SEVENTEEN DAYS WITHOUT COMPASS

French Bark Swept By Combers Which Wrecked Apparatus

The French bark Pierre Antonine, which was sighted off the west coast of Vancouver island some days ago with distress signals flying and was picked up by a tug sent to her relief by the Puget Sound Tugboat company, had a strenuous time off the island coast and on one occasion was almost driven ashore. A great comber which swept the vessel, wrecked her compass and she was seventeen days at sea without compass to aid. Meanwhile, without opportunity for observations, the ship was fighting storms.

In a gale encountered near 36 degrees north latitude, January 6, every compass aboard the vessel was carried away or damaged beyond usefulness. The storm carried away or destroyed every lifeboat of the ship, swept sails and iron belt stays aside like twine fastenings, twisted steel rails and other deck equipment into gnarled masses and otherwise mauled the hull. Despite her terrible experiences all aboard are well.

It was the inventive genius of one of the vessel's mates that saved her from being badly distressed when the compasses were wrecked. The damage was done by a great comber which swept the Pierre Antonine from stem to stern Seeing the wave approaching from afar, the men on deck shouted a warning to their companions and clambered into the rigging as the mountain of water overwhelmed the vessel. The wave filled the waist of the vessel, stove in every available boat to a point of uselessness and by a freak of fortune swept overboard both the ship's compasses from the deck. The genius was to the fore the moment the water had run its course and set about rigging up a compass fashioned from a sail needle and two magnets and with this crude apparatus the Pierre Antonine's helmsman kept her on her course.

Passing vessels bound for the scene of the alleged wreck of the British ship Hartfield, reported sighting a Frenchman with distress signals flying. The master of the Antonine saw these steamers and endeavored to signal them for another compass. It was these flags flying which were interpreted as signals of distress and while the vessel was really in a most serious predicament, the improvised compass worked admirably.

The day after the steamers which reported the bark were signalled, a gale occurred that reached a force of eighty miles an hour at Flattery. The storm overtook the Pierre Antonine as she was nearing Cape Beale rocks. Providential aid by a tug saved the ship. Thursday a favorable wind encouraged another attempt to make port. This resulted in finding a tug.

By reason of her delay the Pierre Antonine has lost a charter to carry grain from Tacoma to the United Kingdom. She brings in a capacity cargo of cement and pig iron.

CONFIDENCE RETURNS

Successful Issue of Railroad Securities Indicates Much Better Financial Tone

New York, Jan. 24.—What was regarded in Wall Street as the first real test of the investment market since the panic was made recently with the public offering of the $30,000,000 New York Central equipment notes by J. P. Morgan & Co., and the results were declared to be eminently satisfactory. Aside from the sales of bonds by the city of New York, this is the first large offering of new securities which has been made since the middle of last year. From the rapidity with which these notes were snapped up by investors, bankers concluded that a revival of demand for investment securities was on in earnest.

Within less than two hours after the opening of business it was learned that over half the issue had been subscribed for. The demand came from all sections of the United States, and it was understood that requests from abroad also were large. By the close of business, it was said, the greater part of the entire offering had been engaged. The bankers who are handling the matter were more than pleased with the results of the flotation. The success of the issue is expected to have a pronounced effect upon sentiment both in this country and in Europe.

It was admitted that the price at which the notes were sold, making them yield 5¾ to 5⅞ per cent. on the investment, was an attractive one, but until recently even the highest grade of investment securities went begging for a market.

In line with the gratifying results attending the New York Central offering, it also became known that the block of bonds purchased last week from the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway company, by Speyer & Co., had, to a large extent, been placed with investors.

These announcements simply confirmed the belief which has been growing for the last fortnight in the development of a more substantial bond market than has been witnessed in a long time. It did not appear, however, that the new issues offered at an inviting figure had dulled the growing appetite for the older investment securities, as bond houses generally today reported a continuation of the enquiry for high grade issues.

