

Historical.

It is a well-known historical fact that many monarchs and conquerors who had unlimited sway over the fairest territories in life, and who command the homage of half a continent, died miserable deaths and received ignominious burials.

Perhaps the most unfortunate kings in this respect were the Bourbon monarchs of France who reigned in the eighteenth century. Few monarchs had more power of glory than Louis XIV., the "Grand Monarque," who was at one time the arbiter of Europe, and yet how ignominious was his end!

On his deathbed he warned his grandson, soon to become Louis XV., to shun what had been the rocks on which his life had split, fondness for war and extravagance. After his death, the Regent hurried his body to the tomb, with no pomp whatever, and the road between Versailles and St. Denis was lined with drunken crowds, who hurled mud and stones at the mourning carriages, and the great Louis whose behests had been obeyed by half of Europe, was hustled into his grave with less ceremony than would have been displayed for one of his equerries while he reigned.

Louis XV. did not choose to follow the advice of his grandfather, and he, too, met with a miserable end.

Wine Making Along the Hudson.

The enormous shipments of Concord grapes made this fall from Ulster County and elsewhere along the Hudson Valley to New York, Boston, Philadelphia and the Northern, Eastern and Western markets have shown the magnitude of the fruit growing business in this part of the State.

The recent cold snaps have attracted the attention of the wine makers to the great grape product and to its adaptability for making a superior vintage. During the past two weeks agents for Canadian houses and wine makers themselves from New York and elsewhere in this and adjoining States, have visited the southern Ulster vineyards and made large purchases of frozen fruit.

The Hudson river product is said to have a fullness of body and mellow flavor peculiarly its own. It is the opinion of many that wine will be made in large quantities at no far distant day. Year after year the acreage of wine steadily increases between Cornwall and Catskill, and in places between these points for a distance of ten miles inland on the west side of the river and from Fishkill to Hudson on the east bank.

Early during the past summer, when it became apparent that the grape product was going to be very large—nearly double that of any previous year—growers asked each other what they would do with it.

The Locust Billy.

After a man struck by a policeman's club has ascertained where he is, says the New York Journal, he naturally asks what struck him.

Besides being used as sedatives policemen's clubs are excellent timekeepers—the night-clubs being made of locust and the day-clubs of either of the other materials—rosewood predominating. The length of the night-club is twenty-six inches, that of the day-club twenty-two inches.

Rosewood and ebony billys, boys' sizes, are from eight to fifteen inches in length and cost from 75 cents to \$1. These young clubs are carried by messenger boys who are obliged to be out nights in all localities.

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Picture of a Prison.

Right in the centre of the city of Baltimore, there exists a community of over five hundred people, men and women, whose daily lives furnish an example which could well be followed profit with by the balance of Baltimore's citizens.

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number, and it was remarkable to witness the complete discipline under which they had the large number of prisoners. The tables were waited upon by colored convicts and the food was also cooked by them.

AT THE CLOSE OF THE MEAL. One-half the number marched back to their work, and the other half immediately followed. The same system is observed at breakfast and supper.

The dormitories where the prisoners are confined consists of four rows of cells around four corridors in the penitentiary proper. Each cell is about eight feet long by four wide; and is furnished with a cot, bedding, blanket and pillow.

After supper each night the prisoners are marched to their cells, which they enter, closing the doors after them. A guard passes around, springs the huge padlock upon each door, and receives from each inmate a small tin check.

There is an absolute impossibility of any prisoner escaping, for, in addition to the systematic watch kept over them, a guard, armed with a loaded rifle, parades the wall during the day and is relieved by another, who remains stationed in the yard all night.

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Luther Reiter.

The "Castle Church," which is called "the Cradle of the Reformation," was erected in 1499, but the original building exists no more. In 1760, during the Seven Years' War, Wittenberg was besieged by the Austrians, and during a bombardment the church and a large part of the city were destroyed by fire.

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At Jacob's Well.

This is one of the few spots in Palestine whereof all tradition concurs as to its identity. This makes it venerable. And now we are looking down into the well at which Joseph so often watered the flock of his father Jacob.

But how came Jacob to dig such a well? It is a question often asked. He was close to the Vale of Shechem, which is full of streams. What need of boring a hundred feet through a solid rock to find what a mile or two distant was running away in exhausted abundance?

When the chief interest of this spot is that One greater than Jacob or Joseph has been here. On this very ground, sitting where we now sit, our Savior sat, and talked with that woman of Samaria, revealing to her astonished eyes that in the worship of God the place matters little; that "neither in the mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, shall men worship the Father; for that God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth."

He alone is wise who can accommodate himself to all the contingencies of life; but the fool contends, and is struggling like a swimmer against the roan.

In a Chimney Over Fire.

I was once taking a ride through Sawanees Co., Fla., admiring the luxuriant vegetation, the lazy swing of the birds and the ripple of shining waters, when at an abrupt turn of the road I came across a dissipated looking cabin, the only sign of life about it being a white-headed old "cracker," who was looting on the doorstep, viciously sucking at the stem of a sublimely dirty clay pipe.

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The Best Receipt for a Long Life.

Apropos of Sir Moses Montefiore, whose approaching entry on his hundredth year is a subject of such general congratulation, what is the best receipt for a very long life—supposing a man to consider it an object worth attaining? Milton laid stress on "the rule of not too much," which is no doubt an excellent one, but vague in its application.

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Population of Paris.

An analysis of the population of Paris, just published, gives very singular statistics as to the inhabitants of the gayest city in Europe. It seems, also, for its size, to be the most industrious. The proportion in which the working classes exceed those who live on their own incomes is the more remarkable as Paris is the recognized centre of expenditure and extravagance for all France.

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