

NAPOLEON BONAPARTE. Monograph on the Famous "Man of Destiny."

FAMILY OF THE GREAT CONQUEROR.

His Mother a Woman of Rare Beauty and Heroic Qualities—A Bit of Family History—Significance of a Piece of Tapestry Inwrought With an Emby.

[Copyright, 1905, by John Clark Ridpath.]

L.—ORIGIN. The meridian of Discovery and the parallel of Conquest intersect at the birthplace of Bonaparte. The birthlines of Caesar and Columbus, drawn—the one due west from Rome, and the other due south from Genoa—cross each other within a few miles of Ajaccio. It is odd. Corsica is shaped like a megatherium. The bony head is thrust into the strait of Bonifacio; the long back is bent toward Italy; the thick tail projects in the direction of the Upper Riviera. The destined town lies between the fore legs,



LETITIA BONAPARTE, MOTHER OF NAPOLEON.

and the space there is a small gulf. The island bears, sketched flat on the sea, shows many black spots on the side; they are mountains. There are veins also, and these are swift streams; small circles in a few places—towns. The area of the broadside is 3,376 square miles. It is more than twice as big as Rhode Island—smaller somewhat than Connecticut. And the population exceeds a quarter of a million.

Of the towns here marked, we are concerned with only two; Corte and Ajaccio. The former is the old home of the Bonapartes; the latter, the place to which the family removed just at the time when, by the birth of a man-child clad with thunder, it was destined to emerge from medieval obscurity, star-like, Sirius-like, into the open sky of fame.

The genesis of Napoleon touches a remarkable ethnic condition. Nearly all of the West-Aryan races have contributed to the population of the island in which he was born. The people and all the architecture alike show traces of these remote but potent influences in determining the final race-character of the Corsicans who, after the fifteenth century, became essentially Italian. The race is thus composite in its derivation to as great a degree as any people in the world. Besides the ethnic origin, the environment—the narrow confines of the island, its mountainous character, its pleasant situation in the pellucid waters of the Mediterranean, its easy distance from the long bending line of one of the most famous coasts of the world—has tended powerfully, by the reactions of nature on the human animal, to establish and confirm the small insular race whose one man was destined to give it a conspicuous place in human annals.

The Bonapartes were true Corsicans. The family reaches back obscurely into the Middle Ages. The name is Italian, and shows linguistically an origin as remote as the Renaissance. There were Italian as well as Corsican Bonapartes. A family of this name lived in the Tuscan city of Sarzana; another perhaps, in Genoa, and another at Florence. Examples are found in which the spelling is given thus—Buona Parte. They of Sarzana were ennobled in the sixteenth century, and continued to write their name with a di, or de, until the epoch when the Great One was born. The noble, however, became attenuated, both in Tuscan and in the island, whereto a branch of the family, at some unknown date, removed and established itself at Corte or Ajaccio.

At the middle of the eighteenth century the head of the Corsican Bonapartes was Joseph, grandfather of Napoleon. The family resided at Corte, in the center of the island. Joseph received a patent of nobility from the grand duke of Tuscany, making him a patrician; and this worthless distinction was carried down to his son, Carlo Bonaparte, whose rights were confirmed by the Archbishop of Pisa and the King of France.

The geographical position of Corsica made it a bone of contention among the Powers. From the sixteenth to the eighteenth century the island was under the suzerainty of Genoa. The people were partisans. Some favored the Genoese; some, the French; and some, other Italian States. At the middle of the eighteenth century, there was turbulence. The patriots rose against Genoa, and a certain General Von Neuhof was about to be made king, when a French army under General Marbeuf was sent into the island to bring it into subjection. The French had just lost their colonial empire in North America, and were anxious to make a gain in the Mediterranean to counterbalance the growing power of Great Britain.