This persistent demand is in accordance with anticipations of the best informed interests, who have contended for some weeks that with the easing up in money and the slackening in business, necessitating a less amount for use in that channel, there would be a heavy absorption of the better grades of securities with which the market has been glutted for a year or more.

Bankers generally were elated with the demonstration of the absorptive power of the investment market, as exemplified in the sale of the New York Central equipment notes, and said that they believed the amount of free money in the country awaiting employment would be sufficient to pretty well clear up the bond situation.

Waiting.

Here I sit, alone, alone,
Ever listning for mine own,
For his step, his laugh, his tone
Like a flute note softly blown.

Will he never, nevermore
Come in smiling at the door,
With the rapt look that he wore
When his task of love was o'er?

Will he never stoop and say,
"Mother, I am tired today,"
Like a child from too much play:
'Kiss me in the dear old way?"

Nay! I cannot think it so,
He will come to me, I know,
Smiling sweet and speaking low—
He will come or I will go.

Father! only let us greet,
Here, or wheresoe'r his feet
Go upon love's errands sweet.
Send him—take me—as seems meet.
—James Buckham in Harper's Bazaar.

MINISTER HAYASHI DELAYS STATEMENT

Awaiting Reply From Washington—Restriction is Strongly Enforced

Tokio, Jan. 25.—The programme of today's session of the diet, which included the speech of Foreign Minister Viscount Hayashi regarding the emigration question, was suddenly changed and the speech was postponed until January 30, when it is expected that Viscount Hayashi will outline definitely the plans of the government for the restriction of emigration to the United States and Canada.

It is understood that the postponement was due to the fact that a reply from the United States government to the memorandum of Japan was expected to be handed to the Japanese foreign office this afternoon.

Since the delivery of its last memorandum, the Japanese government has issued the most stringent instructions to all governors and other officials concerned in the regulations of future emigration along the lines of the future definite policy of restriction, which includes the prevention of emigration of laborers to the United States and Canada, except under given conditions, which will be satisfactory to the governments of both of these countries. No laborers will be permitted to emigrate to Mexico.

Evidence of the determination of the Japanese government is shown by an official order issued to emigration companies today, wherein all emigration to the Hawaiian islands is absolutely prohibited, except in case of relatives of Japanese already residing there.

The order bearing on emigration to the Hawaiian islands has created consternation among the emigration companies who expect to institute a virulent attack upon the foreign office policy in this respect. Viscount Hayashi, however, is determined not to yield, and says that the Japanese government having given a promise will not recede from it, regardless of political pressure.

Washington, Jan. 25.—It is learned at the state department that the department's communication to Ambassador O'Brien, relative to the restriction of emigration to the United States from Japan, went forward two days ago, and its receipt has been acknowledged by Mr. O'Brien. The fact that the debate in the Japanese diet was adjourned till the 30th instant will consequently afford the ambassador ample time to prepare Secretary Root's views for submission to the Japanese foreign office, and for the latter to arrange for the presentation of the subject to the diet. The state department is well satisfied with the treatment accorded this subject by the Japanese government, and particularly with the spirit exhibited in the instructions given to subordinate officials in Japan, for the reason that in its view the subject is not so much one of regulation as of the execution of the restrictive measures in a proper spirit.

HEAVY FIRE LOSS IN PORTLAND, MAINE

City and County Building Destroyed, With Many Valuable Records

Portland, Maine, Jan. 24.—The five-storey city building, in which were located the county offices as well, and which cannot be replaced for much less than $1,000,000, stands in ruins as a consequence of the crossing of wires in the city electrical department in the third storey early today. The insurance, which was at first supposed to amount to about $250,000, is only $81,000, a number of policies having expired.

The fire was the worst in the state since the great conflagration in Portland in 1866, when the city business and residential sections were almost completely wiped out.

Death was absent from the fire, a fact considered very remarkable, as there were more than 700 members of the Western Main Knights of Pythias jubilee gathered in the auditorium of the city hall when the flames were discovered. Only a few persons were hurt. Chief Engineer Melville was the only one known to be seriously injured. He was able to direct the fight against the flames though being supported by two assistants.

