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RECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER

Philadelphia, Thursday, August 30, 1917

THE PRESIDENT'S MASTERLY MOVE FOR PEACE

IN THE summer of 1864 the friends of Abraham Lincoln almost despaired of his re-election. Discontent, war wearlness, stupidity and general copperheadunited in a formidable coalition which denounced the war as a failure, purposed to seize the Government at the ensuing elections, enter into negotiations with the moribund Confederacy, accept the failure of the democratic experiment on this continent as a fact and repudiate the principles of every man who had might be preserved. Among all the men who lived in that day there was one whose eyes pierced the horizon and whose vision of complete victory was never the recurrence of others. There was no imagine. wer on earth that could swerve him from the path he had laid down. His banners were dyed in the blood of tens of thousands of men, and he did not propose to abjure the promise he had made them that they should not die in vain. Peace he would have, but only after the everthrow of the system and state of mind that had caused war-a peace with reconciliation. His heart and hands were next summer Abraham Lincoln himself was dead, but the sort of peace for which he had striven rested on the land and the principles to which he had dedi-

FEW months ago President Wilson as then at war. He was in pe sion of absolute information to the effect that peace must be got quickly or this country would be plunged into the conflict. He proposed a peace without victory. He now answers a similar plea for peace from the Pope with an emphatic reassertion of the goal toward which this nation aims, and without the attainment of which it will not stop, Though his latest utterance seems to be utterly at variance with his preceding position, in its essentials, it, in truth, dovetails into the whole previous policy and purpose of America as outlined by himself. There must be a victory for democracy, for liberalism, since the world is not safe while autocracy controls military might and intrigues to use it for purposes of aggrandizement; but further than that this nation will not go. "Punitive damages, the dismemberment of empires, the establishment of selfish and exclusive economic leagues we deem inexpedient and in the end worse than futile, no proper basis for a peace of any kind, least of all for an enduring peace. That must be based on justice and fairness and the common rights of mankind." In a few words he has kicked into the bottomless pit the whole scheme of economic leagues and nmercial ostracism of Germany, properly putting an end to the mania that the Australian Hughes fomented in England, giving notice to the Allies that post-Bum prejudices are not to be sangsed and formally notifying the people Germany that their dove of peace can ng back a green leaf, in the form of ure equal commercial and political oprtunity, provided a democratic Noah nd not a Hohenzollern Noah looses the ird. It would not be to the advantage the world to make another Ireland of many or another Alsace, to pauperize of millions of people and enslave economically. Whatever the crimes at have been perpetrated against ation, civilization is superior to the utal instinct of vengeance, and, more n that, civilization is intelligent and not cut off its nose to spite its face

HE statesmanship of Lloyd George, apable as it is, is not the statesmanof Woodrow Wilson, who seems to inspired with a veritable genius for mt of the true aims of liberalism. has become fixed in the German

nation and the race from the face of STRATEGY OF THE the earth is the aim of the Allies, that there is no hope for Germans except to fight on and on, to the last man and to the last woman, until every resource is exhausted and naught is left to save. The President has knocked that idea into a cocked hat.

The note sounded by the President in this latest communication is, we believe, by all odds the most momentous heard since peace discussions came into vogue. It is true that the dynamic force of his previous utterances has changed the current of human thought and even changed the essential purposes of the war, defeating German propaganda in Russia, reinvigorating the revolution and, even in Germany itself, subtly and irresistibly undermining the militaristic state of mind, but not before has there been so sure a hope, so absolute an assurance of safety for Germans in a world safe for democracy, as is now exposed to view. It riddles the Kaiser's carefully nurtured plea that Germans must fight valley of the Aisne on the south, the valley or sink, it shows to Austria a way out and it puts this mighty arbiter of national destinies definitely and surely in line as the champion of all peoples, foes as well as friends, proposing a sure certain end, must have the valley of the To his mutterchen-for love of you! and durable peace, based on the very principles of civilization (tself.

