

SIDELIGHTS ON NOTABLE PEOPLE BY THE MARQUISE DE FONTENAY

No end of a sensation has been created among the aristocracy of continental Europe, and at every monarchial court, by the divorce of the Prince and Princess de Ligne, who, ever since their marriage a quarter of a century ago, have been in the front rank of society in Paris, and also at Brussels. They had been separated for some time, but it had been hoped that the scandal of a divorce would be avoided, not only by reason of the identification of both their families with the Roman Catholic Church for hundreds of years, but also for the sake of the name and traditions of their respective houses.

The princess, who now loses her name and title as Princess de Ligne, is a de la Rochefoucauld, and the eldest daughter of the late Duc de la Rochefoucauld-Doudeville, who was for so many years president of the Jockey Club. Her brother is the present Duc de la Rochefoucauld-Doudeville, and her sister is the widowed Duchess of Artois. According to French law, divorces, no matter whether or not the decree be granted in their favor, are debarred from retaining the names and titles of their former husbands.

The Prince de Ligne, who has just been divorced, and who is the object of a considerable amount of sympathy and kindly feeling, is the tenth of his line, and the head of the illustrious house of de Ligne. The de Lignes descend from the former sovereign counts of Alsace, and were sovereign princes of Ligne in the holy Roman Empire, Princes d'Amblise, and Princes de Pinoy in the peerages of France and of the Spanish Netherlands, until the re-conquest of the map of Europe by the first Napoleon, when they were deprived of their titles and their hereditary rights in Germany, France, Austria, Belgium, Holland and Spain, and their estates but not their sovereignty.

The grandfather of the present Prince de Ligne was the rival of the late King Leopold for the throne of Belgium in 1830. In fact, he was the favorite candidate of King Louis Philippe of France, whose idea it was to place someone on the throne of Belgium who did not belong to the monarchial class, and who would be unable to withstand a French invasion, whenever it might suit the convenience of his Gallic majesty to invade. Leopold of Saxe-Coburg, however, got the best of Prince Eugene de Ligne. For, by pledging himself to marry Princess Louise, the daughter of Louis Philippe, in the event of his securing the crown of Belgium, he obtained the French king's backing, which proved successful, and in the end the Prince de Ligne had himself, as the principal representative of the Belgians, to receive the crown to his victorious rival.

The prince played a considerable role in history, was at Rome at the time of the outbreak of the revolution there in 1848, and it was largely owing to his assistance that Pius IX. was able to escape with his life, and to reach the Neapolitan fortress of Gaeta in safety.

The most celebrated of all the Princes de Ligne was, of course, Field Marshal Prince Charles Joseph de Ligne, father of the general who so nearly lost his life at Hohenlinden. He won his spurs in the seven years' war, and also the favor of Empress Maria Theresa, having been sent by the latter as special ambassador to the court of Russia, became a favorite of Catherine the Great. He accompanied the latter on her memorable progress through Southern Russia in the Crimea. It is related that as the imperial yacht rounded the promontory of Partheniz, famous as the site of the temple of Isikgenia, the empress was so much entranced by the beauty of the landscape that in a moment of enthusiasm she exclaimed to the Prince de Ligne, who was standing by her side, "Prince, make you a present of this lovely corner of the world!"

In response, he bowed low, kissed her hand, and then, without saying a word, plunged in full uniform into the sea, swimming to the beach, and, on reaching it, drew his sword and took possession of the gift, hastening a few minutes later, all dripping with water, to assist Catherine in landing from her boat. The rock on the point

still bears his name to this day, and the laus thus presented by Catherine the Great to her favorite, continue to the possession of the princely house of de Ligne until the present time.

After a life that was as full of adventures as those of the Three Musketeers of Alexandre Dumas, and surviving most of his children, and proving one of the most witty, interesting and entertaining figures of the Congress of Vienna, he devoted himself in his closing years to literature, developing some of the peculiarities of Mark Twain—that is to say, he used to do most of his writing in bed, had, for the sake of convenience, his bed placed in his library, and whenever he needed a book or document, would slip out of bed, ascend the ladder in his white flannel nightgown, and then get back into bed, the bedclothes being entirely concealed by papers and books of every description.