After the episode of Von Neuhof, the patriot leader Pascal Paoli gained an ascendancy in Corsica, and became dictator. He contended valiantly for the independence of his country, and for a while held his powerful enemies at bay. This, however, could not last. The French party among the Corsicans desired the breaking of all connection between their country and the petty state of Genoa, and a union with the powerful kingdom of France. The cause of

Paoli fell before overwhelming odds, and in May of 1768, Corsica was formally delivered to the French. The patriots were scattered, and their leader found refuge in England.

It was in the midst of these agitations, civil and military, that the Bonaparte family emerged clearly to view. Carlo Maria Bonaparte was born in Ajaccio, March 29, 1746. At the time of the failure of the revolutionary movement and the loss of his country's independence, he was twenty-two years of age. Meanwhile, in his eighteenth year, he had fallen in love with Letitia Ramolino, daughter of a well-to-do Corsican peasant. With her, nature had been prodigal of all gifts. She was beautiful to a degree; strongly marked in feature and person with the excellencies of the Italian race.

Of the Ramolino family, not much is known. Suffice it that Carlo di Bonaparte—though a noble—recklessly took Letitia in marriage when she was but fifteen years of age. She brought him her beauty and a portion of properties, but no additional rank. She is said to have been a girl of heroic qualities, queenly in her bearing, rather silent in manner, healthy as to her bodily life, and ignorant of sentiment. Her face, preserved in a hundred forms of art, shows unmistakably the origin of that Napoleonic visage with which the whole world will be familiar to the end of human records.

The character of Carlo di Bonaparte, though discoverable only in fragments, shows a mixture of courage and adventure. He was a projector of many things—a visionary. His education was obtained in Italy. He had been a student at Rome, and afterward at Pisa, where he prepared himself to be an advocate, and obtained a reputation for youthful eloquence. The University of Pisa conferred on him, about the time of the birth of Napoleon, the degree of Doctor of Laws.

The collapse of the patriot cause had induced Carlo Bonaparte, as a measure of prudence, to leave Ajaccio and retire to Corte. The latter, being an inland town and having a mountainous situation, was more deeply pervaded with the patriotic spirit than was the lowland region about Ajaccio. The coast country gave itself up freely to the French domination. During the first five years of the married life of Carlo he oscillated with his young family back and forth between the two towns, finally settling himself at Ajaccio. This was in the early part of 1769.

Meanwhile, before this removal, three children had appeared, in rapid succession, at the hearthstone of Carlo Bonaparte. All of these were born at Corte. The first was a daughter, Elise, whose birth was in 1765. This child died in infancy, as did also the next, Marie Anne, who was born about two years later. Then, on January 7th, 1768, came the first son, and to him the parents gave the name of Joseph Napoleon, or, as a secondary spelling would have it, Joseph Napoleone, or, Napoleon. The latter name, though appearing in the birth-record of the family, was dropped in the case of the oldest son, Joseph only being retained. It was the custom of the age, in the case of the death of children, to repeat their names for those born afterward. Nor was there anything exact, as in the customs of the nineteenth century, in the spelling employed.

The surname, as well as the given names, in the family of Bonaparte fluctuated into many forms, and gave rise to some discussion and confusion afterwards. One story ran to the effect that Napoleon Bonaparte was born January 7th, 1768, and Joseph about nineteen months afterwards, that is, August 15th, 1769. It was believed at one time that the father interchanged the dates of the birth of his two eldest sons, in order to get Napoleon into the military academy before his tenth year—a thing necessary under the law. But it is now known that no such thing occurred. The only ground for the invention of the fiction was the fact that Joseph's middle name was originally Nabulione, and that this name, in a modified form, was afterwards conferred on the younger son.

The estate of Carlo di Bonaparte, though augmented by his intermarriage with the Ramolino family, was unequal to his tastes and desires. He possessed a property at Corte, and another in Ajaccio. To the latter he came back in the early part of 1769, and established himself in the house where Napoleon was born. The homestead di Bonaparte was favorably situated. The house is still in excellent preservation. It is four stories in height. From the upper windows one may see the ocean. The building is stuccoed, is rectangular, and has a flat roof, with a small cupola, from which the flag of France was flying at the time when the first emperor of the French came into the world.

