

HENRY E. PELLEW, SIXTH VISCOUNT OF EXMOUTH, WON TITLE THROUGH UNEXPECTED TRICK OF FATE

Ninety-four-Year-Old American Citizen Awoke One Morning to Learn That He Had Become British Peer Through Death of Thirty-Year-Old Viscount; With Title He Also Becomes Master of 3000-Acre Estate

BUT AGED PHILANTHROPIST LIVES IN WASHINGTON AND HE INTENDS TO STAY THERE

Is Still Known in Capital as "Sovereign Citizen," but This Doesn't Mean He Has Declined British Honor; Has Son Who Is in Line of Succession

VISCOUNT EXMOUTH, master of a 3000-acre estate in South England, lives in Washington and does not expect to live anywhere else. It isn't as Exmouth he is known in Washington.

That title came unexpectedly. He went to bed Henry Edward Pellew and woke up with the title tacked to his name. That's all there was to it. A thirty-year-old Viscount had died in England and a ninety-four-year-old American citizen took his place in Burke's.

Of course, in a democracy there are lots of free and independent souls who do not look on the transition from "sovereign citizen" to "British peer" as a promotion; but don't blame Mr. Pellew. It isn't his fault.

In Washington he has been in business for many years. He has made an enviable reputation besides as a church worker and a philanthropist. Why should he change?

As a matter of fact, he won't. But that doesn't mean he will decline either the title or the estate.

He has a family; and his son is in the line of succession. These things make a difference.

Therefore, today Henry Edward Pellew is acclaimed to the world the sixth Viscount of Exmouth and occupant of the peculiar dual role of citizen of the United States and of the United Kingdom.

And it was all through one of those unexpected tricks of fate that the succession to a title more than one hundred years old thus was vested with an American family.

Strange to relate, the surprise attending the announcement was as complete to the new Viscount as to any one else. He and his family knew, of course, that he was the heir. He, least of all, thought the viscountcy would ever come to him.

He had already lived far beyond his threescore and ten. The fifth Viscount was only in his thirties, just out of the great war and apparently in the vigor of good health.

Henry Edward Pellew really abandoned any idea or hope he might have ever had of becoming Viscount Exmouth—and his most intimate companions do not recall hearing him mention the subject—when in 1873 at the age of forty-five he came to the United States and immediately took steps to receive naturalization as an American citizen.

Romance played a part in turning his steps this way. He was born in Canterbury, England, April 26, 1828. His parents were the Hon. and Rev. George Pellew, D.D., dean of Norwich, and the Hon. Frances Addington (daughter of Viscount Sidmouth) Pellew. He was educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge. For several years he was justice of the peace for Middlesex and engaged in business in London.

Mr. Pellew is one of the founders of Keble College, Oxford, and a member of the college council. He was on the executive boards of Hanwell Lunatic Asylum, Feltham Industrial School, Westminster Bridewell and others, and took active interest in the work of London hospitals and charities.

Met and Wooded Eliza Jay in New York City in 1858

It was on a visit to New York City in 1858 that he met and wooed Eliza Jay, granddaughter of John Jay, the first Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. They returned to London to make their home and lived there until her death in 1869.

Four years later, or in 1873, he fell in love with and married her sister, Augusta Jay. It was then that affairs took a turn which made him an American citizen.

Under English law in those days a man could not marry the sister of his wife. Within the last ten or twelve years this has been changed. Pellew resolved to make his home in the United States, and that same year he settled his affairs in England and took up residence in New York.

His life since has been as active and broad as any in the land of his adoption as it was in the land of his birth. He soon became a warm personal friend of Theodore Roosevelt, senior, and they were associated in organizing the New York Bureau of Charities. A. S. Hewitt was another of his companions.

Pellew was interested in relief work of every character and description. He was active in organizing night refuges, and improved dwellings. He joined in the first tenement house reform movement. He became Commissioner of Public Schools. He was made president of the Society for Improving Conditions of the Poor, for Sanitary Reform, and was connected with various others,

devoting time and money to the cause of humanity wherever he found a chance.

Intimate Acquaintance of President Arthur

It was in the eighties that the condition of his health led him to change his residence. President Arthur, with whom he had become intimate, had told him he should take up residence in Washington. He has lived here since 1888. He built his present home, a comfortable red brick dwelling, a couple of years later.

