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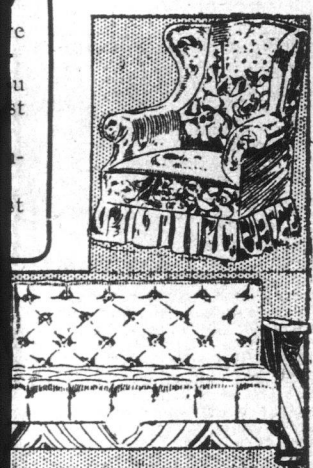


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An Hour with the Editor



REIGNING HOUSES

The reigning family of Portugal belongs to what is known as the House of Braganza. The ancestor of the House was Affonso, illegitimate son of John I. of Portugal, who was created Count of Barcellos by his father, and Duke of Braganza by Affonso V. John I. and Affonso V. were of the royal House of Aviz, so called because John was grandmaster of the Knights of St. Bennett of Aviz. He himself was an illegitimate son of King Pedro, of the House of Burgundy, which had reigned in Portugal for nearly three hundred years. The House of Aviz occupied the throne for nearly two centuries, when it became extinct, and in 1578 the Crown passed to King Philip I. of Spain, being retained by Spanish sovereigns for sixty years. In 1640 the Portuguese rose in revolt against foreign rulers, and after a spirited contest succeeded in expelling the Spaniards, whereupon the Duke of Braganza, who seemed to be the only available representative of the previous reigning family, was chosen King, and he ascended the throne as John, or, more properly, Joao IV., who has gone into history as "The Restorer." From this monarch King Manuel of Portugal is descended. In 1834 Maria II. came to the throne, and she subsequently married Fernando, Duke of Saxe, a prince of Coburg-Gotha, so that the present reigning family is properly described genealogically as the House of Braganza-Coburg. The historic friendship between England and Portugal began in the reign of Joao IV.

The Romanoffs constitute the reigning house of Russia. They differ from the other reigning houses that have been so far considered in the fact that the name is a patronymic and not taken from a locality. The first of them to bear the title Tsar was Michael Romanoff, who was elected to that position in 1613 after the extinction of the ancient House of Rurik. The present Tsar is descended from Michael in the female line. On the male side the present family traces its lineage to Karl, Duke of Holstein-Gottorp, who a little less than two centuries ago married the daughter of Peter the Great. Genealogically the name of the branch of the family that has occupied the throne since 1762 is Romanoff-Holstein.

In the later part of the Sixteenth and the beginning of the Seventeenth Century, Russia lay practically at the feet of Poland, and the country was itself torn by internal disorders which had culminated in the murder of the Tsar Dimitri. After several years of doubt and uncertainty as to who was sovereign, the nobles met to choose a new occupant of the throne, and the choice fell upon Michael Romanoff, of whom it was said that his claim to support lay chiefly in the virtues of his father, for he himself was only a youth of sixteen years. His reign was not wholly undisturbed by other claimants to royal honors, but he held his own and having associated his father with him in the government, proved a very excellent administrator. Under his rule the country was opened to foreign commerce, and some historians say that he made no claim to autocratic power. He was great-grandfather of Peter the Great. The Romanoff family was not of royal descent, although one of the members of the family had been the first wife of Ivan the Terrible of the great House of Rurik. Of Rurik little can be told that possesses any historical value. He and his brothers are said to have come "out of the North" in 862 and it is alleged that they were Swedish princes. Many of the descendants of Rurik were very remarkable men; but, as far as is known, the family is absolutely extinct.

The reigning family of Italy is the House of Savoy. Its founder was Humbert, the Whitehanded, who is said to have been descended from Boso of Provence, born in 879, one of whose sons became Holy Roman Emperor under the title of Louis the Blind. Humbert was born about the year 1000 and for services rendered he received large domains, including the country of Savoy, from which his descendants took their name. Additions were made to the territory of the family and at the close of the Twelfth Century Savoy was a very formidable power. For nine hundred years the family has occupied a position of great prominence in European history. Its daughters married into other reigning families in England, France, Spain and elsewhere, one of them having been wife of the Emperor of Constantinople. The sons contracted alliances with many royal houses, and perhaps one may say with safety that in no ruler of the present day is the blood of so many diverse dynasties represented as in the King of Italy. Victor Amadeus II. married Mary of Orleans, daughter of Henrietta of England, and the legitimate heir to the crown after the exclusion of the Old Pretender. It is a descendant of hers, who is now regarded by a few people as the legitimate queen of England.