About the birth of great men cycles of fiction grow. Friends and enemies alike invent significant circumstances. The traders of Napoleon have said that he was illegitimate—that his father was the French marshal Marbeuf. They also say, on better grounds, that the marriage of Letitia Ramolino to Carlo Bonaparte was not solemnized until 1767—that the first two children were therefore born out of wedlock. On the other hand, the idol worshippers would fain have Napoleon born as a god or Titan. Premature pangs seize the mother at childbirth. She hurries home, barely reaching her apartment when the heroic babe is delivered, without an accoucher, on a piece of tapestry inwrought with an emby of Achilles! This probably occurred. It was the 15th of August, 1769. As a matter of fact, there was no omen in heaven or earth—no sign that a beautiful peasant had been delivered of a conqueror!

JOHN CLARK RIDPATH. Diamonds. A full cut diamond is called a brilliant and has 58 facets. A single cut diamond has 18 facets. A rose cut diamond is one that is too small for the other cuts, in faceted only on top and is flat on the bottom.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON VIII, FIRST QUARTER, INTERNATIONAL SERIES, FEB. 24.

Text of the Lesson, John ix, 1-11—Memory Verses, 1-3—Golden Text, John ix, 5—Commentary by the Rev. D. M. Stearns.

1. "And as Jesus passed by He saw a man which was blind from his birth." In the order of events this lesson probably proceeded that of last week. It is the only one given to us from that whole section of John's gospel from chapter vii, 2, to xxi, 21, in which we find Jesus at an annual teaching in the temple and hated by the chief priests and Pharisees. In chapter viii, 12, He proclaims Himself as the light of the world and the light of life, speaking only what the Father told Him and doing always those things that please Him, not seeking His own glory (verses 29, 30).

2. "And His disciples asked Him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" It is a common thing to suppose that special suffering is caused by special sin and that sickness is the result of individual sin. This is sometimes the case as with the man whom Jesus healed at the pool of Bethesda (chapter viii, 14), but let us carefully observe the teaching of Jesus in this lesson, and we shall see that while sin lies originally back of all sickness and suffering, for had there been no sin, suffering would not have been, yet we must not suppose in the case of any individual that there has been any special sin or that there is any lack of faith in God back of the suffering.

3. "Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned nor his parents, but that the works of God should be made manifest in him." There can be no contradictions in Scripture, and as it is written that "all have sinned" (Rom. iii, 23) Jesus did not say that neither this man nor his parents had never sinned, but in answer to the disciple's question He said that this blindness was not the result of any special sin. Why, then, was this man born blind? Here is the answer. That the works of God may be seen in him. We are reminded of the question in Ex. iv, 11, "Who maketh the dumb or deaf, or the seeing or the blind? Have not I, the Lord?"

4. "I must work the works of Him that sent me while it is day. The night cometh, when no man can work." Jesus delighted to honor the Father. More than 30 times He said "I have glorified Thee on the earth" (John xvii, 4). As to all the works wrought by Him, He confessed that it was the Father in Him who did the works (John xiv, 10). For our comfort, He tells us that, as the Father sent Him, so He sends us into all the days having all power in heaven and on earth; that He will hold our hand, be with our mouth and work in us both to will and to do of His good pleasure (Math. xxviii, 20; Isa. xlii, 13; Ex. iv, 12; Phil. ii, 13).

5. "As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." Compare chapters viii, 12, and xii, 35, 36. See a proof of His divinity, for who more man would dare to use such words, being in his right mind? Then hear Him as He says to His disciples, "Ye are the light of the world" (Math. v, 14), and consider well the fact that, dumb or blind or seeing, deaf or hearing, whether speaking, sick or well, rich or poor, unto each one is given the offer of having God work His works in us, and of having Jesus live His life in us. The wonder is that He takes sinners to do this. He came to save sinners, to take lost ones and redeem them, filthy ones and make them whiter than snow; that in these redeemed and blood washed souls He might reproduce His life and speak the words and do the works of God (II Cor. iv, 10, 11).

