

THE PENALTY OF FAILURE

A British Foreign Office Man
Comments on the Dis-
missal of Storer.

London, Dec. 11.—An attaché at the Foreign Office was asked this afternoon what would happen if a dismissed British ambassador should publish confidential correspondence between himself and the head of the Government.

"It would depend," the attaché answered, "on what the letters showed. If they showed that the ambassador's post had wrongfully been taken from him, and that he was the victim of gross injustice, the public would give him its warmest sympathy; and condemn the Prime Minister. But if the correspondence showed he had made a silly ass of himself, and proved himself phenomenally unfit to hold a diplomatic post, the public, before it was through with him, would make him regret exceedingly that he had not buried his letters and sowed the ashes on the winds. The public would amply justify the publication of the letters in the former case, because it would hold him no man was under obligation to respect the confidence of another who was persistently wronging him. In the other case, the public would doubly condemn the man, first for breach of confidence, and second, for making a fool of himself."

"And what would your public say about Storer, if his case was theirs?"

"That is a distressing hypothesis. I should be sorry to think such a case could be ours. Storer seems to have demonstrated considerable lack of fitness for diplomatic work, and Mrs. Storer seems to have demonstrated remarkably well that an indiscreet woman may become something of a nuisance when she gets into international politics. At the same time, President Roosevelt must come in for a bit of criticism. He must have known what the Stors were doing long before he made any protest. Why did he keep them in office so long?"

"He didn't keep them in office," the listener suggested. "It was only Mr. Storer who was in office."

"Practically both were in the London office, it seems to me," the attaché replied. "The commission, of course, ran to the man, but I judge the woman acted all along as though she, too, was named in that document. She seems to have been quite as big a figure in continental diplomacy as her husband. The President says she was known all over Europe as the American ambassador. I can't help thinking he knew that several years before he gave Storer his walking papers, and I can't help thinking, too, that he knew just what the Stors were trying to bring about at Rome. If they had succeeded, probably the President would have been delighted. They failed, and had to pay the penalty of their failure."

NEW MASTOID OPERATION

Dr. Heath, of London, Perfects Method of Preserving the Hearing.

London, Dec. 10.—An important advance in aural surgery has been pronounced by Charles J. Heath, surgeon of Golden Square Throat Hospital, before the Otological Society. Dr. Heath has after many years of experience, has perfected an operation for the cure of suppuration of the middle ear without the removal of the drum or of the ossicles, as has hitherto been done.

The operation consists in draining the middle ear without mutilation of the mastoid bone. It is a variation of the mastoid operation and makes possible the preservation, and in many cases, the restoration of hearing.

The Otological Society recently discussed Dr. Heath's methods and generally approve of the operation. Prof. R. H. Woods, of Dublin, describes it as the greatest improvement in aural surgery since the introduction of the radical mastoid operation.

5,000 WALK OUT.

Schenectady, N. Y., Dec. 11.—It is estimated that 5,000 men walked out of the General Electric Works this morning, and are now holding a mass meeting at Industrial Workers' Hall.

Gentle Laxative Needed

For the Aged and Feeble

With the advance of years the vital functions of the body slow down. The organs of secretion grow weak, the peristaltic action of the bowels is perceptibly lessened and dangerous constipation develops.

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HUGE SMELTER FOR OLD ONTARIO

An Up-to-Date Plant Likely To
Be Erected on a Site
at Hamilton.

Toronto, Dec. 11.—A large smelter for the treatment of Cobalt ores is to be erected at some point in old Ontario, possibly at Hamilton, and work on the plans will be undertaken at once. The North American Cobalt Refining Company, Limited, which is behind the enterprise, will also erect at Cobalt a subsidiary smelter for the treatment of low grade ores, the output of which with the concentrates will be sent to the main smelter for the final process of refining.

The company, after a lengthy meeting at the King Edward Hotel yesterday, which was attended by representatives of many of the leading unities, decided that the result of their experiments covering a period of six months fully justified the launching of the project. They were carried on at Hamilton in a smelter erected at a cost of \$5,000 for experimental purposes. Speaking of their success a director said last night: "We have succeeded in accomplishing what has never been done before. In smelting Cobalt ores we have been able to completely separate the arsenic, cobalt and other by-products from the silver. The experiment has been an unqualified success."