The House of Savoy became royal in the time of Victor Amadeus II., who was recognized as King of the Island of Sardinia, which, as Duke of Savoy, he had acquired from Austria in exchange for Sicily. In the early part of the last century the Sardinian King was forced to abandon his continental possessions and retire to Sardinia. He returned after the Battle of Waterloo and re-took possession of Savoy, continuing to rule in a sort of vassalage to Austria. The Austrian control was thrown off in 1848. Italy was at this time divided up among several princes, and the Pope exercised temporal power over what were known as the States of the Church. After thirteen years of

turmoil, in 1861 Victor Emmanuel of Sardinia was proclaimed King of Italy, and the present King is his grandson.

MAN THE RESTORER

Two weeks ago we spoke of "Man the Destroyer," showing how he had exhausted and continues to exhaust those elements, which in one form or another Nature has provided for his use, so that so far as natural products are concerned, the earth is much less fitted to be the abode of humanity than it was several centuries ago. Yet there are many more people living on the earth today than at any time within the historical period, which shows that in some way man has compensated for the destruction he has wrought. Will the earth in years to come be better fitted to be the residence of human beings than it is now, and will those beings be as far in advance of what we are, as we are in advance of what our ancestors were before mankind began to exercise his inventive faculty? Will there ever come a time, when our descendants will look upon us as primitive, and upon our civilization as crude attempts to wrestle with the adverse forces of Nature? These are some reasons for supposing that these questions may be answered in the affirmative.

Take the question of chemical research. Thus far chemistry has concerned itself chiefly with analysis, not with synthesis. It has been taking substances apart to see what they are made of; it has only learned in a very elementary way how to produce things out of the raw materials. Thus a chemist can take a piece of sugar and tell you just what it is composed of and the exact proportions of its several ingredients, but he cannot take the materials it is made of and put them together to form sugar. If a chemist ever finds out how to do that, his discovery will revolutionize humanity. At present we depend for our food upon plant life. So far as can be ascertained, all our food, animal as well as vegetable, passed from the inorganic stage through plant life. There is some mysterious process by which a plant is able to take carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and other elementary substances, which, if eaten in their elemental form, would no more support life than so much sand, and compound out of them wheat, strawberries, potatoes and the thousand and one things upon which animal life feeds. When man can take these elements and out of them produce, say, a strawberry, not necessarily in the shape of a strawberry, but something that will in flavor and nutritious quality be equal to a strawberry, synthetic chemistry will have achieved a triumph, which will affect humanity almost to as great a degree as the discovery of the means of making fire. Experiments have been made in the synthetic production of foods with what has been claimed to be success, but the field is one that is practically a virgin one to the investigator. During the past few years experiments have been made, which seem to justify the hope that the nitrogen of the air may be returned to the soil so as to maintain its fertility. This seems like the entering wedge of synthetic chemistry as applied to supplying the needs of mankind.

While speaking of this subject mention may be made of fish, which possibly may furnish an exception to the rule that all food substances have at one time passed through the vegetable stage. So very little is known about fish that one cannot say with certainty what many of them live on. Whether they live on minute animalcules or upon low forms of vegetable life, or possess the capacity of separating from water the substances which it holds in solution and converting them into flesh and bone, just as plants can take the elementary substances out of the air and convert them into fibre, leaves, flowers and fruit, we cannot as yet say with certainty. On what do the myriads of salmon live, which ascend to the sea so as to maintain its fertility. This seems like the entering wedge of synthetic chemistry as applied to supplying the needs of mankind.

No one knows what possibilities are contained in the sea. We were told not long ago that gold had been successfully extracted from sea water, and a little thought will show that there must be a little of everything in sea water that water can dissolve, for through uncounted centuries the water of the ocean has been circulating by way of the clouds, the rain and the rivers, and it must in its course have taken up a little of everything. But this aspect of the subject may be left for the present out of consideration, for there is another use to which human ingenuity may put the ocean one of these days. The force exerted by the rise and fall of the tides is enormous, and it has already been employed to some extent for mechanical purposes. That it may be used to a much greater degree by and by, and that from its energy power, heat and light may be derived, thus supplying a need that will arise from the exhaustion of coal mines, may be taken for granted. This method of utilizing one of the great forces in nature may not be very remote.

