

FAMOUS TREATIES.

SKETCH OF THOSE OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

The World is Likely to See Another That Will Alter the Boundaries of Nations—One at Midnight That Gave Us Alaska in 1868.

At a time when the world is likely to see another treaty that will alter the boundaries of nations, it is well to look over the great treaties of the century. What did they effect?

The first of these began almost with the century itself and arose from events connected with Napoleon's seizure of power and his aggressive policy in Europe. It is known as the "Peace of Amiens" between Great Britain, Holland, France, and Spain. It was facetiously called "the Peace of Amiens" because it really provoked war. Its most notable achievement was to enable Napoleon's friends to invite the French senate to give Napoleon, who was then First Consul, some token of the national gratitude of France. The senate voted to prolong the First Consul's tenure of office. The proposition had but one opponent, a Girondist, who loudly asserted that the first steps towards a despotism had been thus taken, and that a flagrant usurpation threatened the Republic. Lafayette registered a noble "No," sent the First Consul a spirited letter, and ceased the relations he had hitherto maintained with Napoleon who had already stirred up a rebellion in Holland, was the master of Italy, and was now about to become the master of France. The treaty was signed March 27, 1802, by the Marquis of Cornwallis on the part of England, and by Joseph Bonaparte on that of France, and after a long session of the Senate in consequence Napoleon was on August 3 proclaimed in these terms "The French people name and the Senate proclaim Napoleon Bonaparte First Consul for Life."

The London "Times" and the whole British press roared its disapproval. Napoleon thundered back that if the English press interfered in the domestic affairs of the French people, that the nation knew how to respond to such flagrant impertinence, and would not be slow to preserve the dignity of the French name. Accordingly as Addison used to say in after years, the ink on the treaty of Amiens was scarcely dry when national pride was aroused which imperilled the new peace. The promptness with which France challenged the British nation upon that occasion is the secret of why Englishmen, however else they may despise, have still a profound respect for Frenchmen, and have been very shy of touching upon their domestic discords since. The blue envy of the press had nearly ruined the Empire.

The next in importance was the Treaty of Vienna in 1815. This was the great council of the powers which readjusted the disturbance caused by Napoleon in the affairs of Europe. The Czar of Russia, the Kings of Prussia, Denmark, Bavaria and Wurtemberg and nearly all the statesmen of eminence gathered around the Emperor Francis of Austria and his more famous minister, Metternich. Metternich by common consent presided. Lord Castlereagh represented England and Talleyrand France. The subordinate envoys and attaches of other Courts added to a host of petty princelings whose nominal titles remain, but whose power have disappeared from the map of Europe, crowded every hotel or available private residence in Vienna. They all gathered like vultures to feed upon the caged lion whom the brutal Sir Hudson Lowe was at that time insulting on board of the Bellerophon en route to St. Helena. This assemblage was also likely to end in renewed war. By the secret understanding after the Battle of Waterloo the allied sovereigns had reserved to themselves the disposal of all vacant territory to some of the princes then out of a job. The Ministers of Austria, England, Prussia and Russia determined to decide upon all territorial questions among themselves and only after so deciding submit them to France and the other Powers. This nearly caused a rupture. Talleyrand on hearing of the arrangement demanded that the whole European concert should meet in open Congress. But the "Big Four" continued their sittings as already arranged. Still it was found impossible to continue. While Napoleon reigned these powers were united against him, but now that the common danger was disposed of they were no less against each other.

The Congress assembled in September, 1814, and on January 3, 1815, Talleyrand's purpose of breaking Europe into two halves was only averted by a secret treaty pledging those powers to at once take the field against Russia and Prussia in defence of the Peace of Paris. France was immediately admitted into "the Big Four" and Europe assumed those divisions in which it remained until a United Italy and the German Empire arose.

Passing over the treaty which ended the Crimean War, those which ended the Holstein and the Austro-Prussian wars and that of 1871 which gave Alsace and Lorraine to Germany, we come to the next great international conference, that of Berlin.

