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The Iron Gate of the Danube

The position of Serbia and the rugged stretch of country through which the Danube flows after its journey across the Hungarian plains in the world news gives special interest to the description which Henry C. Rowland has put into his volume, "Across Europe in a motor boat." "Before entering Roumania at the Iron Gate of the Danube," he says, "flows through a series of precipitous, rock gorges with the Serbian highlands on the right and the Transylvanian Alps a part of the Carpathian system, on the left." After the Lesser Iron Gate "comes the marvellously magnificent gorge of the Kasan-Klause or Lower Klisura. Several kilometres beyond at Old Orsova, comes the rock-ribbed passage generally known as the Iron Gate. This stretch of the Danube from Belgrade to Turnu-Severin is traversed by passenger steamers, and is without doubt the grandest spectacle of its kind which Europe has to offer. The great Danube is in places constricted to what did not look to be more than a hundred metres in width, of unbounded depths, and sluiced between lofty precipitous walls of granite and Jurassic limestone. One passes successively from swift-winding defiles into silent basins hemmed in by the great Carpathians, and from which no outlet is visible.

"The towering rock walls, with their deep gloomy caverns, mount straight from the stream, cut off the vivid daylight, and fill the place with the subdued tints of twilight. Then suddenly a broad vista opens ahead and we shoot into another sheltered take of wild and romantic beauty." "Just above the Iron Gate... there is a signal station warning vessels when to make the passage of the Iron Gate. The cataract itself tumbles over a rocky ledge of jagged sawtooth points, extending for about a mile, and which formerly could only be crossed when the river was high. Now however, there is a sluice between stone walls, through which one passes swiftly but safely, and down which we coasted with a sensation of 'shooting the chutes.' Throughout the whole length of the series of gorges through which we passed we saw traces on the right bank of the causeway built by the Emperor Trajan, whose epoch was from 98 to 117 A.D. In certain places the limestone was hewn out of the sheer cliff; in others, where the deep, square holes sunk at regular intervals in the face of the rock, evidently to support timbers along which the causeway was built. As the road preserved a regular elevation of about ten feet above the river and had been built on the side where the walls were more regular as if it had been intended for a town-path rather than a causeway. There is also a Trajan memorial cut in the face of the rock near Orsova." "From now on the country was very wild and desolate, with towns and villages few and far between, and great reaches more like the sea than a river."

WINTER CLOTHING FOR SOLDIERS

Two Pairs of Good Boots To Be Furnished To Each Man On Service

Ottawa, Sept. 27.—Canada's soldiers will not suffer during the coming winter from wet and cold feet as they did last winter. A new issue of boots, two pairs to each soldier, is being sent out to all the overseas forces of whom about 50,000 are now in France and 33,000 still at Shorncliffe.

The new boots are pronounced by experts to be superior for active service conditions to any now in use by the Allied armies. They are warm, water proof and of excellent wearing qualities. Last winter the men had only one pair each ill adapted for use in wet or cold weather, and the severest hardships of the men came from their inability to keep their feet dry or warm.

Immense quantities of winter clothing and equipment of all kinds are now going forward from Canada for the men at the front. Since the first of this month ten million pounds of clothing, etc., have been handled by the Quartermaster General's Department.

The winter equipment problem involves looking after not only the 83,000 men who have crossed the Atlantic, but also the 50,000 or more men who will be kept in training in Canada during the winter. Every effort is being made to secure from the contractors prompt delivery of the necessary clothing supplies for which requisitions were forwarded by the department last June to the Government's purchasing commission.



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Stebaurman's Ointment, 25 cents per box or 5 boxes for \$1.00. Cash must be sent with Order. P.O. Box 431 or 15 Brazil's Square.

The Athanasian Creed Discussion

Toronto, Sept. 21.—The General Synod of the Church of England in Canada resumed the discussion of the prayer book revision this morning immediately after disposing of routine business. The changes which are recommended in the report of the committee on revision having been reviewed so far as the end of evening prayer, attention was concentrated this morning in joint session on the Athanasian Creed, the Lambeth translation of which is suggested as an addition for use as an alternative.

The Bishop of Huron, as convener of the revision committee, in opening the discussion on the "Quicumque Vult" or Athanasian Creed, said that this was probably the most contentious of all the revision which is suggested, but pointed out that the proposals did not eliminate the old version, nor curtail it in any way. The Rubric remains exactly as it was and the new version is merely, in the opinion of leading church scholars, a more accurate representation of the rubric contained in the creed. The forty-second verses do not appear in the Athanasian Creed, and his lordship urged that the form be approved on the broad ground of not being able to condemn to perdition those who failed to believe exactly with himself.