There is no means of judging what may be involved in electrical development. As yet we only have a glimpse of wonderful things. One of the earliest discovered in regard to it was that by its use water could be separated into its component parts; recent experiment has demonstrated that electricity can be employed to promote vegetable growth. In this connection mention may be made of what is known as intensive cultivation, not the kind practised by our Chinese gardeners, who manage during a season to get a succession of

crops off the same area during each season, and by close tillage and high fertilization, to produce a yield per acre much ahead of the average; but intensive cultivation, which, by the use of glass and other expedients, is able to disregard climatic conditions to a very large extent. Here is a field of unknown possibilities, and, taken in connection with the application of electricity to crop growth, may revolutionize the production of many kinds of vegetable foods. If one should choose to give his fancy a little rein, it would be easy to picture a community where each person raised all the fruits and vegetables necessary for his support in a small area. Think what this would mean in the way of a revolution in social conditions. Think how it would change the whole question of transportation. Think how it would tend to the development of a healthy race of men and women. Experiment in the application of electrical energy to the production of plant life is only in its infancy; what the next decade may have in store in this direction no one can pretend to foresee. Any day we may hear of a discovery that will open illimitable possibilities.

The invention of wireless electric communication is full of unimaginable possibilities. Take one instance. It is now possible for a man to carry around in his pocket a telephone, whereby he can communicate without the use of wires with another person, similarly provided, and at a considerable distance away. Just to what degree of efficiency this invention has been brought we do not know, but it has passed the toy stage, and may be a commercial proposition at any day. There is no use for any one to profess to realize what the perfection of such an appliance, so that it might be used throughout a wide radius, would mean. Apparently there is nothing possible with wire transmission that is not possible with wireless. One writer, who seems to be very familiar with the subject, says the time is not far distant when the use of wires for electric transmission will be wholly abandoned, at least in the case of the telegraph and telephone. We know that wires can be dispensed with to some extent in the transmission of electric power, for torpedoes have been made that can be steered and discharged by wireless electric communication. The world of the future seems, therefore, to be materially different, so far as mankind is concerned, from the world of the past.

Only a passing reference need be made to the possibilities of aerial navigation. It is too soon to predicate anything with certainty on that score, for notwithstanding all that has been accomplished, there is a good deal yet to be achieved in that field before dirigible balloons or flying machines can be utilized in connection with commercial transportation. But if ever it becomes so aerial navigation is practicable for the ordinary purposes of life, the result will be seen in far-reaching changes. Most writers only speak of its effect in connection with warlike operations; but airships, that will carry soldiers and ordnance with safety, will carry merchandise, and if the aerial transportation of men and merchandise becomes possible, the day of great cities will be over. A city like New York, for example, only exists because it was more convenient than any other point for purposes of transportation. Not many people would wish to live on Manhattan Island, if it were not that the exigencies of transportation in the past caused business to centre there. Once the atmosphere affords men a highway for travel, and there will be a general desertion of the cities.

But we can only forecast in the most general way what may be accomplished by Man, the Restorer. Our race has certainly done much to change the surface of the earth and exhaust its accumulated wealth; but there seems to be a new earth arising, which will not need the resources that have been essential to human progress and happiness in our relatively primitive days, when we build upon destruction.

BREITENFELD

There are some places in the world that seem as if chosen by History to be the scene of her greatest incidents. The country around Tours in France is one of these; the passes of the Alps and the fields of Piedmont constitute another, and at Breitenfeld, in Saxony, we have yet another. Here were fought two of the great battles of the Thirty Years' War, and the result of the conflicts had a potent influence upon the future of Central Europe. The early part of the Seventeenth Century saw Austria making a powerful claim to sovereignty over the surrounding nations. It is difficult for any one to say how much political ambition and how much religious fanaticism shared in determining the policy, which successive Austrian monarchs saw fit to adopt towards their Protestant subjects. The motives behind the policy are unimportant in this connection; what we have to do with are the results of it. The historical facts are that under the Emperor Ferdinand II. the treatment of the Protestants led to their rebellion in 1619. The war which followed ultimately assumed a religious character, being in point of fact a struggle between the Catholics and Protestants for supremacy in Northern Germany. The great leaders on the Catholic side were Tilly and Wallenstein, soldiers whose names stand to this day as synonyms for military prowess. On the Protestant side the leadership was entrusted to Christian IV. of Denmark. The struggle was very unequal, the Protestant princes meeting with defeat