The treaty of Berlin in 1878 stopped the victorious march of the Russian Army upon Constantinople. It thus preserved a plague spot in Southeastern Europe, Spain being the blotch in the corresponding corner of Southwestern Europe. These precious blossoms, the word "Jingo," and "the Princess League" are said to be the net results of that treaty in which Lord Beaconsfield figured. Russia had perfected a treaty with "the Sick Man," the famous treaty of San Stefano, by which

was secured complete independence for the Christian populations of Montenegro and which created the new state of Bulgaria with a seaport on the Egean Sea. Bulgaria was to be a mere blind for Russia. The British Government took alarm contending that any such step reopened those questions already settled on the abdication of Napoleon. A Congress of "the Big Five" was accordingly called in Berlin. This time Prince Bismarck presided. Prince Gorchakoff represented the Czar, Count Andrassy, Austria and Lord Beaconsfield and Salisbury the interests of Great Britain. Under the conditions of this treaty Turkey was shorn of some of her territory, which was added to Austria; the principality of Bulgaria was recognized as an autonomous Power with a Christian Government and a national militia. Stipulated reforms were to be introduced in Crete, Epirus, Thessaly, Armenia, and other parts of the Ottoman Empire.

Lord Beaconsfield went back from Berlin with the cry of "Peace with honor," the ludicrousness of the situation being that there was neither peace nor honor. Two years ago the most frightful massacres took place in Armenia and when Lord Salisbury who was a member of the conference was appealed to by the Christian sentiment of England to enforce the treaty, Lord Salisbury jauntily declared that the redress of Armenian injustice was not a function of the Conservative party. The great leader of the Liberals who had formerly stirred England over the Bulgarian atrocities was not in Parliament, and Sir Vernon Harcourt was as silent as a heap of baggage on the opposition bench.

The next arrangement which mightily affected the world's destinies was that at the Town Hall of Shimonoseki in April, 1895. Count Ito was at home on this occasion and Li Hung Chang with Mr. Foster of America and Count Cassini in the back ground safe guarding those of China. As most of the Chinese fleet was either in the hands of the Japanese or at the bottom of the Yalu river or in the harbor of Wei-Hai-Wei, and the victorious armies of the Mikado were in sight of Peking, the Chinese had no alternative but to concede whatever was demanded, knowing that Russia, Germany and France, which constitute the "Triple Alliance" or the control of the Orient would veto any immoderate terms. Japan demanded the cession of the Liao Tung peninsula, the warships already in Japanese hands, control of Port Arthur and \$200,000,000.

The Plenipotentiaries held five sessions, the result of which was that the mailed hand of Russia was seen behind the Chino-Japanese war. Japan had to be satisfied with the money indemnity and Formosa, Russia more reluctantly taking the Liao Peninsula and valuable railroad rights in that territory which is now virtually a Russian province. Great Britain apparently did not know that anything was happening until the Russian bear had completely fortified himself in the Gulf ice-free port and an outlet in the Pacific Ocean which it destined ere long to be a Russo-American Lake. But England finally assured the continuance of peace by taking Wei-Hai-Wei.

While these events were taking place in the far East, this country was creating a diversion of momentous importance in Venezuela and the message of President Cleveland in December, 1895, was admirably timed whether Cleveland so intended it or not, to create such a disturbance in London as would not only vindicate the Monroe doctrine in Venezuela but also repay Russia for the famous "midnight treaty" of 1865, under which Alaska was ceded to the United States. To Russian assistance and Russian friendship for the United States we are indebted for the present encouraging foreign policy under which, particularly with the possession of the Philippine Islands, we are sure to have an "open door" in the Orient independent of any Power on earth. In fact it is no longer either the "Big Four" or the "Big Five." It is now the "Big Six" as any further treaty making in consequence of the present war with Spain, will abundantly reveal to anyone who does not already see the United States looming ominously upon the destinies of the century that is now at our doors. America is henceforth going to have foreign markets for her manufactures and a foreign policy of her own and Europe will have to reckon with our Talleyrands in the great events of the future.

Greville's Reply.