THEY read with their eyes shut who peace proposal of Pope Benedict. He has done nothing of the kind. He has, on the contrary, shown how that proposal can be translated into an instrument for the how the German peoples can get to a conference table and sit there in good faith. Moreover, the first real movement toward peace will be found later, we believe, to have dated from vesterday, for it was yesterday that the gates for reconciliation were opened and the way out of war shown to the people of the dence of the nurposes of the great peoples of the Central Powers." There is dimmed. He had the faculty of stating the invitation, open and above board, the truth in such a way that none could clear and emphatic. The peoples of the misunderstand it. His purpose was not Central Powers will accept it sooner or only to end one civil war, but to prevent later, probably sooner than most people

FIRST STEPS IN HUMILITY

THE German Junker must have a crick nation such as the Argentine Republic. whose regular army numbers but 24,000 men, cannot fail to be painful exercise at first. Agonizing, too, the words ac. French and English at this point if it becompanying the new attitude of inclination undoubtedly were. Germany, declares Berlin's note in order to maintain open for the Southern people. By the friendly relations with Argentina, "is willing to grant freedom of the seas" to for the sinking of the Republic's steamer

Orlando Furioso never penned that will show. cated his life were established forever. position from Foreign Minister Kuehlsomehow lost a bit of its thrill since the United States took up the challenge.

Swashbuckling Herr Zimmermann's to ward off further foes. Success in his a policy been launched earlier there would have been no war.

Pessimists will have a hard time proving that peace with Argentina has been assured in order that a "hotbed of German propaganda may continue blooming there." Teuton intrigue is, of course, prevalent in Buenos Aires, but the natucal sentiment of that Latin land is so overwhelmingly pro-Ally that the path of the plotter is much less rosy than it ever was in the United States prior to last April. It is easier to believe that Germany is learning to look beyond the range of her artillery fire. Humbly she seeks to retain the official friendship of those few nations who still receive her

Of so sagacious a move as this her old bungling trickery would have been incapable. The step was dictated by Teuton humility, the very quality which civilization desires to see grow greater and more profound until its presence is gloriously manifest at the green baize peace table.

As a sinecure in weary hot weather days that of German Minister of the Colonies has its unquestioned charms.

Austria asserts that she abandoned Monte Santo voluntarily. It is with a similar spontaneous exercise of free will that one evacuates a chair on which a tack has been significantly placed.

Canada's final passage of her draft bill completes the harmony of action of that great neighbor and our own land. The long unfortified boundary line between the two countries grows dimmeevery day.

Critics of Mr. Wilson used ironically to call him "President of Human ity." That he is now actually the authorized leader of four-fifths of it is evidenced by the apparent willingness of all the Allies that he should be their spokesman in answering the Papal peace plea.

Says James W. Gerard: "The Em peror said to me that the Colonel (House) and I in our black dress suits looked like a couple of crows; that we were like two undertakers at a feast and spoiled the picture." There's many a true word spoken in jest. The picture of autocracy is being turned to the wall and the fear crats is almost as empty as

FIGHT AT CRAONNE

Capture of the Heights Will Give the French Command of the Plains Leading to Belgium

By HENRI BAZIN

Correspondent of the Evening Ledger PARIS, July 28.

THE war was never more intense in Any phase than it has been along this front, along these ridges and tops of the Alsne. I have lived in a storm of artillery that shocks the air for many miles, French artillery and German artillery. A 420 shell from a Boche battery fell seventeen miles behind the French line, I was told this morning. Thousands of gas shells have poured their dealth-dealing fumes about us. No man lives without a mask. The noise is beyond description. And the valor of the pollu is a white light among all the valorous deeds of men rince time began.

These ridges and tops of the Aisne are as nature wall separating two valleys, the of the Ailette on the north. The advantages being fought for are essential to both ommands. We must have the valley of the Ailette. And the Boche, unless he is willing really to see the beginning of his Alsne. That's just the story.