Fortunately for the couple now divorced, the only child of their marriage thus understood is herself married to Prince Alexander Thurn and Taxis. The Prince de Ligne's mother is still living, and belongs by birth to the house of Talleyrand-Perigord, while his sister Marie, is the Duchess of Beaufort-Spontin.

The prince lives almost entirely in Paris, where he makes his headquarters at the Jockey Club, and has visited the Duc de la Rochefoucauld-Doudeville, near Mons, in Belgium, to his only brother and heir, Prince Ernest de Ligne, who married to Diane de Cossé-Brissac, has seven children. Beloeil is a magnificent place in Hainault, not far from the French frontier. It has been in the possession of the de Lignes ever since the twelfth century, from which epoch date the foundations of the chateau. It stands in a park of 15,000 acres, laid out in 1711 by Le Notre, the creator of Versailles.

The chateau was damaged eight or ten years ago by fire, but has been completely rebuilt, while most of the treasures with which the place is crowded, from cellar to garret, were rescued. These treasures comprise gifts from Emperor Charles V. of Germany, from Philip II. of Spain, from Marie Antoinette, and from Napoleon I. to the de Lignes of their day; famous bronzes by Benvenuto Cellini, faience by Bernard de Pallissy, a magnificent clock, the clock of Paris, a cabinet made entirely of coral, which was a gift from Philip II. who dispatched the armada against England, the sword of Rubens, and the sword of the Duke of Burgundy, and Count Horn were bequeathed; a wooden spoon that had belonged to Martin Luther, and near 200 family portraits and the wooden clock of Velasquez, Holbein, Van Dyck and Albert Durer; also a magnificent malachite clock, presented by Empress Catherine the Great.

The collections of Saxe and Sevres porcelains, painted in the flames; also some superb tapestries, a wonderful collection of Japanese and Chinese curiosities given by Louis XV. to Field Marshal de Ligne, and a silver table given by King Charles VII. of France. But the whole of the valuable library, and all of the old manuscripts, which form one of the most precious collections of the sort in existence, were rescued.

The Duke and Duchess de Frías, who have just returned to Europe after a sojourn of several years in Africa, and who are now staying with the Duke of Alba at his palace of Liria in Madrid, in the matter of the daughter of Sir Charles Knowles, Bart., and the widow of Henry Arthur Tempest, while the duke, who was decorated with the Order of St. James, and is therefore a grandson of Michael W. Balfie, the composer of "The Bohemian Girl," and other well-known operas.

The present duke's mother, Victoria Balfie, was on the operatic stage when she won the love of Sir John Crampton, British ambassador at St. Petersburg, to such an extent that he made her his wife. Finding that his situation had thereby become rather difficult at the court of the Czar, Sir John, who it may be remembered, was the first English envoy at Washington on the demand of President Buchanan, was transferred as ambassador to Madrid, where Lady Crampton showed at first received in the most gracious fashion.

In the winter of 1863 to 1864 she fell in love with the Duke de Frías, one of the greatest nobles of Spain, and a lineal descendant of the grand constable of Castile under King John II. The "grande passion" between the ambassador and the duke soon became a matter of talk, nothing, however, occurring to create a scandal.

Sir John Crampton, with the same chivalry that characterized John Ruskin in his domestic relations, realizing that his wife could only be happy with the man to whom she had given her heart, notified her that as he desired to leave everything else her welfare, he would offer no defence if she brought a suit in London, not for divorce, but for the annulment of the marriage, under circumstances which would permit her to resume her maiden name. Like John Ruskin, Sir John Crampton offered no defence and allowed judgment to be pronounced against him. His chivalry was nowhere more than in Spain, and it is doubtful whether any foreign ambassador ever enjoyed a similar amount of popularity among his subjects. He remained at Madrid until his retirement from the diplomatic service in 1869.

