THE GREAT NAPOLEON.

His Behavior, Sickness and Death at St. Helena—England's Generosity.

On July 24, 1815, seventy-two years ago, says a writer in The St. Louis Globe-Democrat, the British man-of-war Bellerophon, with the Emperor Napoleon on board, anchored at Torbay, on the southern coast of England, and Napoleon was a prisoner of war. As early as at Wagram Napoleon showed that his intellect had passed its prime. From that time on he was not himself. His Waterloo campaign was feeble. His conduct after Waterloo was more feeble. He was irresolute. He abdicated prematurely. After his abdication, and while yet at Paris, he displayed timidity. From Paris he proceeded to Rochefort, on the western coast of France, with about $80,000 in gold, with the intent to go to America. At that date he would have been one of the rich men in this country. He reached Rochefort on July 3. Not only precious hours but precious days slipped by. At last escape, which at first might have been easy, became impossible.

Probably it was well. In this country he might have wrought mischief. On July 24 he became England's prisoner of war. As he had been an emperor it was thought not proper to confine him as a felon. Yet, in violation of his pledge, he had stealthily escaped from Elba and had caused blood to flow like water at Quatre Bras, at Ligny and at Waterloo. It would be a crime against Europe and against humanity to trust him again on his honor. Royal though he had been, he must now be confined so that another escape would be impossible. The place of his detention was determined after careful deliberation, and was determined wisely. Napoleon's known intolerance of cold was considered in fixing upon a tropical island. St. Helena is an island made by volcanic eruption. It is mostly rocky, with a few narrow valleys. It is perhaps a dozen miles in circumference, and in 1815 contained about 4000 inhabitants. On account of its rocky bleakness it was rarely visited by ships—a fact making it more secure as a royal prison. When Napoleon was told that he was a prisoner of war he affected surprise. Great Britain behaved generously, and Napoleon was allowed to take with him as companions three military and one civil friend, with their families, one physician and twelve servants, to be kept at England's expense. He selected Marshal Bertrand, Count Montholon and General Gourgaud and M. de Las Cases as his companions. The support of this company cost England yearly about $100,000. This does not include the enormous expense of keeping at the island a Governor with his retinue, a regiment of soldiers and a fleet.

On August 8 the fleet sailed from the English Channel for St. Helena, and on October 17 Napoleon first stepped upon the island where he was to die. He lodged for a time in a little valley cottage called the Briars. More spacious accommodations were afterward provided. Soon Napoleon began his misbehavior. Cockburn was kindhearted and generous, but he had to do his duty in keeping Napoleon under guard. Napoleon, with the commonest capacity, ought to have seen this and respected it. But he would not. Cockburn furnished him a horse, and offered a wide latitude in which to ride, but added that if he approached within a prescribed distance of the beach he would be attended by a British officer. Napoleon affected to regard this limitation as an insult, and with childish pettishness refused to ride at all. Then came fault-finding as unjust as it was undignified. After the fashion of the vulgar, he thought it smart to use nicknames, and called Lord Cockburn "the shark." Daily he repaid generosity with ingratitude, politeness with insolence.

Napoleon did not desire to escape. He himself and that he had lived so long in the eyes of the world that he could not live without being talked about; that to be buried in privacy in the wilds of America would be unendurable, and that since he could not now occupy a throne he was greater as a prisoner on that rock than he could be elsewhere.

In 1820 his health began to fail visibly; his legs swelled, his circulation became feeble. Physicians prescribed. He had no confidence and refused medicine. He said he would die by disease, but not by medicine. In April, 1821, he grew worse daily. He daily spent hours in the bath, which weakened him. His eyes were sunken; his color was livid. He saw his end at hand. As he was worth more than $1,000,000, which in our time would be several millions, he made a will, in which he expressed his hatreds and vindicated his crimes. He denounced his bad hearted brother Louis as a liar.

On May 4, 1821, his hours were evidently numbered. He took no food, and frequently vomited a black matter. He had spasms and a high fever and a raging thirst. He was too weak to speak, and besides his tongue and lips were incapable of articulation, so that his faint mutterings were unintelligible. The 5th dawned as sunny and tranquil a day as ever dawned on that island. All day long Napoleon lay as in a stupor. It was evident that that day was to be his last. At 5.40 in the evening, just as the bright sun from a cloudless sky was about to dip into the ocean, a Catholic priest standing near, while friends wept around his couch, without one motion, without even the death rattle, the prisoner was released.

Courtship and Marriage.

From The Cleveland Plaindealer.

Every young lady has a right to know why a young man solicits her company. Her life is too valuable to be trifled with for mere pleasure. But young ladies like company. They can make it a pleasure or a curse. Courtship, if properly engaged in, is only an introduction to the happiness that will follow. Find one that will love you, not only through courtship, but through joys and sorrows, success and adversity—one that will be a helpmeet through life. Acquaintance is one of the important elements of courtship.