Mr. Greville was persuaded, when he was over sixty years of age, to attend a spiritualistic seance. Foster, the presiding medium, was in great form, and the revelations were astounding. Greville sat silent, and his aged, wizened face was emotionless as a mask. Suddenly the medium grew excited, and said to the old gentleman:

"A female form is bending over you. Oh, the extraordinary likeness!" Greville sighed.

"She lifts her hands to bless you." Greville sighed again.

"It is your mother." "Ah, poor thing," said Greville; "I am glad."

"She smiles. She says all is well with her."

Greville sighed again and said, "I am delighted."

"She says she will see you soon. You are old, and you must meet her before long."

Then Greville quietly observed, "That's very true. I'm going to take tea with her this evening."

Tableau.

"Is it true that Bigley has met with business reverses?" "Couldn't say, but his wife is riding a last year's wheel."—Detroit Journal.

THE CENTENARY OF VINEGAR HILL

Recalling the Deeds of the Irish Revolution of 1798.

"At noon on Oulart's moss-clad heights Loud rang the musketry, And Wexford flung upon the foe Her peasant chivalry. For vengeance nerved the patriot's arm And pointed where to strike."

Such was the spirit in which an old ballad records the Irish insurrection of 1798 which some have described as the last expiring shriek of Irish freedom against English class oppression.

It is well to make the charge of oppression against "the governing classes" rather than against England as a nation, because it is only very lately that the people of England obtained the right to rule their own country, and it is but simple justice to say that ever since the masses of Englishmen wrested their freedom from a ruling ring of nobles, they have been nobly undoing the past and making the relations of England and Ireland more sweet and kindly. It is not, therefore, in any spirit of hostility to England, or to the English people that the Irish patriots will this summer hold appropriate ceremonies to celebrate the gallant stand of the peasantry a century ago, against the laws which crushed the Irish people and who, strange to relate, numbered about 4,700,000 then as now. The Irish have not numerically increased in Ireland during the past one hundred years, but they have improved in wealth and in education, and they are now in the enjoyment of more political rights than were their fathers in 1798. A hundred years ago the condition of Ireland was utterly wretched. The people had no property, no political rights, no schools, no manufactures; they were mere renters at the mercy of a body of taskmasters planted among them and whose lands they cultivated for the bare necessities of existence.

Their natural leaders had been driven out of the country after the Hanoverian wars, and thus is furnished the solution of the puzzle to Americans, that the names of an O'Donnell as Duke of Tetuan, or a Senor Moret as Duke of Prendergrast now occur respectively as Ministers of Foreign Affairs or of the Colonies, in the dispatches we read from Spain. These are the descendants of Irish gentlemen whose estates were confiscated in the numerous wars for the conquest and subjugation of Ireland, and of which train of events the rebellion of 1798 was the sequel and the natural consequence.

The rebellion of 1798 was, however, the revolt of a freedom-loving Protestant democracy touched into explosion at sight of the horrid wrongs of a loyal, brave, and oppressed Catholic peasantry. It was also as much a consequence of the action in 1776 of Jefferson, and Washington, and Adams, as was the French revolution of 1793. Though it fizzled out during the summer, when the year 1798 opened there were nearly 600,000 of the 2,500,000 of males then in the country enrolled in a secret non-sectarian organization, and pledged to die for their native land. But the Government found means to disarrange this formidable organization. They succeeded in sowing distrust between the leaders and their followers. When the peasantry were drawn away by the Government promising concessions—that substituted Maynooth College for the old House of College Green—these Ottoman lords turned upon their brave and faithful leaders who were hung, imprisoned, or exiled. Only three out of the thirty-two counties therefore came to the front in the rebellion, but in these the peasantry fought bravely; and Wexford, Oulart, Vinegar Hill, New Ross, and Ennisceorthy remain in Irish song and story to attest what a change might have been wrought in Ireland had the united Irishmen, North and South, stood together in 1798. The rebellion was timed to take place in March, 1798, Ulster agreeing to furnish 110,000, Munster 100,643, and Leinster 55,672 men.