On the annulment of her marriage, the Lady Crampton lost no time in marrying the Duke de Frías, and with an incomprehensible lack of delicacy the newly-wedded couple proceeded direct from Paris to Madrid, where naturally they found every door closed against them. Even easy going Queen Isabella was outraged by the heartlessness and lack of gratitude shown by the new fledged duchess, and refused to receive her. In a rage the duke sent back to the queen his grand cross of the Order of St. Charles III. resigned his post of chamberlain, and withdrew from Spain. During the following fifteen years he resided abroad, mostly at Biarritz, where the villa Frías became well known to American visitors and where his wife died in 1877. He subsequently married there Princess Carmen Pignatelli, with whom

he returned to Spain, where he died as civil governor of Madrid.

His son by Victoria Balfie, after leaving Eton, entered the diplomatic service of Spain, was secretary of legation, first at Tangier, and then secretary of embassy at Vienna, where he became involved in all sorts of financial difficulties, which necessitated his departure from the Austrian capital, and led to the severance of his connection with Spanish diplomacy. Happening to meet Major Gybon Spilbury, the head of an Anglo-Portuguese company holding a charter from the Lisbon Government for the subjection, administration and exploitation of all that territory in Portuguese Africa lying to the east of Lake Nyassa, he joined him as one of his lieutenants, and during the last four years has been in charge of a settlement known as Gondululo.

The entire territory controlled by the chartered company, of which the duke has been one of the four sub-administrators, amounts to more than 60,000 square miles. The duke probably is the finest polo player and most fearless horseman in Spain, is a splendid shot, a most talented violinist, and talks English without the slightest trace of any foreign accent. His experiences in Africa, where he has made a fine record for himself, have caused people in Spain to pass a sponge over his former shortcomings.

BRITISH CHRISTIAN SOCIAL UNION

Leading Clergymen Deplore the Condition of the British Poor—The Bishop of Birmingham mon the Application of the Bible to Modern Industry.

The Bishop of Burnley (Dr. Henry) presided at a crowded public meeting at Bolton, England, on Nov. 27, in connection with the conference of that town of the Christian Social Union. He said that the Bishop of Manchester, whose engagements in London prevented him from being present, wrote desiring to express his continued sympathy with the work of the Christian Social Union. Canon Scott Holland had been taken ill while on his way to Bolton, and was unable to be with them. The Bishop of Manchester, he was glad of the opportunity of welcoming, in some sense on the part of the diocese of Manchester, the Christian Social Union to Bolton in its annual gathering. He said that for the purpose of doing all it could to make the law of Christ the law of all men in all their dealings, in their trade, business, amusements, in their social relations, in all things that claimed the law of Christ as supreme, and in binding all men to do all they could to see that the law of Christ was brought in in all their worldly relationships.

Canon Denton Thompson, rector of Birmingham, in the course of an address, said that in the course of the vast complex organism they called society they felt that it needed re-arrangement. The wealth of England had more than doubled during the last 50 years, their annual income was greater, their production was larger, and yet in the great towns and cities of the country thousands were living, not dying, as he said, in a state of destitution. He was convinced that the present state of society was not according to the will of God. (Applause.)

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Miss Gertrude Tuckwell, in a vivid picture of the condition of the poor before they could reach their souls and try to talk to them of the glories of another world. (Hear, hear.) There were some people who were afraid of the word Socialism, but he meant the aspirations of all the people who had to fight against oppression and wrong, and to stand by the poor and the weak and try to uplift them. That to her was Socialism, and it meant bringing the Kingdom of God to earth. (Applause.)

He has proven himself a singularly keen and shrewd man. He has aimed during the tenure of the position that he occupies to promote peace, and if others insist on falling out, to keep us out of the quarrel. This, I believe, and always have believed, to be our only sound policy.

and he is being welcomed at Madrid with open arms.

King Victor Emmanuel of Italy has at length completed the purchase of the Island of Monte Cristo from the Ginori family, from whom he had leased it until the other day, and where technical America accession found his favorite retreat. From the eighth to the sixteenth centuries it was inhabited by monks, the ruins of which are still to be seen. The latter, however, invaded the island in force in the sixteenth century, sacked the monastery and carried the monks off to slavery in Tunis and Algeria.