It's not a new story. History is full of its records. Ancient wars have been fought here, and before this month of July, 1917. the fortunes of France have been at stake say that the President has rejected the here. Only, never before have the full fortunes of right, not only the right of France, but of the world been at stake.

Two and a half years after the Marne at the Chemin-des-Dames, and at a point exactly where the "contemptible little army" achievement of peace. He has indicated made its debut under fire, flerce fighting has been the order. It was inevitable. These heights and plains of the Alsne are nature's buttresses supporting the solid masses of Coucy-Laon-St. Gobain and have been one of the logical points for battle in the milltary history of France.

"Petite Suisse" they have been well named. Every military advantage which or iron man. Go to it. involved attacking Paris is dovetailed with them. The definite safe essential to an unconquered capital and a free France is their holding by French armies. Also, once in full possession by the armies of the Tricolor, the way is open to the Meuse, and even to the Rhine.

Scene of Ancient Strife

French history is pregnant with proof that the existence of the French nation is involved in holding or losing these Aisne heights. There was the battle of the Aisne in the time of Caesar, the battle of St. Quentin under Henri II, the battle of Craonne under Napoleon. The Germans in his once rigid back. Bowing to a knew these things well. In September, 1914, they had fortified this region at time of invasion, trusting the fortifications would never be needed, but prepared to stop the came necessary. Which it did. Thus these heights became the extreme limit of re treat during the battle of the Marne.

After over two years of war our armi are upon these heights, and the end of our her vessels and payment of an indemnity 1914 offensive is geographically taken up in a general offensive of 1917, for that is exactly what is happening, as but little time

document. It sounds like a trial com- The Boche is resisting desperately and. as the news of the last eight days tells, has mann's first class in elementary psychol- started a little offensive of his own upon ogy, and, figuratively speaking, that is just these battle-scarred heights. The limestone what this humble scrap of paper is. Herr formation of the territory invites abris for the viewpoint of neutrals was worth caverns. In a sense, he thus has had someconsidering. The giadiatorial principle of thing of nature-protection against our ar-"Let 'em come on. We're armed," has tillery and a fitting place from which to carry out the modern war idea of counterattack. In it he has consumed the flower of the Prussian Guard, the last, I well besuccessor actually favors the study of lieve, of Germanic disciplined trained youth non-German national psychologies and in the highest military sense, in defending the cultivation of sweet reasonableness these hills, knowing that once this region of France is lost retreat over the plains of the first endeavor is immediate. Had such north is certain; knowing also that such retreat removes genuine right to a Germanic occidental or west front as a genuine

Wearing Down the Enemy

As the French have stood at Verdun and the Somme, so they will stand on the Aisne. The battles I have witnessed about Craonne are already part of the new glorious history of France, a fitting part of the work of June-July, 1916, a fitting replica of wearing down enemy force as it was worn down at Thlamont and Fleury. Craonne is worthy of addition to the glorious names engraven in the history of this war, as worthy as Verdun, Ypres, the Somme, the Marne.

In clearing the valley of the Aisne from enemy grasp and domination, the French means in conducting the rest of a waning war upon the part of the Boche. The valley of the Allette is the last circumvaliation without Laon, for from the heights of Boye Hill, where the Allette has its source, the entrance to Laon is dominated and even the plains beyond extending into Belgium. All this is why the fighting about Craonne has a genuine military and strategical value of extreme importance to either combatant.

The April-May offensive, then, was a victory for France. It gave to the armies of the Republic the entrance to the Aisne, the canal, the road to the valley, the slopes and acclivities that lead to hills dominating the river, a part of the plateau, a part of the Chemin-des-Dames, of Hurtebise, Craonne, and even the approaches to the valleys to ward All and Vauclere. It gave French batteries a clear range upon the distant plains, and placed a portion of Ailette Vaiey at the mercy of French fire.