The Government, however, having captured the leaders stunned the chief end of the revolt so effectually that the great body of the people did not rise at all; and hence it was in counties where no preparations were made and no promises given that was seen the most gallant struggle for Ireland's liberty. The people who did rise were armed with pikes for the most part, a primitive sickle-shaped weapon with a long handle and which was utterly inadequate to contend with the sabres of the yeomanry. Others had old flintlocks, but by far the larger proportion were armed only with pitchforks, scythes, or any available weapons found around a farmyard. That the peasantry could make any defence whatever against British power under these circumstances is marvellous, particularly as the insurgents were not always able bodied men, but were recruited from boys, old men and sometimes even women.

Yet at Vinegar Hill and Oulart, the King's troops fared as badly as at Concord or at Lexington. At the latter place the royalist troops attempted to dislodge the insurgents who skillfully manoeuvred to draw the fire of the soldiery. For this purpose the insurgents withdrew behind an embankment and raising their hats upon the handles of their pitchforks a little over the level of the embankment, the soldiers, mistaking the hats for heads, fired over the fence or into the field beyond. As soon as the soldiers drew near the embankment fancying the Irishmen were all killed, the latter sprang up and simultaneously discharged a few weapons they had into the faces of the red coats with tremendous effect. Then with a wild cheer the main body scaled the embankment and wielding pike and scythe, blade and pitchfork, they soon discarded the attacking regiment and

secured from the soldiers more formidable weapons.

No less dexterous and brave was the conflict at Vinegar Hill, where enveloped in smoke and flame both sides fought valiantly, disputing every inch of ground, the same position being captured and lost by each party in succession. An English observer of this battle says: "A small number of them (the Irish) only had fire-arms, but the pike-men, wonderfully tall, stout, strapping, able fellows, fought with their pikes in the most furious and desperate manner, thrusting at the soldiers who had much ado to parry with their bayonets after having fired and before they could reload."

Better arrangements could have shown no braver spirit. For three weeks the rebels held possession of Vinegar Hill, making it the base of their operations, and from which strategic position they commanded the town of Ennisceorthy. Field glasses were not in vogue in '98 and in all encounters between the patriots and the forces of the Crown, the hills were strong objective points.

In Antrim too there were some stiff brushes between the Presbyterians of the North and George the Third's militia, and in one of which engagements a grand uncle of President McKinley's fell nobly fighting, the sept of the McKinleys, of Derrook, being among the staunchest patriots of the period. It is one of the sublime romances of history that in the first centennial year after the passionate resistance by Antrim Presbyterians, of the cruelties perpetrated by the last Marquis of Cornwallis in Ireland, the grand nephew of the patriot, McKinley, is president of the greatest nation of the world; and the same power that ruthlessly executed the ancestor, is now a suppliant for favors from the descendant! Such are the chances and changes of realms; such the fortunes of retributive time.

Rank in the Navy.

It will be of considerable help to remember that military and naval rank correspond in this way:

Admiral (when the office is created) to general.

Vice admiral (when the office is created) to lieutenant general.

Rear admiral to major general.

Commodore to brigadier general.

Captain to colonel.

Commander to lieutenant colonel.

Lieutenant commander to major.

Lieutenant to captain.

Lieutenant, junior grade, to first lieutenant.

Ensign to second lieutenant.

Considering only the two highest grades now actually held, the number of officers in each since 1882 has been six rear admirals and ten commodores. The present rear admirals in order of seniority are:

William A. Kirkland, commandant of the Mare Island Navy Yard, San Francisco, retires July 3, 1898.

Joseph N. Miller, commanding Pacific station, retires Nov. 22, 1898.

Montgomery Sicard, on duty in the office of the Secretary of the Navy, retires Sept. 30, 1898.

Edmund O. Matthews, president of the Naval Examining Board, retires Oct. 24, 1898.

Charles S. Norton, commanding Washington Navy Yard, retires this year.

Francis M. Bunce, commanding Brooklyn Navy Yard, retires this year.

Officers of the navy may be retired on their own application after forty years' service, and those above the rank of Lieutenant commander must retire upon their reaching the age of 62.