Too many young ladies have committed suicide and died broken-hearted because they did not gain a knowledge of their lovers' character before bestowing their affections on them. Have both eyes open. Court in daytime, and not in the dark. Young man, go around in the daytime and see what your sweetheart is doing when she does not expect you. Get a knowledge of her traits of character and domestic life. Young lady, be careful of your choice. See to it that a polished address does not cover many vices. Don't go blindfolded on this voyage of married life, but intelligently and wisely on both sides. With such a choice true happiness is sure to follow.

What Color Was Mary Stuart's Hair?

From The St. James's Gazette.

The exhibition of relics in connection with the tercentenary of the execution and burial of Mary Queen of Scots, which is under the patronage of the Queen, was opened at Peterborough yesterday, July 19, by the Dowager-Marchioness of Huntly.

With regard to the portraits which had been lent for the exhibition, some represented Mary as a beautiful woman with dark hair, while others made her plain looking with light hair. The genuine lock of hair lent by Her Majesty was of light color, contrary to the popular opinion; but it is understood it was customary in that age for ladies so sometimes dye their hair, which would account for the difference.

Reward of Virtue.

From The Omaha World.

Omaha Dame: "My dear, elopements are becoming so common that I am dreadfully worried about our daughter, she is so romantic, you know." Husband: "Don't be afraid. I'm on the lookout for anything of that sort." "Well, she never tells of a pretty girl in College Corner, Indiana, who eloped one Sunday while the family were at church." "George! I never thought of that, did she get away?" "Well, no, her father saw the couple as they drove past the church, gave chase and got her back; but if it had been our daughter, dear, we wouldn't have had any such good luck." "I'd like to know why?" "Why, you are always asleep in church, you know."

The Girl of the Period and Marriage.

From The San Jose (Cal.) News.

It's all very well to say that the girl of the period is vain, given up to art, dress and not to practical home duties, but this isn't so. She is an eminently practical creature when she has to be. She believes in having a good time when it is possible, but when life's realities come to her she meets them bravely. Every one knows of hundreds of such cases where young women have shown the stuff they are made of, and while young men must not hug the fond delusion that two can live as cheaply as one, yet he can remember that the American girl is a treasure in herself, who will, as the after-dinner speakers say, double his joys and halve his sorrows.

THE UNIVERSAL PROVIDER.

Interest in London in the Burning of Whiteley's Store.

Cable Dispatch to New York Evening Post.

Whiteley's sixth fire in five years almost obscures politics as a topic of conversation here. Everybody has his own theory about it. Whiteley is a self-made man, a vulgar, pushing egotist, who has built up an immense business from very humble beginnings, a business so great and so flourishing that even the successive conflagrations, which have converted into flame and smoke from first to last property valued at over $1,000,000, have failed materially to affect his operations. What is more remarkable is that his success has not been on account of the conflagrations, but in spite of them, for a peculiarity of Whiteley's position is that he has been burnt down without being insured. In recent years, at any rate, the insurance companies have refused to accept his risks.

The cause for this, it is alleged, is not far to seek. The fires, in Whiteley's own opinion, are the work of an incendiary. In these successive burnings of Universal Providers' stores we have the vengeance of an enemy. Upon this subject all kinds of stories are floating about. There are some who profess to see in it the revenge of a girl who has marked her resentment at her desertion by making a holocaust. Less romantic, but more probable is the belief that the fires are the work of some of the innumerable men whom Whiteley has ruined by his competition. Whiteley has been as bad as the co-operative stores in cutting down the prices of retail tradesmen. He has invaded, step by step, almost every branch of retail industry. Now there is nothing except milk which he is not ready to supply. He will undertake to provide lodgings and entertainment for dethroned monarchs like Ketewayo; to provide partners for a ball, to feed a regiment, or to furnish or provide a wife, according to orders received. There is nothing from coffins to bride's cakes and cradles which he is not willing to supply at a moment's notice at prices below those of his neighbors. He has never advertised and it is by no means a pleasure to shop in his enormous premises, but by sheer dint of selling for cash only at the lowest possible price he has built up a business which is one of the wonders of London. His fortune has been raised upon the bodies and bones of crushed and discomfited rivals who accordingly hate him with a whole heart fervently and are to-day expressing but one regret, viz., that William Whiteley is not calcined to ashes along with his establishment.