DEBTS OF THE RICHEST NATION The outstanding debt of the United States ill be increased more than sevenfold by will be increased more than sevenfold by financing already authorized for war purposes. We are going to spend for preparation and for initial operations alone nearly as much as four years of the Civil War cost both the North and the South. In addition we are financing a \$3,000,000,000 loan here for our allies. All this will insert a cour debt from approximately crease our debt from approximately \$1,000,000,000 to \$8,000,000,000.

Yet after all that increase our per capit Yet after all that increase our per capita debt will still be lower than that of any other leading nation except Russia; and if our loans to our ailies, for which the Government will hold their securities, are excepted, our debt of less than \$50 for each man, woman and child will be by far the lowest among the nations. On the other hand, our national wealth is estimated at more than twice that of any other country and is also higher than any since when the second results are the second results and the second results are the second results and the second results are the second results and results are the second results and results are the second results and results are the second results are the second results are the second results are the second results and results are the second results are

Tom Daly's Column

DOWN GO THE PATMORANS Dive: Three

WE BARELY say goo'-by to Joseph M. Connor when in comes Will Lou, also bound to the wars. We aren't sure what his billet is to be, but if his fighting is as good as his verse he should come back with shoulder straps.

Five.

TANTE ELIZA.

Tante Eliza, in Germany, Rocked me to sleep upon her knee, Told me tales of cives and gnomes, And great, black bears in their forest

homes, Chattered with me and joined my play, Gave me cookles on Christmas Day!

Tante Eliza, long ago, Palled my sled through the drifting snow Hunted with me for many a nest That villagers built for the birds to rest, Took me walking up Goettingen hill To watch the gay Soldaten drill!

Tante Eliza, I come again To sack your land, to kill your men; Yet if you looked beyond the dead, Perhaps you'd see me hend my head To catch some German lad's adieu WILL LOU.

TREASURE

BERT TAYLOR presents an ad, from a Chicago paper, presumably:

"Wanted-Several Industrious people to distribute moral literature. Will pay \$180 for 90 days' work."

Sounds like a lot of money, put that way, sez he.

Now, what we want is a word that won't sound so much like a lot of money. We're tired of talking "billions." Why not revive the biblical talent and camouflage the filthy lucre, or at least lump it? Maybe you can invent a word, dear reader, that will even back the talent off the boards. If you can we'll give you a tiny fraction of it, say a nice crisp bone

GOSH! THIS GUY KNOWS US!

Dear Sir—Referring to your invitation or some one to take a crack at the Scotch-Irish, I write to ask if any other Irish will do as well? Didlever stop to realize how near you yourself came to being Fairmount-Irish, having been born between Schmidheiser's Meat Market and Klein's Brewery yonder on Coates street forninst 23? And when you beat it to Green street, look what you had round the corner at either end the block. Weldemann's Drug Store and Moser's Bakery one way—and Kindig's house and Feitig's Market the other. An I'll bet ye had yer first haircut at Charlie Gerlach's barber shop! RIPPEY.

TO RUTH Before Leaving for the Wars. They say that I shall see a wondrous thing:

Ten thousand men that march as one, The cannon's crash, the bullets' zip and sting:

Death-bringing birds against the sun. They tell me glorious fortune will be mine; To battle bravely for the right:

To be a part of that unbroken line That, singing, surges into fight. They say my days are rich and full and

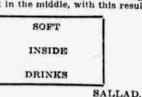
It seems they never can surmise, only long to touch your golden hair; My world is mirrored in your eyes! FRANZ.

Inside Stuff

-Down in Norfolk there is an old fellow who keeps a small stand on one of He made a crude sign



Later on, wishing to convey some addi-tional information to a thirsty public, and not having space at the bottom of the sign, he printed it in the middle, with this result



PASSING a talking-machine emporium esterday, we fell to wondering what the Wizard of Orange is doing, and if we might really hope to hear of Edison returning Columbia Victor?