The financial loss is estimated at $1,000,000, but this sum will not cover the loss of the papers and documents in the registry of deeds, where everything was destroyed. Other city departments were swept clear of everything by the flames with the exception of the city clerk and the city treasurer's offices. The money and securities in the latter are believed to be intact although it will be almost impossible to ascertain definitely until the vaults have cooled sufficiently for an examination to be made.

One of the most valuable libraries in the state, the Greenleaf collection, was completely destroyed with a loss of $10,000.

When the flames were discovered, Wm. A Turner, chairman of the meeting of the Pythian body was met in the hallway by three men who acquainted him with the condition of affairs. Cooly he entered the auditorium and ascended the stage interrupting the rites of investiture which were going on at the time. He calmly informed the assembled members of the existing conditions, saying there was no need for hurry, himself supervising a system of orderly departure which proved effective in averting a panic and bringing out more than 700 persons without injury.

Couldn't Get at It.

An Irishman who had just united with the Catholic Church in a small town, was careless enough to let the priest catch him coming out of a saloon with a jug under his arm. The priest waited for him to come by and said:

"Pat, what is it you have in that jug?"

"Whisky, sor," answered Pat.

"Whom does it belong to?" asked the good man.

"To me and me brudder Moike, sor."

"Well, say, Pat, pour yours out, and be a good man."

"I can't sor; mine's at the bottom," answered Pat.—Judge.

FIJI TRIES TIMBER FROM THIS PROVINCE

Probable That Government at Suva Will Use Local Product Exclusively

The government of the Fiji islands have ordered a sample shipment of timber from this province, and if it answers the requirements of that colony, a considerable export trade from this province thither is likely to arise.

Some time ago a letter was received from A. Mahaffy, the colonial secretary of that colony, asking details from the provincial government with regard to the prices of various grades of timber and manufactured lumber. The provincial government replied and enclosed price lists obtained from most of the mills of the province.

The department of public works at Suva have now ordered from the British Columbia Mills, Timber and Trading company, of Vancouver, a sample shipment according to advices received yesterday by the provincial department of lands and works. The order includes 40,000 feet of rough timber, 21,000 feet of dressed timber, 536 feet of T. & G., shingles, window and door sashes and venetians of various sizes.

LIFEBUOY PICKED UP AT CARMANAH POINT

Marked L. A. Homer, of London—Has Been in the Water for a Considerable Time

Advices have been received by the marine department that R. Daykin of Carmanah point has found a lifebuoy on the beach four miles east of the Carmanah point lighthouse, marked "L. A. Homer, of London" the lettering being on a blue ribbon with white letters, the buoy itself being painted white. It appears to have been in the water for a considerable time. The shipping lists of Great Britain do not include any vessel of the name given.

The department of marine has also been advised that the report that the Swiftsure bank beacon, which drifted away some weeks ago, and to replace which, a new one was established a week ago by the tug William Jolliffe, had drifted to the south of Tatoosh was in error. The news was received by wireless from Pachena point, via Tatoosh, and stated that the buoy was east of Pachena instead of near Tatoosh. Investigation showed that the buoy was the American striped buoy which had drifted from the Swiftsure bank. It is being recovered by the marine department for the United States lighthouse service, whose steamers often bring derelict Canadian buoys to this port.

X-ray apparatus will be installed in Victoria Hospital, London.

Ontario's railway mileage is 7,637, Quebec's 3,716, and Manitoba's 3,674.

GRIPPE AFFLICTS CZAR'S HOUSEHOLD

Children All Stricken With Disease—Czarivitch Has Ear Trouble

St. Petersburg, Jan. 24.—An epidemic of influenza has attacked the Imperial family. Grand Duke Alexis Nikolaievsk, the Emperor's only son, and his four sisters have all been stricken. The condition of the heir is complicated by an inflammation in the ear, and Prof Simanovski, a specialist in such diseases, has been summoned to Tsarskoe Selo to attend him.