Legal Issue Arises

Chancellor Davidson, Montreal endeavored to have the old form endorsed prior to discussion, intimating that a fight on the legal power of the synod to authorize the insertion of the new version was impending, but it was pointed out that if the committee's report was negated in synod the old form would stand.

Bishop of Ottawa

The Bishop of Ottawa went at length into the history of the creed of St. Athanasius, pointing out that its use is confined to the western church, not being used in the Greek or Russian churches. The alteration of the wording in any way would result in having a creed which would not be the creed of St. Athanasius. To change any portion of the teachings would be anathema, but to offer an alternative for liturgical use would be in harmony with our forefathers and catholic antiquity would be behind the action.

Any woman can keep an expense account, but not more than one in a thousand can make it tally with her cash.

THE KAISER RESPONSIBLE

Henry Ford, the multi-millionaire automobile manufacturer, has given ten million dollars towards the promotion of peace, and he is of opinion that the Kaiser was forced into war. In this connection, there is the following despatch:

"New York, Sept. 23.—Henry Ford, the automobile manufacturer, just before he boarded submarine K-5 at the Brooklyn navy yard to-day said:

"When I visited President Wilson in Washington on Wednesday he told me he had heard on good authority that after Kaiser Wilhelm signed the first declaration of war he suddenly flung the pen across the room, and looking up to the great military leaders assembled around him, said:

"There, you've made me do it, and you are going to regret it for the rest of your lives."

"Asked whether he thought President Wilson believed the story, Mr. Ford replied:

"I don't know, but I do. It proves what I have always thought. That is, the Kaiser is a humane man, strictly devoted to peace, but as a ruler was forced to do what he was told to do by the militarists and preparedness parties."

The statement of the President to Mr. Ford was probably based on the assertion of A. G. Gardiner, a well-known English writer, in a book issued by him some time ago. This is what he wrote in the regard named:

"It is said on such high authority that the statement is entitled to respect, that on the fatal Saturday when he signed the declaration of war against Russia the Kaiser, having written his signature, threw the pen across the table and said to the triumphant soldiers around him: 'Gentlemen; you will live to regret this.'"

There is absolutely no proof that the Kaiser said this, but if he did what of it? From the first, he has made the pretence that he did not desire the struggle, and not long ago exclaimed:

"God knows, and history will show that I did not want this war."

Mr. Gardiner, himself, after giving circulation in his book to the statement quoted, proceeds in his analysis of the Kaiser to say that he has an "incalculable character."

"The movements of his mind are sudden and shattering, governed by mood and by an autocratic impulse which baffles calculation. The French have a saying about a certain type of man that he has 'a devil in the body.' That saying is singularly applicable to the Kaiser. He believes that his house is the divinely appointed instrument of God made to lead the German nation to redeem the earth as absolutely as Moses was raised to lead the chosen people out of Egypt."

Commencing his volume with the intimation that the Kaiser reluctantly signed the document against Russia, Mr. Gardiner later on shows the Emperor to be an absolute dictator, brooking interference from no one, and he thus depicts him as deliberately figuring up the contest:

"The Belgians, what rattle were they to impede his path? He would go through them as lightly as through a flight of snowflakes. And so with the English—those fools of fortune who obstructed his path to world dominion. What had he to fear from this race of sentimentalists which could not stamp out rebellion in Ulster, or whip its insurgent women into obedience, and which was so haggardly ridden by the fetish of liberty that it gave self-government to the people (Boers) it had conquered. It was a bubble that would vanish at a touch of his sword. The British navy? Yes, that was a reality. But perhaps Admiral Tirpitz might make a lucky stroke, and at the most he would apply Bismarck's praise, deal with the British Navy at Paris. There remained France and Russia. Of these one was swift but inferior; the other slow but formidable. He was both swift and formidable. We see his sum getting near the conclusion. He will launch the whole power of his terrible machine against France, scatter her armies, overwhelm her in a fortnight, and dictate terms of peace in Paris. Then, master of Western Europe, he will return to the East with his incomparable machine and destroy the hosts of Russia at his leisure. That was the conclusion of his calculations."

This forms the conclusive answer to a mythical story. The Kaiser had military preparations brought to the top notch for a fight, and smashed in when he thought he saw the chance. Under the circumstances, the plea that he didn't mean any harm, isarrant moonshine.

When fortune begins to smile on a foolish man he thinks it is up to him to sit down and bask.

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