after defeat, which were relieved, but by no means compensated for, by a few victorious expeditions. So complete was the success of the imperial forces that in 1629 the Danish King consented to the Treaty of Lubec, which greatly humiliated him and his allies. Peace might now have been preserved for some time, but the Emperor Ferdinand, excited by his successes and rendered more arrogant than ever in religious matters, not only oppressed the Protestants more rigorously than ever, but gratuitously insulted Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden.

Gustavus Adolphus was one of the most notable princes of his own or any age. He was reared in the strictest Lutheran faith, and trained in business. He was proficient in eight languages, well read in history, a capable musician and a splendid athlete. When he succeeded to the throne he found the country in a state of confusion, which he devoted all his energies to remedy. In this he was successful. At this time Denmark was in possession of the Baltic provinces of Sweden, and as soon as Gustavus had set his kingdom in order, he raised an army and expelled them. He then turned his attention to Russia, and conquered the region now known as Finland, extending his dominion as far as the site of what is now St. Petersburg. Then followed a war with Poland, which terminated with Sweden in possession of important territory south of the Baltic. Encouraged by these successes, and angered by a personal affront from the Emperor, he determined to espouse the cause of the German Protestants. After varying success he encountered the imperial forces under Tilly at Breitenfeld, and inflicted upon that hitherto unvanquished general such a defeat as changed the whole course of events. Not the least of the results of the battle was the tremendous prestige it conferred upon "the snow king and his bodyguard," as Gustavus and his little army had been sneeringly called. William Francis Collier thus describes the battle:

"Tilly without much difficulty routed the Saxons, who fought apart from the Swedes. Seven times Pappenheim, the leader of the Austrian cavalry, dashed with the heavy cuirassiers upon the lines of the Swedish blue-coats; but every time the sweeping wave recoiled in broken foam. Having thus repulsed Pappenheim, the royal Swede attacked the troops of Tilly, who had broken the Saxon wing, and seizing the heights where their cannon were planted, he turned their own guns upon them. This decided the day. Tilly fled, bleeding and defeated; and Gustavus knelt among the slain and wounded to thank God for his victory. Seven thousand of the Austrian army lay dead. Their camp, all their cannon and more than a hundred colors fell into the hands of the victors."

Gustavus pursued his success, and in a battle not long after Tilly was slain. The Emperor thereupon recalled Wallenstein, who was soon at the head of an army of 60,000 men. After harassing delays, the Battle of Lutzen was fought, which resulted in the defeat of the imperial forces; but the Protestant troops "had no joy in that victory, for Gustavus Adolphus was dead." The war continued, with no pronounced results on either side until Torstenson, who had been page to Gustavus, took command of the troops of Sweden and her allies. After this victory followed victory. A second battle was fought at Breitenfeld, which went far towards restoring peace; but all historians are agreed that it was the victory of Gustavus Adolphus on that historic field that secured the power of the Protestant princes in Germany and defeated the plans of Austria to establish her sway over all the German lands.

During the Thirty Years' War the genius of Richelieu made itself felt. Few men have played a more subtle and more influential role in the chancelleries of Europe than this astute Cardinal, whose name is so familiar to us all; but of whose personal career perhaps Colonist readers might be glad to hear a few details. We shall endeavor to present a short sketch of his life next Sunday.

The Birth of the Nations

XXXIII.
(N. de Bertrand Lugrin)

The British, IV.

The first conquering army to invade Britain was only the advance guard of a vast host of people who were to come later, when, migrating by degrees, the whole of the English nation settled in the newly acquired territory. And Britain was Britain no longer. Old customs, old usages, old faiths, old superstitions, all passed away with the ousted people. The English brought their own social and political organizations, their own religion with them. The Britons had in common with the other provinces of Rome adopted Christianity. The conquerors had no faith in the teaching of Christ and made all haste to overthrow the Christian institutions. The new England became a heathen country.