A person who knows Whiteley's well and has a relative employed there says: "There is place I know of in London or the provinces is there anything approaching to the wholesale system of fines for this and for that and for everything else that exists at Whiteley's. His whole system is one savage slave-driving from top to bottom. Whiteley himself patrols the establishment like a roaring lion, and woe to the luckless employe upon whom he casts an evil eye. The result is that the whole place is reeking with discontent. I verily believe it is this discontent which finds terrible utterance in the fires which from time to time consume Whiteley's goods."

Male Attire for Women.

From The London Telegraph.

The proposal of the erratic Mme. de Valsayre, who intends to agitate for freedom of female garb, seems destined to find many supporters, both male and female. The Prefect of Police has for some time past allowed several women to wear male attire, but for particular reasons. Among these is a female from Marseilles who is blessed with a hirsute appendage on her chin which would do honor to an athletic sapeur, a soldier who is popularly supposed to grow a marvellous beard. This woman was of course followed by a crowd of small boys whenever she appeared in public. So the bearded woman resolved to discard the petticoat for ever, and to don the pantaloons of the stronger sex. To this intent she made an application to the Prefect of Police, which was granted at once. The other women who are allowed to assume man's habiliments are a few female painters or copyists, who work on high ladders in the picture galleries, and about a half a dozen persons who have left off the proper garb of their sex for motives connected with health.

Since Mme. Dieulafoy appeared at the Opera Comique in the evening dress of a coquettish M. Grannon, the Prefect of Police has recalled to his subordinates the edict against the wearing of men's clothes by women. But nobody has been punished, and it is probably in view of this leniency that some females continue to appear in public dressed as men, while the Prefect is himself continually pestered with applications from women who want to walk about Paris in male attire like Georges Sand, and who allege medical motives which M. Gragnon prudently and diplomatically professes not to understand. But Mme. de Valsayre's proposed petition to Parliament be rejected, as it undoubtedly will be, that belligerent dame will at least have the satisfaction of knowing that she will have given another impetus to the prevailing fashion among her countrywomen of making their garments as masculine as possible. This year, for instance, men's felt hats have been largely taken into wear by the ladies, and the modiste has been frequently abandoned for the hatter. In these circumstances it may be safe to predict that the days of the divided skirt, at least, are not far off.

European Dress in Japan.

From The Japanese Herald, July 8.

The Court of the Mikado is being gradually stripped of every vestige of its Oriental coloring. It was only the other day that the Empress made the European fashion of female attire obligatory on the Japanese ladies admitted to the court receptions, and the domestics of the palace are now to be rigged out in liveries imitated from those worn by the servants of the Imperial household in Austria. Prince Komatsu, who has spent the last few months in Vienna, was so taken with the appearance of the Court servants that he asked permission to have copies made of the different liveries. This was, of course, readily granted, and the models are now on their way to Japan, where powdered periwigs and silk stockings will no doubt before long be as regular a feature in the economy not only of the Court, but of every household which respects itself, as they are in our own part of the world.

Two Plucky California Girls.

From The Oroville Register.

Misses Fannie and Alice Orton, of Butte Creek, are doing what many a young man might be proud to do in the way of securing themselves homes. They each secured 160 acres of Government land and are now fulfilling the law requiring them to live upon the land and make the necessary improvements. Each has a residence upon her quarter section, fences have been built and trees planted to rest the land. It is found that plums, apples and prunes do splendidly, while all the small fruits reach perfection. There are many fine springs on the land and some appear to be medicinal in their nature. There is no prettier or more pleasant summer retreat, while the winters are mild and agreeable. Fine winter apples can be grown and transported at a good profit, and in a few years their lands will become very valuable.

A Neighborly Boy.

From The Detroit Free Press.

He was a bright, talkative boy of 8 or 9 years, and he rang the doorbell of a house on Brush-street the other day and asked to see the lady of the house. He was admitted, and when she came into the parlor he said, "I belong to the family who just moved in next door." "Yes." "We want to be neighborly. Are you coming to call on ma?" "Why—why, child, I don't know." "You'd better come. Then she can come over to see you. She's a great woman to talk, and she'll show you the place where she had a felon on her hand. You want to be neighborly, don't you?" "I—I suppose so." "Well, then, I'll borrow a hunk of butter, and you come over and borrow our clothes-bars, and we'll soon be acquainted. We ain't a bit stuck up, even if we have got a mantel in the parlor. Well, good-by."

Diamonds and Pearls Thou Hast.

Diamonds and pearls thou hast,
Life's joys upon thee pour,
And thou hast eyes most beautiful—
My love, what wilt thou more?

My heart has given undying songs
Like waves upon the shore,
And all to praise those eyes of thine—
My love, what wilt thou more?

And with those wondrous eyes hast thou
Tormented me full sore,
And made me thy captive slave—
My love, what wilt thou more?

—*From the German of Heine.*

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G. POWELL,
Under Secretary of State.
Ottawa, 19th Feb., 1886. 6

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