The Grand Duchess Marie Pavlovna, daughter of Grand Duke Paul Alexandrovitch, and fiancee of Prince Wilhelm, of Sweden, also is down with the disease.

It is thought the infection was brought to the palace on the occasion of the recent Christmas tree celebration. At that time the children of the emperor distributed Christmas gifts, and mingled freely with the soldiers of the guards.

DOMINION EXHIBITION PLANNED FOR VICTORIA

Agricultural Association Committee Memorialize Ottawa Government

At a general meeting of the rebuilding committee of the agricultural association held yesterday evening in the office of Secretary Smart, various suggestions were made as to the mode of procedure and the action of the executives in deciding to call for competitive plans for the new buildings was approved of and this will be proceeded with at once.

A resolution was also framed to be forwarded to the Ottawa government setting forth Victoria's claims to the Dominion exposition in 1909, and urging that this be given to the capital of the most western province particularly on account of the Alaska-Yukon exposition being in Seattle the same time, which would practically insure the financial success of the Dominion exposition here. The committee feel that this is due to Victoria and it is expected every business man and organization in the city will use all their influence in this regard.

Among those present were H. G. Wilson, H. D. Helmcken, K.C., George Sangster, North Saanich, James Anderson, Mayor Hall, Ald. Meston, Ald. Henderson, Dr. S. F. Tolmie and others.

Notes

James W. Richards will contest Prince county, P. E. I., in the Liberal interest.

James Clugston, of Epping, one of the pioneers of Grey county, is dead, aged 78.

About 20 per cent. of Canada's population earn their living from the carrying trade.

Broken rails on Canadian railways caused the death of 35 persons and the injury of 287 last year.

It is reported that the Niagara division of the M. C. R. may be leased and converted into an electric road.

IS THE KAISER FRIEND OR FOE?

English Writer Asks the Question and Quotes From Emperor's Speeches

"The worst of being an Emperor," the Kaiser is said to have once remarked, to Lord Lonsdale, "is that one has to hear such a lot of humbug." Now, of all this arrant nonsense, the stupidest to the Kaiser must seem the eternal cry of a certain section of the press in this country that he is building a great navy with the express object of wrestling from us the dominion of the sea, and replacing our world power with that of Germany. We have already seen that the visits of the Emperor to this, the country of his mother, have been more frequent than those of any other living monarch. Are his political sentiments towards us as friendly as his personal visits have been frequent?

A man must doubtless be judged by his acts more than his words, but as far, at least, as the latter are concerned, the Emperor has never left anything to be desired. All his speeches, toasts, and telegrams referring to England have ever breathed admiration, compliment, flattery, and fidelity to the alliance that was symbolized by the mingled blood of Waterloo. Take his speech at the Guildhall on the occasion of his first state visit to this country, in 1891, to begin with:

"Following the example of my grandfather and ever lamented father, I shall always, as far as it is in my power, maintain the historical friendship between these our two nations, which, as your lordship mentioned, have so often been seen side by side in defense of liberty and justice. . . . .

In the same historic place on Wednesday next the Kaiser will be able to claim, with perfect truth, that he has kept his word, and maintained peace between the two cousin-kindred peoples. But, indeed, a breach of the peace between them is next to impossible—for physical reasons. There is the old case of the elephant and the whale. For we have not men enough to attack the Germans on land, while they, on the other hand, do not possess ships enough to assail us at sea. Our disputes, therefore, must meanwhile be settled exclusively by pen and ink. Political questions between us there have been since the Emperor's accesion nineteen years ago—for he is now in his forty-eighth year, or a couple of years older than were Wellington and Napoleon at Waterloo; and some of those questions have involved a good deal of friction between the two governments, like, for example, Germany's protest against our proposed treaty with the Congo Free State in 1895. But that friction never amounted to more than is inevitable in the relations between two rival men of business.