A cursory glance might lead us to decide that all this was a terrible blight upon England and that it must mean the setting back of her civilization to the days of barbarism. But if we look a little closer at the facts we shall see that this was not the case. The con-

dition of the Saxon people was infinitely better under the Saxon Government than was that of the people of the provinces of the Empire under Roman rule. In the one case we have as a basis of society the freeman, in the other the slave, the degraded peasant "With the English people passed to the shores of Britain all that was to make Englishmen what they are. For distant and dim as their life in that older England may have seemed to us, the whole after-life of Englishmen was there. In its village-moots lay our Parliament; in the gleemen of its village feasts our Chaucer and our Shakespeare; in the pirate-bark drifting from creek to creek our Drakes and our Nelsons. Even the national temper was fully formed. Civilization, letters, science, religion itself, have done little to change the inner mood of Englishmen. That love of venture and of toil, of the sea and the fight, that trust in manhood and the might of man, that silent awe of the mysteries of life and death which lay deep in English souls then as now, passed with Englishmen to the land which Englishmen had won."

With the coming of the English arose the new order of English nobility. Heretofore there had been no kings among the Saxons, the oerl being the highest in rank. The long warfare against the Britons made it necessary for the various tribes to have their leader, who was made their king. The title became an hereditary one, and the first instance of this new order was that of Hengest and his son Aesc. However the people still possessed the privilege, and held it for many hundred years, of passing over a claimant, who was considered unfit and choosing one to their own liking. In war alone the power of the king was absolute. His bodyguard constituted the first nobles, who were given grants of land in recognition of their services, and were exempt from the jurisdiction of hundred-court or shire-court.

The different invading armies of Angles, Saxons and Jutes began to battle with one another for supremacy, one king and his followers making war upon another king and his people until the land was in a perpetual state of turmoil from civil dissensions. About a hundred years after the landing of Hengest, when Aethelberht was the most powerful of the English kings, another landing was made upon the Isle of Thanet by a band of peaceful invaders.

Augustine and his fellow monks marched from their ship to meet the English king, carrying before them their great silver cross bearing the figure of the crucified Christ, and chanting their solemn litanies. Aethelberht greeted them in friendly spirit, but it took a year to persuade him to change his old gods for the God of the Christians.

And this coming of Augustine precipitated further trouble among the people, for some of the English kings became converted to the new faith while others clung persistently to the religion of their fathers, and partly feeling waxed bitter. There follow the names of many brave leaders, each one's exploits making a romance by themselves. Aethelfrith was the hero of the battle of Chester, he fought for honors and the old faith in making war upon the Britons and the monks. Eadwine was the great king of Deira, who conquered Bernicia and established such a rule of peace that it was said "a woman with her babe might walk scatheless from sea to sea in Eadwine's time." He founded the city of Edinburgh. Panda of Mercia championed the cause of the old Woden worship, and his success in battle was very great. Oswald was a Christian king, who for nine years ruled wisely and well, finally to meet defeat at the hands of Panda.

Then, added to the horrors of civil strife, came trouble from another quarter. Britain was again invaded by the Northmen. The Danes and Swedes and Norwegians, struggling for a precarious existence, in a barren land, surrounded by windswept seas, heard fine tales of Britain's wealth of treasure in her abbeys and her towns. Emboldened by their own need and their love of adventure they set sail for the island of wealth. They proved fierce and invincible foes, conquering in almost every instance against the English kings and haughtily demanding lands and money as a means to peace, which peace they had no scruples in breaking as soon as they were prepared again to rally and fight. Just as it seemed that the country must be given over entirely to the invaders and England become a prey to the ravages of these new tribes as she had become a prey to the Saxons, a new leader arose who was to bring glory to his country and preserve England for Englishmen for all time.

The new-comer was Aelfred, with whose name every schoolboy is familiar, the great king of Wessex, who lived solely for the good of his people and whose noble example inspired all the goodly qualities in his followers. "I desire," said he, "to leave to the men that come after me, a remembrance of me in good works," and his aim has been more than fulfilled. He was the saviour of England from the Northmen who meant her undoing, but more than this "his memory has come down to us with a living distinctness through the mists of exaggeration and legend which time gathered around it. The instinct of the people has clung to him with a singular affection. The love, which he won a thousand years ago, has lingered round his name from that day to this." Wherever his name is known it has been as an inspiration to noble thought and deeds.