A POSTCARD from Carl Shanfelter from Southampton: "I'mon my way, but know their advantage, too, and what it d. k. w." That means another bunch of our lads have got by the U-boats.

A SUMMER FALL He fell asleep upon the sill. The windowsill was deep-How deep the areaway below Alas! alas! he did not know Until he fell-asleep.

NOW YOU STOP!

It is no fiction that B. F. Story is a "Manual Manipulator" in Laconia, N. H. The Laconia Democrat also informs us that Mrs. Nellie Huzzy is visiting her sister. Mrs. Toof, at her home in Dover. Evidently an error for Portsmouth. In spite of Mrs. Toof, however, we still fact that Mrs. Toof, however, we still find over in "The 'Mouth" Mr. Ham and Mr. Beane, but that is probably because Mr. Payne is Of additional interest is fact that Mr. Ham conducts a leading restaurant, and Doctor Walker is a chiropo list, while, paradoxically, Mr. Lowd's Vu dist, while, paradox and canizing Station is located on Pleasant HUGH MERR.

THE sign on the front of a building on Market street between Thirty-seventh and Thirty-eighth read: "Horse Dental Parlor," Sometimes it's possible to look into parlors from an elevated train, but we couldn't see into this one. We are unable to say, therefore, what manner of reading matter was on the table, but we could make a guess or two:

"Black Beauty" (paper cover). "The Horse Laugh (weekly comic). "Boots and Saddles." "Balaam's Ass."

"We Are What We Eat" is the title of booklet issued by a local grocer. Not to mention certain cannibals behind the

THE VOICE OF

THE PEOPLE Britain's Responsibilities-"The Six-Hour Day"-Destroy Weeds

www.westernessimons.com

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This Department is free to all readers who wish to express their opinions on subjects of current interest. It is an open forum and the Evening Ledger assumes no responsibility for the views of its correspondents. Letters must be signed by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good fath.

BRITAIN'S RESPONSIBILITIES To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:

Sir-I am shocked and pained beyond measure at the rebellious tone of letters such as that of Mr. Dan McDermott, who times of stress when the pillars of our Angle-Saxon civilization are rocking; the valiant sons of our empire are fighting shoulder to shoulder for humanity, democracy and the rights of small nations, happy assurance that their interests are being watched over by our patron, St. George, who, at the head of a battalion of angels, held at bay the oncoming hordes of Hun barbarians during the retreat of our gallant Tommies from Mons. How can Irishmen read of the mighty deeds of our without feeling their hearts leap with gratitude to the God who has so blessed their country by placing it under the pro-tection of the knightly hosts who at Galli-poli and Rut have proved themselves worthy successors of the paladins who thrilled the world with their soul-stirring exploits on hundred stricken fields from Fontency to Majuba and from Colenso to Bunker Hill?

Let Mr. McDermott and his deluded countrymen remember that we are all Britons, and members of the freest freest empire he world has ever seen, and that we are allied by a sacred covenant consecrated in life and death with the group of nations who are fighting and suffering and dying for the liberty of all the races of manking ember the imperial service to we, and the peoples associated with us at this time, have been called, let us concentrate our faculties and dedicate all the energies of our soul to prayer. If the men and women of our empire do not pray in such times as these-when the reali of eternity are so clearly revealing themselves among us - when will they If we do not pray as a people intelli-cently, earnestly, and labor in prayer, we