The Kruger Telegram

The most serious item on the debit side of the Kaiser's account with us was undoubtedly his telegram to President Kruger, but even this was not so much a deliberate blow aimed at us as a disastrous blunder. Moreover, it was not directed against the British government and people, but the gang of British raiders, whose action that government itself was the first to reprehend and disown. In this deplorable affair the Kaiser had become the victim of his own impulsiveness, for his message was not countersigned by any of his ministers, least of all by his Chancellor, Prince Hohenlohe, who had counselled him against sending it. Moreover, it is always forgotten that Kruger himself had been imploring the Kaiser for help, and that His Majesty was bound to say something in reply. As it proved, the reply was most unfortunately worded, and became the cause of a world of future trouble. Undoubtedly the truth about the incident was spoken by Lord Lonsdale, an intimate friend of the Emperor, when he said:

"I think myself that if His Majesty had realized really what the feeling of the country was, and what the feeling would eventually be, I do not think he would have sent it. But it is perfectly certain, and I have His Majesty's authority for saying so, there was nothing of any kind, sort, or description meant antagonistic to England or Englishmen."

"The Emperor's telegram to Kruger," says the Times's "History of the War," "was followed by an attempt" on the part of Germany "to stir up France and Russia to intervene," while the Times itself, so recently as two years ago, committed itself to the statement that the annihilation of the Russian fleet did not suit Germany's calculations, "since it removes one of the factors upon which she counted for such a combination against this country as, according to the statements of her own ministers, she vainly endeavored to bring about at the beginning of the South African troubles after the famous Kruger's telegram." But this is utterly false. No such avowal by any German minister exists; and Prince Buelow has most emphatically denied that any of his speeches is capable of such an interpretation. Yet the lie is a long-legged one, and continues to stalk about the world on the stilts supplied to it from Printing House Square.

And just as in the interval between the raid and the war, Germany had not been guilty of the anti-British action imputed to her, so also during the course of the great struggle her government and her Emperor—apart from her press—could not have been more friendly or considerate; this, too, in spite of the fact that her amour propre had been wounded to the quick by our seizure of one of her mail steamers, the Bundesrath, which caused Lord Salisbury to express his amazement at the style of the remonstrance from a power "with which Her Majesty's government believed itself to stand upon the friendliest footing." Full satisfaction was given for our blunder about the Bundesrath, though the incident left its abiding mark on the public feeling of the German people.

The Emperor's Friendship

But in spite of the irritation thereby caused, the Kaiser stood nobly by us. He refused to see President Kruger when he came to Europe; he equally declined to receive the Boer generals except on conditions flattering to our feelings as victors in the war; he conferred the Black Eagle, the Garter of Prussia, on Lord Roberts, the hero of that war, and, greater than all, he interposed between us and European intervention on behalf of the Boers.

My authority for this statement is based on the combined avowals of M. Lessar, late Russian minister at Pekin, and Sir Frank Lascelles, our own Ambassador at Berlin, who said to Bishop Wilkinson:

"After Cronje's defeat, the Czar approached the Emperor and proposed to offer mediation. The Emperor, knowing that England would not wish it, declined to move. Sir Frank repeated, again and again, how friendly the Emperor was to England.

But, then, what about the formidable navy which Germany is building so quickly? And what about the Kaiser's significant declaration that "our future lies on the sea?" Why shouldn't it? Is there not room enough on the ocean for the merchant ships of Germany as well as of England, and for those of all the other seafaring nations besides? And is not the sea-borne trade of Germany entitled to as much proportionate battleship protection as that of any other country

What said the Kaiser himself when proposing the health of his visitor, King Edward, at Kiel in June, 1904?

"Your Majesty has been greeted by the thunder of the guns of the German fleet, which is glad to see its honorary Admiral. It is the youngest creation among the fleets of the world, and an expression of the reviving sea activity of the German Empire as regenerated by the Great Emperor of undying memory. Intended for the protection of trade and of its territory, it also serves, like the German army, the maintenance of the peace which the German empire has kept for over thirty years, and which Europe has reserved with it."