The question of a site is now under consideration, and will be decided upon at a meeting to be held early in January. The present grounds at Hamilton consist of five acres, not large enough for the proposed plant, which will have a capacity of about 500 tons a day and will cost approximately \$200,000.

At Hamilton, according to a director's statement, they will be at the mercy of one power company. If a working arrangement can be made with the power company and the necessary land be secured Hamilton will probably get the smelter.

Toronto was unable to offer sufficient inducements, this director stated, in the way of a site.

He said also last night that the company had all the capital necessary to push the work to completion. "We will not lose a day in completing the enterprise when the question of site is arranged."

LOVER LATE; TAKES POISON

When Fiances Fails to Arrive Young
Woman Swallows Acid.

New York, Dec. 11.—Because a man to whom she hoped to be married had failed to keep an appointment on time, she said afterward, Miss Mary Clausen, of Boston, swallowed poison in her room in the Hotel Wroxeter a few minutes after 8 o'clock. Physicians there said she would recover.

Miss Clausen's friends in the Wroxeter said she had told them that Frederick Preston was married, but was trying to get a divorce to marry her, and that she was worried by the possibility of his being unsuccessful in his suit had borne heavily upon her. Yesterday she did not leave the hotel and her dependency was noted by several of her friends.

It was exactly 8 o'clock when Miss Clausen telephoned the switchboard operator in the hotel and asked if Mr. Preston had not arrived or sent a message explaining his absence. When she heard that no message had come she replied: "He had not understand it," and hung up the receiver.

Preston appeared ten minutes later and went immediately to Miss Clausen's apartment. Finding the door unlocked he stepped into the room and found her unconscious, a bottle of carbolic acid by her side.

PATRICK WEAKENS

The Convicted Murderer Decides to
Appeal for a Pardon.

New York, Dec. 11.—Alfred T. Patrick, under sentence of death for the murder of William M. Rice, has made application to Governor Higgins for a pardon. The prayer is formal and means that the lawyer who for five years has been making an extraordinary fight for his life has decided to heed the advice of his family and friends and will accept a commutation of his sentence of life imprisonment.

Patrick himself drew up the application in the "death house" of Sing Sing. It is of considerable length and analyzes with detail his entire case, both from a medical as well as a legal standpoint. It is not known whether the paper has reached Governor Higgins, and the general belief is that it is either in the possession of J. F. Milliken, Patrick's brother-in-law, or some representative who will present it as soon as the federal appeal is decided or withdrawn. Governor Higgins has announced that he will receive neither petitions nor applications of any kind in the matter until after the United States supreme court has acted.

BISHOP McCABE ILL.

New York, Dec. 11.—Bishop C. C. McCabe of Philadelphia, of the M. E. Church, was stricken with apoplexy at Twenty-third street and Thirteenth avenue today. He was taken to the New York Hospital, where it is said that the bishop's condition was not serious.

DEAD IN THE WOODS.

Warton, Ont., Dec. 11.—Samuel Wilson, a farmer, who lived about four miles out of town, went out to hunt yesterday afternoon, and when he did not return at dark his sons sought him in the woods. Mr. Wilson's heart had been troubling him for some time, and it is supposed that was the cause of death.