6. "When He had said these things, He spat upon the ground and made clay of the spittle, and with the clay He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay." Sometimes with a word, sometimes with a touch and sometimes without being present at all He wrought His works and glorified God, but whether we may see it or not there must have been always a reason for what He wrought. On one occasion we read of His using spittle, and in Mark vii, 33; viii, 23, and by means of this spittle His tongue both sight and hearing are restored either instantly or gradually, as it pleases Him.

7. "And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam (which is, by interpretation, Sent). He went his way, therefore, and washed and came seeing." All is suggestive. Jesus is the "Sent of God" (Gal. iv, 4). He also is the fountain of living water (Jer. ii, 13). He was God manifest in the flesh (I Tim. iii, 16), so that both spittle and earth and Siloam are suggestive of Him by whom the blind eyes were made to see. On the part of the blind man there was simply submission and obedience, and thus the victory.

8. "The neighbors, therefore, and they which had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged?" The poor blind man had been utterly helpless, he could give nothing and he could do nothing by which to merit or obtain his sight. Such is truly the real condition of all the unsaved, but because they fancy they are not blind (verse 41) and not helpless they insist on saying, "We see," and "we can do very well." "We see," and "we can continue blind. When, however, any become willing to be healed by Jesus and are truly healed, their old acquaintances can hardly tell whether it is they or not, the change is so great.

9. "Some said, This is he; others said, He is like him, but he is, I am he." If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Old things are passed away, and all things are become new. Only one who was always blind and had his eyes finally opened could sympathize with this man in his newly found joys and experiences. He was in a new world, a world of which he had heard and something of which he had felt, but which he now saw for himself.

WENT DOWN WITH HIS SHIPS.

The Officer Who Commanded the Ill-Fated Elbe for Three Years.

Kurt von Gossel, captain of the foundered North German Lloyd steamship Elbe, was born in Ratibor, Prussian Silesia, where his mother still lives.

The Von Gossels are connected with many of the most aristocratic families in Germany. Capt. von Gossel's only brother, Emperor William I, was a member of the general staff.

Von Gossel ran away to sea when he was fifteen years old. He became an enthusiastic sailor, and eventually commanded a fine sailing ship. More than twenty years ago he passed the examinations required by the Lloyds, and entered their service as a fourth officer. He took



CAPT. KURT VON GOESSEL.

command of the Elbe about three years ago. For three years previous to that time he was captain of one of the company's vessels that went from Bremen to Singapore, through the Suez Canal. Before that time he commanded a Lloyd boat that sailed from Bremen to Rio de Janeiro, and from that port to Baltimore.

Capt. von Gossel's family consists of his wife and three children—a girl, seventeen years old, and two sons, one twelve, the other three years old. They live in Bremerhaven. They formerly lived in Hanover, but moved north to be nearer the Captain when he was in port.

The Captain was forty-four years old, fine-looking and stood 6 feet 2 inches in his stocking feet. He was broad-shouldered, well-built. He had bright blue eyes, and wore a full flaxen beard.

Among the Lloyd's vessels Kurt von Gossel was second officer of the Mosel, which was blown to pieces by dynamite at its dock some years ago; was first officer of the Saale and commanded the Sachsen.

There was no more popular captain in the Lloyds' service. A search—the "Elbata"—was dedicated to him less than two weeks ago, and he spent quite a little time when he was last at New York at the Liederkranz Society Club-House. He was an economic as well as a popular captain, and time and again received premiums from his company for the economical administration of the affairs of his boat.

Thoroughly jolly, good-natured man, he always had a pleasant word for everybody. In looks and bearing he was the best type of the Prussian.

Withal he was a solid, substantial man, with lots of nerve and plenty of good common sense. He was a man who never lost his head, one who could be depended upon in an emergency.