shall fail in our high calling and trust—the highest and most sublime that has ever been intrusted to any people. It should be clearly understood (and in thought and sentiment we must labor even painfully until this truth becomes vivid and clear) that, as Premier Asquith well said in August, 1914, this is, first of all, "a spiritual conflict." "We wrestle not with flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers; against the rulers of the darkness of this world; against expiritual violation. of this world; against spiritual wickedness in high places," and therefore "the weapons of our warfare must not be (solely) carnal, but spiritual." All self-renunciation, all thirst and hunger of soul, all the most severe discipline of life and the most sublime flights of faith and hope will be necessary in order that we may be equipped with the "whole armor of God." What a lesson it is to remember that this "whole armor" includes such difficult elements for human nature as "gentleness in victory' and "patience in reverses," "persevering against all odds" and the assurance of vic tory when appearances seem to tell only of failures, as in France and Flanders; the ability to plod on amid discouragements and bowlidering perplexities; the God-given ability, moment by moment, "in danger, often, in watchings often, in weariness often, to serve Him with a quiet mind," the miraculous tenacity which enables men to miraculous tenacity which enables men to endure and to serve as seeing Him who is invisible; to live amid the tests of time with a firm held of the realities of eternity; to be able to fight the good fight of faith against the enemy under the guise of the present evil and at the same time firmly to exclude hatred from the heart and pray that it may please Thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and to turn their hearts"; and to pray "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive

"forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them who trespass against us."

Let us then go cheerfully on our way. Britons all, conscious of our awful respon-sibilities as the shown of the forgive

a ship or in the strangling (like Casement) of a traitor to King and Church.
RULE BRITANNIA. Philadelphia, August 25.

GERMAN PAPERS PLEASE COPY

with the manual of the property of the same

THE SIX-HOUR DAY To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:

Sir-I do not believe God wants man to work from 7 a. m. until 6 p. m.—that is, just to slave his life away to maintain a livelihood. Some men have to start early in the morning for work and return late at night, working hard all day. Such a one manages to wash up for supper, ofttimes too tired to eat or read the paper after supper He has to retire early to enable himself to be fit for labor the next day. Just think of it—eat, work, eat, sleep, eat, work! Nothing else out of life, no time with his I say I do not believe God requires such a life of any one. I firmly believe God would be better pleased with conditions if we had five working days, six hours each day, giving man a day, not robbing God of His day. I firmly believe that six hours a day is the correct thing. Philadelphia, August 26.

DESTRUCTION OF WEEDS

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir-In a twinkle of an eye hours of labor can be saved. In a twinkle of an eye one may destroy a weed that would, if allowe to go to seed, throw millions of seeds (and seems that a seed of a weed never falls to grow) which causes the farmer and those raising foodstuff hours, yes, days of labor. Now I believe it should be compulsory in this country, as I believe it is in some other countries, that every one should be compelled to keep the weeds on his ground cut down, and where there is woodland they should be kept cut down twenty-five feet in from the edge of the wood growth. I firmly believe, if this were carried out, in two or three years' time we would not be bothered with weeds and I do not think we would be bothered with mosquitoes as much if all igh weeds and grass were kept cut down and swampy places filled in or drained dry. Philadelphia, August 24.

NEGROES AS VOLUNTEERS To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:

Sir—In answer to R. M. B., 4th, I desire to say: Why should a negro fight in a revolution for a country of which he was slave? I cannot possibly see an answer

a slave? I cannot possibly see an answer to this question, but maybe R. M. B. or some of his friends can answer it. Again, in the Civil War they were forced to fight against the Federal troops, but when the emancipation proclamation came into existence they naturally desired to fight for the North, their liberators. R. M.

fight for the North, their liberators. R. M. B. talks as if they should not have deserted the South, but should have continued to fight against their benefactors.

All United States histories of recent date credit the capture of San Juan Hill to the negroes, and I don't think I would disbelieve them in favor of R. M. B.

How can the negroes volunteer when recruiting officers turn them down with the answer, "We are not recruiting negroes at present"? One Philadelphia evening paper present"? One Philadelphia evening paper stated that a negro in New Jersey walked twenty miles to enlist, and he received the

bove answer. As I live in the northern section of Philadeiphia I cannot answer him on the s Philadelphia situation. There is a bad tion of every nationality and race in the city, and I guess R. M. B. closes his eyes when he goes through these sections. How can the negro in the South exercise

How can the negro in the South exercises his voting rights when the Government will not stand behind him but lets the people take the law in their own hands?

