjected to a most extraordinary persecution on the part of an individual of the name of Randall, a gentleman who fell violently in love with her. She was unable to move out of the house without being annoyed by his persistent and unwelcome attentions, and so importunate did he become that her mother, Lady Conyers, was repeatedly forced to invoke the assistance of the police and to cause his arrest. He suffered no less than three different terms of imprisonment.

A Woman's Kidneys

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Disease of the kidneys is one of the last ailments for which a doctor looks when treating women. This is a great mistake. Women are very prone to kidney trouble, and in fact many physicians attribute a woman's languor and ill health to a derangement of the genital organs, when it's simply plain kidney disease, and nothing else.

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prisonment with hard labor for thus offending, and when last charged with the offense was let go solely on the condition and the pledge that he should expatriate himself.

Lady Powis, besides being a peeress of the realm through her marriage with the earl, is likewise a peeress in her own right, as the holder of the ancient barony of Darcy de Knayth. This peerage, created on Jan. 27, 1331, has, thanks to its descent through the female line, been held in turn by the Lords Conyers, by the Earls of Holderness, by the Dukes of Leeds, and by the Lane Foxes. On the death of Sackville Lane Fox, twelfth Lord Conyers and fifteenth Lord Darcy of Knayth, his peerages again fell into abeyance, which was terminated by the crown in the following fashion: The baronies of Conyers and of Fauconberg were assigned to his elder daughter, wife of the fourth Earl of Yorborough, while his barony of Darcy de Knayth was allotted to his younger daughter Violet, Countess of Powis. Several English works of reference state that on Lady Powis' death her barony will go to her daughter instead of to her son. This is not the case. It is her son, young Lord Clive, the future earl of Powis, who will on his mother's death at once succeed to her peerage of Darcy de Knayth.

Emperor Nicholas has just issued, through the new governor of St. Petersburg, Gen. Dratchewski, an edict which is calculated to have a far more serious influence upon his future than any of his projects of political reform. It is an edict not merely for the suppression of gambling, but for the closing of all those social clubs where playing cards for money is found to prevail. Nowhere are drunkenness, immorality and gambling carried to insaner lengths than in the dominions of the Czar, of which the population of the German-speaking provinces constitute the heaven, and the Poles the useless, frivolous froth.

Only those who have lived in St. Petersburg can realize what the suppression of gambling by the police, honestly executed, will really mean to officialdom and to society. There are thousands of the great nobles, of the leading statesmen, of the highest dignitaries of the court, of the official world, of the army, of the navy, and of the civil administration to whom high play at cards is an indispensable feature to their existence as food and drink, and who will, if debarred herefrom, experience the same sense of desperation as a morphine or cocaine addict when deprived of his favorite drug. Moreover, the principal clubs, the so-called English Club, the Yacht Club, the Noble Club, the Automobile Club, etc., at St. Petersburg all exist entirely by means of card tables. Without them they could not live. Gen. Dratchewski announces in the name of the Czar that if he discovers that cards are played there he will close up the clubs and prosecute the offenders.

The revolutionists until now have spared Emperor Nicholas, have spared his wife, have spared his children, although their lives were frequently within their reach, because they are convinced that Nicholas means well, that he is imbued with liberal and humane principles, and that if he is prevented from giving them freer rein than has been the case, it is on account of the disloyalty and hostility of his courtiers and his officials. If any attempt on the life of the Czar be made in the near future, it may be safely laid at the door, not of the terrorists but of the reactionary great world and corrupt officialdom. Many rulers of Russia, a vast majority of them indeed, have perished by poison and violence. But with the solitary exception of Alexander III., the murderers in every case have been members of the nobility and high dignitaries of the official world. Under the circumstances it is difficult to refrain from the apprehension that the recent edict of the Czar against gambling renders more grave than heretofore the peril to his days, and that if he succumbs anywhere in the near future to an untimely fate, his murder, as in the case of so many of his predecessors to the throne, may be ascribed not to the masses, whom he is honestly and earnestly seeking to help, but to those blue-blooded and highly-placed gamblers whose demoralizing vices he is endeavoring to suppress.

Of course, in writing this, I am speaking of St. Petersburg as a whole, and of Russian officialdom as a society. All are not venal, all are not immoral, all are not intemperate. There are officials who are single-minded and of unblemished integrity. There are nobles who have sacrificed, and still continue to sacrifice, their life and their fortune upon the altar of patriotism, without any hope or expectation of recognition. There are people of the great world who never touch a card, and are high-principled in their private life.

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