For the next 200 years the island remained uninhabited, and it was not until the eighteenth century that the Grand Duke of Tuscany established a penal colony there, with a small garrison of soldiers to keep watch over the convicts. This was in turn abandoned for a time, and again the island remained uninhabited until a wealthy and eccentric American named Taylor took a fancy to the place while yachting in the Mediterranean, and induced the Grand Duke of Tuscany to sell the island to him. He built a villa, which still exists, surrounded it with pretty grounds and parks, and lived there for a number of years, his island monarchy and his eccentric isolation giving to Alexandre Dumas the Elder the idea of his novel, "The Count of Monte Cristo."

At length Taylor got tired of the island and disappeared as mysteriously as he had come on the scene. The Tuscan authorities, after 1860 the Italian Government, made vain attempts to locate him, ultimately selling it to the late Marquis Carlo Ginori, who converted it into a game preserve. While in garrison in Florence, King Victor Emmanuel, then treated there with one of his lieutenants, the king of the marquis. He took such a fancy to the place that on his accession to the throne he leased it from the Marquis, and he took his bride for their honeymoon.

God on earth. (Applause.)

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LABOUCHERE PRAISES SIR E. GREY

Says He Is the Best Foreign Secretary in a Long While.

Henry Labouchere writes in London Truth: When Sir Edward Grey was under the influence of foreign affairs under Lord Rosebery, I used to think that he would never be much more than a good and efficient under secretary, for his regard to the policy that he had explained and defended in the House of Commons. But since he has been himself our minister of foreign affairs, he has been a great deal more than that. I regard him as the best man that we have had for many a day. The fault of most of his predecessors was their anxiety to play a great part on the world's stage, and to be the center of much given to involving us in international issues which did not directly concern us. My idea is that just as the policy that he has followed is the best for her of whom I have heard, so it is with foreign relations.

If we are to believe the oracles of the daily press, Sir Edward Grey has endeavored to keep us out of the war between France, Russia and ourselves, which is aimed against Germany, our object being to secure allies in the event of our being engaged in a maritime war with Germany. Nothing, as it seems to me, justifies such an interpretation of his policy. He has, it is true, come to a working arrangement with Russia in regard to our respective positions in Asia, and in so doing he has acted very wisely. He is on the best of terms with France and Italy. When Austria annexed Bosnia he urged that there should be a conference of the great powers to bring the annexation within the general international law of Europe. But when Turkey herself accepted the situation, he declined to be bound in Germany, he has never said one word to encourage the anti-German feeling that is unfortunately rife among us. On the contrary, he has always protested against it, and declared that there is no reason to suppose that Germany nurtures any designs against us.

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ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE REFLECTED.

Huxley somewhere has said that if it were inevitable that every human being must at some time in his life play a game of chess against an expert, he would always choose to play existence, then the parent or state might well be indicted for criminal negligence if no knowledge of the great game were taught. A better parallel concerning the teaching of bacteriology to the general citizen could not well be offered. Surely if it is worth while for children to spend

years in studying music, geography, the higher mathematics, the dead languages and many other subjects not strictly necessary to existence—most of which are never used by the great mass of the public, all of which, except one, that is, the simplest forms, are quickly forgotten by the average citizen—all of which must be entirely relearned by the occasional individual who intends to become an expert in them—why should not children be taught the fundamentals of a subject of daily importance to them throughout the rest of their lives.—H. W. Hill, in Science Monthly.

EXTENSIVE REPAIRS WESTMINSTER ABBEY

How the Expenses of Restoring the Abbey Have Been Met.

The work of keeping Westminster Abbey in repair is a very onerous and delicate one, that is, the simple line of surveyors of the fabric is a distinguished one indeed. During the last seventy years this matchless church has been in the hands of Mr. Blore, Sir Gilbert Scott, Mr. Pennington, Mr. Michaelhouse and now Professor Lethaby.

There have been times in the history of the abbey when its very existence has been in jeopardy. The first of these occurred about the end of the eighteenth century. Sir Christopher Wren was called in and the work of restoration was carried out with the utmost zeal of thoroughness, though in many of its details its taste was open to much question.

When the late Dean Bradley arrived upon the scene in the year 1882 he found the abbey in a state of decay. The agricultural estates steadily dwindling in value, while the condition of many of the great flying buttresses, as well as the north transept, was irreparable. The late dean himself was wont frequently to describe the north transept when he first inspected it as presenting almost the appearance of a quarry.