Although the Kaiser has proved himself a first-rate business man and bargainer, that does not make him our enemy. On Mr. Rhodes rising to take leave of the Emperor after his famous interview with him at Berlin, His Majesty said, "Mr. Rhodes, I wish you were a German." "Why so, Your Majesty?" "Because, Mr. Rhodes, if you were a German, I would ask you to become director of my foreign affairs."

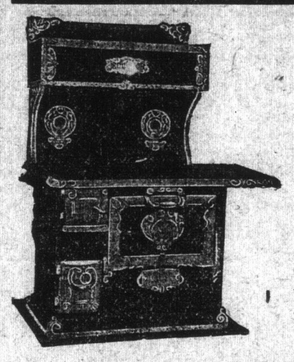
Mr. Rhodes thanked the Emperor for his compliment, and ventured to express the wish that the Emperor had been an Englishman. "Why so?" "Because," said Mr. Rhodes, "if you had been an Englishman, I would have suggested to Your Majesty the desirability of becoming my business manager," and the Kaiser declared that this was one of the finest compliments ever paid him.

There are some who see the intriguing hand of this imperial business manager in every international pie from Tangier to Pekin, frustrating peace conferences by his hypocrisy and playing other cantrips. But there is nothing in the past record, apart from the formal error of his Kruger message—for which he so nobly atoned during the war—to show that there has been any serious discrepancy between his acts and his protestations of friendship for "Land und Leute" of his mother.

Eighteen months later—in June, 1904—the King paid the Kaiser a semi-State visit at Kiel, while in 1906 and 1907 the monarchs again met informally at Kronberg and Wilhelmshohe, respectively, on the occasion of "Uncle Edward's" journey to Marienbad. It is to return these separate visits, by one of a ceremonial magnitude equal to all the three, that the Emperor and Empress are coming to Windsor.—Charles Lowe in the London Chronicle.

Adam Faust, farmer, of the second concession of Howick, committed suicide by jumping into a well.

NEVER BEFORE



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1 Sheet Patty Pans
1 Sheet Iron Bake Pan
1 Dust Pan
1 Wire Strainer
1 Wire Soap Dish
1 Wire Broiler
1 Retinned Dipper
1 1-Pt. Steel Mould
1 1-Qt. Steel Mould
1 Scrub Brush
1 Dover Egg Beater
1 Chain Pot Cleaner
1 Enamel Skimmer

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1 Soup Ladle
1 Dish Mop
1 Basting Spoon
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1 Fire Shovel
1 Steel Fry Pan
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1 Sink Strainer
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THE WORLD'S FUR TRADE

Some interesting facts regarding the world's fur trade are given by Vice-Consul Burrell, of Magdeburg, Germany: "Occasionally one hears the fear expressed that the fur-bearing animals are becoming extinct. The fur trade of America is larger today than ever before. It is true that the buffalo no longer comes into consideration as a fur-bearing animal, and the beaver is also nearly extinct in most countries. The sea otter, which formerly furnished 100,000 furs annually, yields not 400 at the highest, and the seal also seems to be rarer, as the number of sealskins has decreased from 400,000 to 10,000, but other fur-bearing animals have taken the place of these, and the dimensions of the American fur trade are at present greater than they have ever been. More money is now earned on skunk, muskrat and fox furs than ever before on beavers, sea otters, seals and other rare furs. The depots in the United States and Canada send the largest part of the furs they receive to the three famous fur markets of the world—London, Leipsic and Nizhni Novgorod. The buying itself is done by expert fur brokers.

"In London the furs are sold by auction, and an average of $5,000,000 worth of raw furs is disposed of there annually. The principal sale in Nizhni Novgorod, Russia, takes place in August. There all the Asiatic furs, such as Persian lambs and Astrakhans, Mongolian goatskins and Siberian sables, ermine, rare squirrel furs, and, although in very small quantities, otters and seals are sold. The Leipsic market is held at the great fur 'messe' at Easter time. To it come buyers and sellers from North and South America, Persia, China, Siberia, Japan, Tibet and England. The 'messe' lasts two weeks and is an interesting relic of mediaeval times, which still retains its importance.