Those below that rank are retired for physical or mental disability. The pay of retired naval officers is three-quarters of their sea pay of the rank they held at the time of their retirement. At sea a rear admiral receives \$6,000 a year; on shore duty, \$5,000, and on leave or waiting orders, \$4,000. Commodores are paid \$1,000 less in all three lines of employment.

Retired officers of the navy cannot be assigned to active duty except in time of war, and the purpose of the Administration so far has been not to assign retired officers in the army or navy to field or sea duty, but to let these posts of danger be held by those still on the active list. Of course, such work as the command of the mosquito fleet along the coast is expected. This has been given to Admiral Erben, who was retired four or five years ago.

Until the second year of the civil war the highest naval rank was that of captain, though generally the title of commodore was given to a flag officer who commanded a squadron. In 1862 the rank of rear admiral was created by Congress, and to this grade were appointed Farragut and three other active captains, and about a dozen retired captains. In 1864, for his capture of Mobile and subsequent successes, Farragut was appointed to the newly created rank of vice admiral, and later D. D. Porter and Stephen C. Rowan were given the same rank. After the war ended, Congress went a step further, and made the grade of admiral, and to this grade promoted Farragut and Porter. There was a special provision of the laws creating admirals and vice admirals which caused the grades to die with the men holding them. When Porter and Farragut vacated their commissions as vice to accept the higher office, it left Rowan the only holder of the second place, and upon his death in 1890 the office lapsed. Farragut died in 1870, leaving Porter sole possessor of the commission of full admiral, and upon his death in 1891 both grades were vacated until Congress shall revive them, perhaps, for the heroes of this war.

Clancy—Phwat de yes t'ink av thot fer a parade?

Casev—Shure, an' it beats th' Dutch!

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Glaciers are formed by the accumulation of snow on mountains or elevated table lands. The snow is compressed into ice by its own weight.

Lord Kelvin puts the age of the sun at 100,000,000 years. At its present rate of combustion the sun will last from 7,000,000 to 15,000,000 of years before burning itself out.

Bacteria are found everywhere in the air and in our homes, they are so minute that 250,000,000 could be accommodated on a penny postage stamp, and they multiply with incredible rapidity.

Twelve thousand mail cars of the German railroads are now lighted by electricity, storage batteries being employed. The light has given full satisfaction and is also said to be cheaper than the gas light used hitherto.

Experiments made in compressing flour show that the bulk may be reduced two-thirds without injury to the quality. It is molded by hydraulic pressure into bricks, which are sweet, wholesome and proof against damp.

A musket ball may be fired through a pane of glass, making a hole the size of the ball without cracking the glass, if the glass be suspended by a thread. It will make no difference, and the thread will not even vibrate.

Sunstroke generally occurs to persons laboring in the open air and sunshine, but it would be better named heat-stroke, for it can occur even in a close, darkened room where the temperature is for a long time above the normal.

It is estimated that a human being takes in by respiration 30,000 germs each day, or 100 millions a year. Not only are most of them harmless, but they give flavor to butter, cheese, game, etc., and they are the scavengers of nature. They are absolutely necessary for the "round of life."

Month of July.

July, the seventh of the year in our calendar, was the fifth in the Roman calendar, where it was called the Quintilis. Originally it contained 36 days but it was reduced by Romulus to 31, by Numa to 30, but was restored to 31 days by Julius Caesar, in honor of whom it was named July, in account of his birth having happened on the 12th of that month. Our Anglo-Saxon ancestors called the month "mead month" from the meadows being then in their bloom. The month contains our own glorious Fourth and dog days, both of which are very important periods.

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Independent Nominations.

Independent nominations appear to be the rage now-a-days. The latest is that of Hon. W. L. Nesbit late Republican member of the Legislature from Northumberland county, who was refused a renomination by his party at their late convention. He now announces that he will run independent, and as he is a very able man and good stump he will most likely give those who turned him down a heap of trouble in the future. Mr. Nesbit had the name of being a very honest legislator. May be this caused his defeat in the convention. He is a very prominent Granger.—Ex.

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