It was not for extreme measures, and that the situation was saved at all was due to the vigor and the business acumen of the late dean. As it was the abbey had to pay a fearful price. A loan of £250,000 was made to the dean and chapter by the ecclesiastical commissioners. This enabled the authorities to get level with the worst of these structural defects. On the other hand, they were compelled to suspend the sixth canon, the income derivable from which has been employed for many years past in gradually paying off this immense loan.

THE MAN OVER 40 HEALTHY AND ACTIVE

How They Preserve Their Efficiency—Secrets of Good Health.

The activity of a good health of the man over 40 is one of the features of the present day, says the London (England) Daily News.

"Undoubtedly," observed a member of the Royal Sanitary Society, "the old people appear to maintain what one may call a greater efficiency than they did years ago. I think this is largely due to the great growth in medical skill and to the fact that people, particularly those in responsible positions—study their physical fitness far more than used to be the case. The man of 45 or 50 appears today, he is careful of his diet and his exercise, generally, to keep himself far more alert and youthful looking than his father or grandfather at a similar age."

"My view," said the middle-aged head of a prominent city firm, "is that man of the city preserve their efficiency nowadays far longer than they used to do. I know old men as young as you may call them, who still lean upon their shoulders the responsibilities of some big concern. Years ago they would have been sitting at home in their slippers at such an age."

"Highly useful study their appearance far more than they used to do," said the manager of a city bank. "They wear collars and ties and styles in dress which make them look smart and youthful. From my experience it certainly seems that the elderly man is very loath to leave the scene of his activities now—astonishing age. Directly a man has a small ailment he goes straight to his physician. What the medical man tells him to do he does exactly. His one aim is to keep fit, and he manages to do so."

GERMANY'S REGENERATION.

Many a chapter has been written on the regeneration of Germany. Where once barren fields stood, so barren that foodstuffs would not grow, there have arisen vast works bristling with the stacks of factories, and thousands of commercial flowers grow where once not even a weed would flourish. And in all these plants chemists are working, controlling the products that are made, and creating new things, and for every new and useful compound more work is found, and whereas, emigration was the rule in Germany 30 to 40 years ago, and its best people left it like rats from a sinking ship, today many are immigrating, for

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Guaranteed to Wear Longer or you get 2 pairs free

We guarantee the following lines of Pen-Angle Hosiery to fit you perfectly, not to shrink or stretch and the dyes to be absolutely fast. We guarantee them to wear longer than any other cashmere or cotton hosiery sold at the same prices. If, after wearing Pen-Angle Guaranteed Hosiery any length of time, you should ever find a pair that fails to fulfill this guarantee in any particular, return the same to us and we will replace them with TWO new pairs free of charge.

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The reason why they will wear longer is because of the exceptional quality of the cashmere and cotton yarns we use. And because we knit them on Pen-Angle exclusive machines. We have the sole right to use these machines in Canada.

For Men

No. 2404.—Medium weight Cashmere half-hose. Made of 2-ply Egyptian yarn with our special "Everlast" heels and toes, which add to the wearing qualities. While the hosiery still remains soft and comfortable. Black, light and dark tan, chambray, myrtle, pearl gray, oxford, helio, sky, pink, bisque. Box of 4 pairs, \$1.50; 6 pairs, \$2.00.

No. 1175.—Mercedized. Same colors as No. 2404. Box of 3 pairs, \$1.00; 6 pairs, \$2.00.

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No. 1080.—Cashmere half-hose. Same quality as No. 2404, but lighter weight. Black only. Box of 3 pairs, \$1.00; 6 pairs, \$2.00.

No. 330.—"Everlast" Cotton Socks. Medium weight. Made from four-ply long staple combed Egyptian cotton yarn with 4x4-ply heels and toes. Soft in finish and very comfortable to the feet. A winner. Black, light and dark tan. Put up in boxes. Box of 3 pairs, \$1.00; 6 pairs, \$2.00.

No. 1150.—Very fine Cashmere half-hose. Medium weight. 2-ply leg, 4-ply foot, heel and toe. Black.

No. 1020.—Same quality as No. 1150, but heavier weight. Black only. Box of 3 pairs, \$1.50; 6 pairs, \$2.00.

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