HARRY B. MOORE.

Philadelphia, August 27.

MY STAR

All that I know
Of a certain star
Is it can throw

Is it can throw
(Like the angled spar)
Now a dart of red,
Now a dart of blue;
Till my friends have said
They would fain see, too,
My star that dartles the red and the blue!
Then it stops like a bird; like a flower
hangs furled;
They must solace themselves with the
planet above it.
What matter to me if their stars.

What Do You Know?

QUIZ

 The present Pope is Benedict XV. When did Benedict XIV reign? 2. What is the Albanian name for Albania?

3. Where is Camp Hancock? 4. What is meant in England by such expres-

5. Monsigner Thomas F. Kennedy has died in Rome. Who was he?

6. What is the Finnish Diet?

7. How many postage classes of mall matter are there?

8. Name the two men representing New Jerser in the United States Senate.

9. Has there ever been a revolution in Ger-many? 10. Name the founder of the Jesuit order.

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

sonnet is a set form of verse, of fourteen lines of five feet each. There are two standard forms—the Shakespearean, com-posed of three quatrains clinched by a final complet, and the Petrarchan, rhymedi a-b-b-a-b-b-a, c-d-c-d-cd. 2. Cannonlers and drivers are the two main divisions of artillerymen.

 Holland. Spain. Switzerland and the Scandi-mevian countries are the principal Euro-pean neutrals. 4. The plateau of Balasizza has been the scene of Austrian retirements in the face of the Italian drive.

5. The Hohemian composer, Dvorak, found mu-sical inspiration in American nerro melo-dies, notably in his "From the New World" symptony. 6. The origin of the word "glycerin" is the Greek word "glykeros," meaning "sweet."

7. Petronius was the most famous arbiter of taste in the reign of Nero. Lemuel Guillver is the hero of "Guillver's Travels," a satirical romance by Jonathan Swift, published in 1726.

9. Dr. William von Stumm has just resigned as German Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs. Affairs.
"Trying it on the dog" is theatrical slang for producing a play in a small city or town with a view to ascertaining in advance the probable attitude toward it of metropolitan audiences.

AN EARLY THEATRICAL FUROR DHILADELPHIA'S first great theatrical furor was excited by the arrival in 1811 of George Frederick Cooke, the English

tragedian. In those days there was no advance-seat sale, the method being for servants, or persons temporarily retained for the occasion, to stand in line for places, and when the doors were opened rush in to seize seats, in which they remained until their em-

ployers came to claim their places. As early as the Sunday evening preceding Cooke's first performance the steps of the theatre were covered with men prepared to spend the night. Some of them actually took off their hats and put on nightcaps. By Monday morning the streets were impassable, and by that evening the crowd at the theatre was so great that it was evident that ticket-holders, especially

ladies, would not be able to make their way into the building without danger.

The management was in a quandary. At last it was decided to depart from custom. and a placard was displayed saying that those who held admission tickets could go in through the stage door. This so clogged that approach, however, that when Cooke arrived he was obliged to make himself known before even he, the object of all this

flattering attention, could force a passage through. He did this by calling out: "I am that man going to be hanged who told the crowd they would have no fun unless they made way for him!"

The criticisms that appeared next day make one feel that all this eagerness to see Cooke act was justified. The receipts of the first night were \$1604, and the prices

Cooke was the first of the English stars Cooke was the first of the English to visit Philadelphia, but many other tragedians followed him, excited, probably, by reports of the wonderful reception he had had here. It was therefore a heavy blow when the playhouse in which he appeared—the Chestnut Street Theatre—burned down on April 2, 1820. Plans

urned down on April 2, 1820. for rebuilding were immediately nowever, so that it was still in the change of the country of th