ANCIENT HABITS IN ABYSSINIA

Interesting Ways in the Historic
Realm of King Solomon's
Descendant.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The press associations give us contradictory reports from Abyssinia. One day we are told that King Menelik, "The Lion of the Tribe of Judah," "The Chosen of the Lord," "The King of Kings," is dead or dying, and the next day the statement is contradicted. Abyssinia is a poor place to look for accurate news. There are no newspapers in the country; correspondents are very scarce and the gentle art of writing is not so well developed as it is in the District of Columbia and at other capitals. Robert P. Skinner of Massillon, Ohio, and our consul general at Marseilles, in a charming book, entitled "Abyssinia of Today," which has just been published, says that Menelik "knew of our war with Spain and he had a realization, though vague, of our might and power. His thirst for information is phenomenal. Europeans in the east, where newspapers are scarce and slow in coming, fall back upon a very useful institution, called 'Reuters,' Reuters is a news-gathering concern, whose brief telegrams are sent to those able to afford this luxury. They come in typewritten sheets, and are usually to be seen at hotels and the clubs of the sea-coast cities. When a week's dispatches have accumulated, they are sent by the mail boat from Aden to Djibouti, whence they are reforwarded to Dire-Daouah. Here the English is put into French, and the important facts are immediately telegraphed to Addis-Ababa, the longer dispatches following by a courier, to be translated into Amharic for the delectation of the emperor."

"His majesty speaks no language but Amharic, unless, perhaps, one or two of the local dialects. He doubtless recognizes a number of the commonly used French expressions, and on the day when we left the city he paid us a delicate compliment by saying in English: 'How do?' He has always at hand a very competent interpreter, who is also his private secretary, Mr. Sourvis, a Greek gentleman who speaks French, Spanish, Italian and English. Our conversations were invariably carried on in French as between the interpreter and myself. Indeed, French is the only foreign tongue one hears much in Ethiopia. It was surprising to find in a country where English political influence was so predominant so little of that language. There are no English merchants in the empire, although there are hundreds of Frenchmen scattered throughout the country. Many of the natives have a smattering of French, and the servants seem to pick it up more readily than they do English."

Mr. Skinner, you know, went to Ethiopia, which is the proper name of Abyssinia, as a special commissioner from the Government of the United States to open up relations between one of the oldest governments on earth and our own, and he negotiated a commercial treaty with the son of Solomon and the Queen of Sheba. Abyssinia is very ancient, although, as Mr. Skinner declares, "the opportunity for fruitful historical and linguistic research is a most tempting one. We devote millions to the uncovering of ancient cities dead," he says, "and we neglect an ancient civilization living; a civilization which found its inspiration in Solomon's court, and which, preserving its Christian faith through 1,600 years, and during many centuries cut off from all contact with the outside world, hands itself down to us in all essential respects, identical with that which prevailed in Bethlehem 2,000 years ago. I wish to see the student of world history to be too late, for when steam has replaced the camel and the mule, the old Ethiopia will have passed away forever."

The Abyssinians are Christians. They accepted Christianity in the fourth century, but still retain many of the ancient Moslem laws and customs. As Mr. Skinner says, the judges "of minister justice based upon the precepts of the open Bible in their hands." Abyssinian tradition recognizes Menelik as a descendant of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, who is identified as Makeda, Queen of Ethiopia, born 1,020 B. C. and placed upon the throne at the age of 15. One of Solomon's generals, Boulboul by name, while on a visit to Ethiopia, saw Makeda, the Queen of the south, and upon his return to Jerusalem, gave Solomon such a glowing account of her beauty that, although he had several hundred wives already, the wisest of kings sent an embassy to her with a letter beginning with these words:

"In the name of God, Clement and Merciful, Solomon, servant of God, and son of David, to Makeda, Queen of the south. Let peace be with him who follows the light."

Makeda declined at first to go to Jerusalem and sent Solomon 1,000 slaves and gifts of gold, spices and amber, but he would not receive the gifts and hurried Boulboul back to Ethiopia with a stern message that he would send an army to humiliate the Queen's advisers. This was the way the Solomon made love. The Queen of Saba (the south), from which we get the word "Sheba," decided to go to Jerusalem to see Solomon, and, as the Bible puts it, "to prove him with hard questions." "She departed with great pomp and entered Jerusalem mounted upon a mule with a large retinue, followed by camels bearing presents of gold and precious stones. She was received by the King, who attended her in an apartment decorated with crystal from ceiling to floor. Solomon had arranged for her a throne similar to the one she had left behind constructed of silver and gold, ornamented with rubies and emeralds. Under the crystal floor could be seen a running brook filled with rare fish, and so cunningly was it all contrived that the Queen believed herself about to cross a stream and lifted up her skirt."

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