"Germany takes the foremost place in the coloring of all sheepskins, which is attributed to the composition of the German river water and to the properties of the German clay. There are sent annually to the sales at Leipsic and Nizhni Novgorod 200,000 English fox skins, 500,000 German fox skins, 300,000 Russian fox skins, 90,000 American red fox skins and over 50,000 Alaskan fox skins of all sorts."

Monarchs in Exile.

England has always been the haven of political refugees and royal pretenders, and as a rule they have shown their appreciation of the country's hospitality by refraining from criticising their hosts or saying anything that might jeopardize their position as mere tolerated outsiders.

But the Duke of Orleans overstepped the bonds some years ago and made a violent and uncalled-for attack on the late Queen Victoria. In the end, writes the London correspondent of Town and Country, he was obliged to leave the country and did not return until he made a most abject apology.

This little incident has not endeared him to the British people, who look upon him as a person of no account. But since his return he has behaved very well and has lived the life of an ordinary country gentleman, amusing himself intermittently with the issue of a pronounciamento to "his people" or a little North Pole trip.

His father, when in exile here, was more popular. So was Louis Phillipe after the coup d'etat. So was Louis Napoleon, who lived in London in many social phases, once as a waiter and again as a highly appreciated member of the best society of the West End.

He never forgot the kindnesses that were extended to him during his stay here, and when he became emperor of the French his first wish was to come over with the Empress Eugenie and look up his old friends; which he found it difficult to do in the manner he liked, for when he came here to Windsor he was fairly tied up with court etiquette, from which it was impossible to escape.

I have recently seen a letter from Louis Napoleon to an old London friend from Windsor, in which he said: "I would much sooner run down to you and have an evening at ——'s where we could smoke and chat and talk over the times when you and I were sworn in as special policemen."

Napoleon III. came into his empire. I doubt if the Duke of Orleans will ever do so. One cannot always tell.

I used to know Peter Karageorgevitch in the days when he was a simple, unassuming exile in Switzerland. He would talk occasionally of Servia, as a place where he might with God's will have ruled, but he never expressed the slightest idea that he had an opportunity of ousting the Obrenovitch dynasty.

Suddenly Alexander was murdered and Peter went in triumph in a special train direct from Geneva to Belgrade and there he is now, a real king, covered with medals, recognized by the Powers and—wondering how long it will be before he exchanges his uniform for a frock coat and the Konak at Genoa.

Truly, the life of a pretender is not an enviable one. I have often seen and pittied Don Carlos, the Spanish pretender, who lives in Venice and may be seen there any day in the week, either dashing up and down the Grand Canal in a motor launch from which flies the Spanish royal flag, or walking up and down the Piazzetta when the band plays of an evening.

He is invariably accompanied by a magnificent boar hound and very often by his wife. He maintains a strict little court in his modest house on the canal and there is something about him that arrests attention, for he seems to carry kingship with him at every step—a tall, handsome, dignified man, serious, stern and direct, with a kindly eye and a strong chin, a man whom the novelists would describe as "every inch a king."

Butcher's Inference.

One day Emperor Francis Joseph was entering a village in his domain on horseback, and was met on the outskirts by a butcher who had gone out in hope of catching an early glimpse of the Austrian kaiser. The Emperor asked the butcher the way to an inn, and after directions had been given the butcher in turn enquired:

"Have you seen the kaiser?"

"Very recently," answered Francis Joseph.

"Are you sure? Do you know him certainly?" asked the eager butcher.

"Well, I ought to," replied the monarch, puffing out his chest. "I have shaved him often enough.

"Ah, and you are the court barber," said the abashed butcher in awe-struck tones, as he doffed his cap and backed to the roadside.—Washington Post.