Could Say "Truly Rural." This is a story about a congressman from Indiana, and, according to the Washington Post, it is perfectly true. One night, or to be exact, one morning, not long ago, the congressman came home in a condition that might have given rise to remark. He was not intoxicated—oh, dear no! And to prove it he said "truly rural" all the way up the stairs—a thing which, as everybody knows, is an infallible test of sobriety. The light was turned low in his room, but he dimly perceived a large gray cat perched on a chair. The Indiana congressman detests cats.

"Scat!" said he, sharply. "The cat didn't stir." "Scat!" repeated the congressman. The cat took it good-naturedly, and sat perfectly still. The congressman shook the chair. The cat only rocked to and fro and then settled against the chair's back.

"Well, that's the blindest cat," remarked the congressman, as he pushed it off the chair. "And it was. It had no fur. The congressman heard a subdued snicker, and turning met his wife's eyes. It was a calico cat, and his ability to pronounce "truly rural" was of no avail.

Niagara Falls 32,000 Years Old. For more than 100 years the scientists of the old and new world have been figuring out the age of the great falls. Elliott in 1700 fixed the age at 55,000 years; Lyell in 1840 claimed the falls could not be over 35,000 years; Woodward in 1836 even reduced the figure to 12,000 years, and still more recently Gilbert, after learned arguments about the matter, estimated their age at sixty-seven centuries. Now Professor Spencer comes forward and says that all calculations so far had been based upon the retrogressive movement of the soil through the action of the water.

While this recession is nearly regular, he adds a new element of valuation—that is, the different phases of the formation of the river itself and its greater or lesser force of erosion exerted both on river and banks. Spencer argues that the river has existed for about 32,000 years. During 1,000 years or more it had drained the Erie basin without having formed a cascade. The waters of Lake Ontario getting lower and lower, the falls resulted, but were formed slowly and gradually until they reached their present height. The Niagara Falls as we know them, or nearly so, will last at least 5,000 years longer.—La Nature.

Banishing the Pig From the Parlor. It is gratifying to learn from the report of the congested districts board for Ireland that the efforts to banish the pig from the parlor are calculated to benefit both the pig and his master. Having noted that the board have offered in the Kiltmogh district inducements to small occupiers to provide out-buildings for cattle, as under the present system cattle and pigs spend the night and part of the day in the same apartment as members of the family, the report goes on to say that injurious effects must have to spend many hours amid the effluvia of cattle, while the animals no doubt suffer from the sudden changes from a close atmosphere at night to cold or moist breezes in an unsheltered field or an exposed hillside during the day.—London Daily News.

SHOPPING.

The numerous writers upon winter pleasures are not apt to mention shopping among them, and yet it is fairly entitled to a place on the list. To the lover of the novel, the curious, or the beautiful, nothing can be more fascinating than a tour through shops and bazaars filled with a bewildering variety of wares. There is all the charm of discovery, for one is constantly coming upon something unexpected or hitherto unknown. Then, too, there is the feeling of proprietorship, for whether the pursuer be heavy or light, it is possible to acquire at least something from this multitudinous display.

Even when shorn of their holiday attractions, the stores of a large city still hold innumerable things which tempt one to linger among them. A large part of the enjoyment, and of the advantage, too, of going to these vast emporiums consists in the ability to compare one article with another. Yet it is a selfish gratification to compare busy or weary clerks to move from place to place goods which one has no intention of buying. The old-fashioned rule, "Never confer unnecessary trouble upon others," should hold here as elsewhere.

To be an intelligent shopper, a lady should have an understanding of the worth and composition of fabrics. It is by no means a girl's school art, taught in some of our girls' schools, to form a proper judgment concerning things which are to be bought. Besides this discriminating sense, a good shopper should be able to make up her mind definitely in regard to what she desires. By so doing she is able to save herself much fatigue and many valuable hours. The holiday season past, the prudent housekeeper often finds it important to renew her stock of table linen, sheeting, towels, etc. Then, before she is fully aware of the fact, the stores are glittering with spring novelties. These, as every one knows, possess the quality of inspiration. And so we revert to our original proposition that shopping is a winter pleasure.—Harper's Bazaar.

Weak Women

and all mothers who are nursing babies derive great benefit from Scott's Emulsion. This preparation serves two purposes. It gives vital strength to mothers and also enriches their babies' milk.

Scott's Emulsion

is a constructive food that promotes the making of healthy tissue and bone. It is a wonderful remedy for Emaciation, General Debility, Throat and Lung Complaints, Coughs, Colds, Anæmia, Scrofula and Wasting Diseases of Children.

"77" FOR GRIP

Will "break up" a stubborn Cold that "hangs on."

Dr. Humphrey's Specific "77" is a preventive and cure. A small bottle of pleasant pellets, 50¢ per packet. Sold by druggists or sent on receipt of price, 25¢, or five for \$1.00. Wholesale, E. H. BROWN, 100 Broadway, New York.

Gentlemen—All will convince you that we keep the very finest goods. Light Overcoats and Pants. A special. Repairing and Pressing very moderate. Open evening. W. SLATER.

PHOSPHORIC BLOOD POISON. Have you Sores, Ulcers, Pimples, Copper-Colored Spots, Acne, Old Sores, Ulcers in Mouth, Hair-Fallings, Write Cook, Remedy Co., 807 2d St., Chicago, Ill. For proofs of cures. Capital \$500,000. Patients cured since year ago today sound and well. 100-page book free.

Navigation and Railways WHITE STAR LINE Royal and United States Mail Steamers for Queenstown and Liverpool.

Navigation and Railways ALLAN LINE Royal Mail Steamships, Liverpool, calling at Moville.

Navigation and Railways STATE LINE SERVICE. New York, Londonderry and Glasgow. State of Nebraska, March 15. State of California, March 30. Cabin passage, \$40 and upwards return, \$50 and upwards. Second cabin, \$25. Steerage at lowest rates. For tickets and every information apply to AGENTS—E. De La Hooke, "Clock" corner Richmond and Dundas, and Thos. R. Parker, southwest corner Richmond and Dundas streets, F. S. Clarke, 416 Richmond street; John Paul, 301 Richmond street.



Seal Brand Coffee

Universally accepted as the Leading Fine Coffee of the World. The only Coffee served at the WORLD'S FAIR. CHASE & SANBORN, BOSTON, MONTREAL, CHICAGO

Conscientious Plumbing.

ALEX MILNE Telephone 773.

Navigation and Railways CUNARD LINE

From New York to Liverpool via Queenstown. Fast Express Mail Service. UMBRIA, Saturday, Feb. 16, 11 a.m. SERVICIA, Saturday, Feb. 23, 12:30 a.m. AURANIA, Saturday, March 2, 9 a.m. UMBRIA, Saturday, March 16, 10 a.m. LUCANIA, Saturday, March 23, 3 p.m. ETHIOPIA, Saturday, March 30, 9 a.m. AURANIA, Saturday, April 6, 11 a.m. RATES OF PASSAGE—Cabin, \$50 and upwards. Second cabin, \$30, \$40, \$45, according to steamer and accommodations; return tickets on favorable terms. Steerage tickets to and from Liverpool and Queenstown and all other parts of Europe at lowest rates. Through bills of lading given for Belfast, Glasgow, Havre, Antwerp and other parts of the continent, and for Mediterranean ports. VANDER H. BROWN & Co., general agents, 4 Bowling Green, New York.

Worth Knowing

CANADIAN PACIFIC RY

Tourist Car

Leaves TORONTO Every FRIDAY at 12:20 p.m. (noon) For the PACIFIC COAST via North Bay. Read "WHAT IS A TOURIST CAR." Free on application to any agent.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY

CALIFORNIA, Washington, Oregon, British Columbia, etc., etc.

Excursion Tickets.

MICHIGAN CENTRAL "The Niagara Falls Route."

ALL POINTS.

CLOCK

Corner of Richmond and Dundas Streets. Open from 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. For the sale of all classes of Railway and Steamship Tickets.

E. DE LA HOOKE, Agent.