Although in ill health, he continued his charitable work and gradually regained his strength. He did much toward improving the conditions of the colored people. He became a pillar of strength in Episcopal Church work. He aided in the formation of the Washington Protestant Episcopal diocese.

Ninety-four years of age have treated him kindly. He is active and enthusiastic, although he must of necessity conserve his strength.

Although 94 Years Old He Still Pounds Typewriter

Every morning he opens his own mail and writes his replies to letters on his own typewriter. It is a family secret that has leaked out since he became Viscount that he uses one finger, but it is said to be amazing the amount of work that he grinds out in the course of two or three hours with his morning mail.

Mr. Pellew is a familiar figure at the banks. He is assisted nowadays when he arrives—but only on the steps. He does all of his banking; and makes all



Viscount Henry Edward Pellew

of his investments. He is a close student of business conditions. But there is no place he enjoys more than the quietude of his own home on Massachusetts avenue. And another habit that should not be overlooked is his adherence to the old maxim of "early to bed, early to rise."

The unsuspecting Viscount was soundly asleep when on the evening of August 17 the telephone bell rang and his daughter, Miss Marion Gay Pellew, received the news. It had been cabled to the press that day that the Fifth Viscount Exmouth had died. She knew nothing of it and gave the reporter who called her almost nothing to add to the cable from London. The family had no cause for thinking the young Viscount was in bad health.

Didn't Break News to Father Till Next Morning

She did not rush upstairs to inform her father. She decided his night's sleep was worth more to him than the news. It was the next morning that she told him the Viscount had died.

Is Author of Several Scientific Treatises

He is the author of a number of scientific treatises such as: "Dyes and

"Oh, surely it cannot be," was his comment. His son, Charles Ernest Pellew, a distinguished chemist of New York, who will go to England if any of the family goes, was in Washington to discuss the matter a few days ago. He is now the heir apparent.

The elder Pellew does not intend to make the journey; but he is Viscount, whether he wishes it or not. He cannot take his seat in Parliament, however, without renouncing American citizenship.

If the younger man should wish to succeed and become a member of the House of Lords it will be necessary for him to obtain British naturalization. He is a son by the first marriage, and was born in London March 11, 1893. He married Margaret W. Chandler, of New York, April 29, 1886.

1782. In command of the Pelican, he attacked three French privateers inside the Isle of Bass, and compelled them to run themselves on shore—a feat for which he was rewarded by the rank of post-captain. At the outbreak of the French War in 1793 he was appointed to the Nymphe, a frigate of thirty-six guns, and, notwithstanding that for the sake of expedition she was manned chiefly by Cornish miners, he captured, after a desperate conflict, the French frigate La Cleopatre, a vessel of superior size to his own and better armed.

He Was Awarded Honor of Knighthood for Feat

For this act he obtained the honor of knighthood. In 1794 he received the command of the Arethusa, and in a fight with the French fleet off the Isle of Bass he compelled the Pomona to surrender. The same year the western squadron was increased and its command divided, the second squadron being given to Sir Edward Pellew. While in command of this squadron he, on several occasions, performed acts of great personal daring; and for his bravery in boarding the wrecked transport Darton, and his promptitude and resolution in adopting measures so as to save the lives of all on board, he was in 1796 created a Baronet.

In 1798 he joined the channel fleet and in command of the Impetueux took part in several actions with great distinction. In 1802 Sir Edward Pellew was elected member of Parliament for Dunstable and during the time that he sat in the Commons he was a strenuous supporter of Pitt. In 1804 he was made rear admiral of the blue, and appointed commander-in-chief in India, where, by his vigilance and rapidity

lowing year was made K C B, and a little later G C B. When the treaty of 1816, violated the treaty for the abolition of slavery Exmouth was directed to attack the town. Accordingly, on August 26, he engaged the Algerian battery and fleet, and after a severe action of nine hours' duration, he set on fire the arsenal and every vessel of the enemy's fleet, and shattered her sea defenses. At the close of the action the day apologized for his conduct and agreed to a renewal of the treaty, at the same time delivering up 1800 persons of various nations who had been Algerian slaves. For this splendid victory Exmouth was advanced to the dignity of viscount. Shortly before his death, which took place January 23, 1833, he was made vice admiral.

Pellew Family Has Cocked Hat, Etc., of Arnold

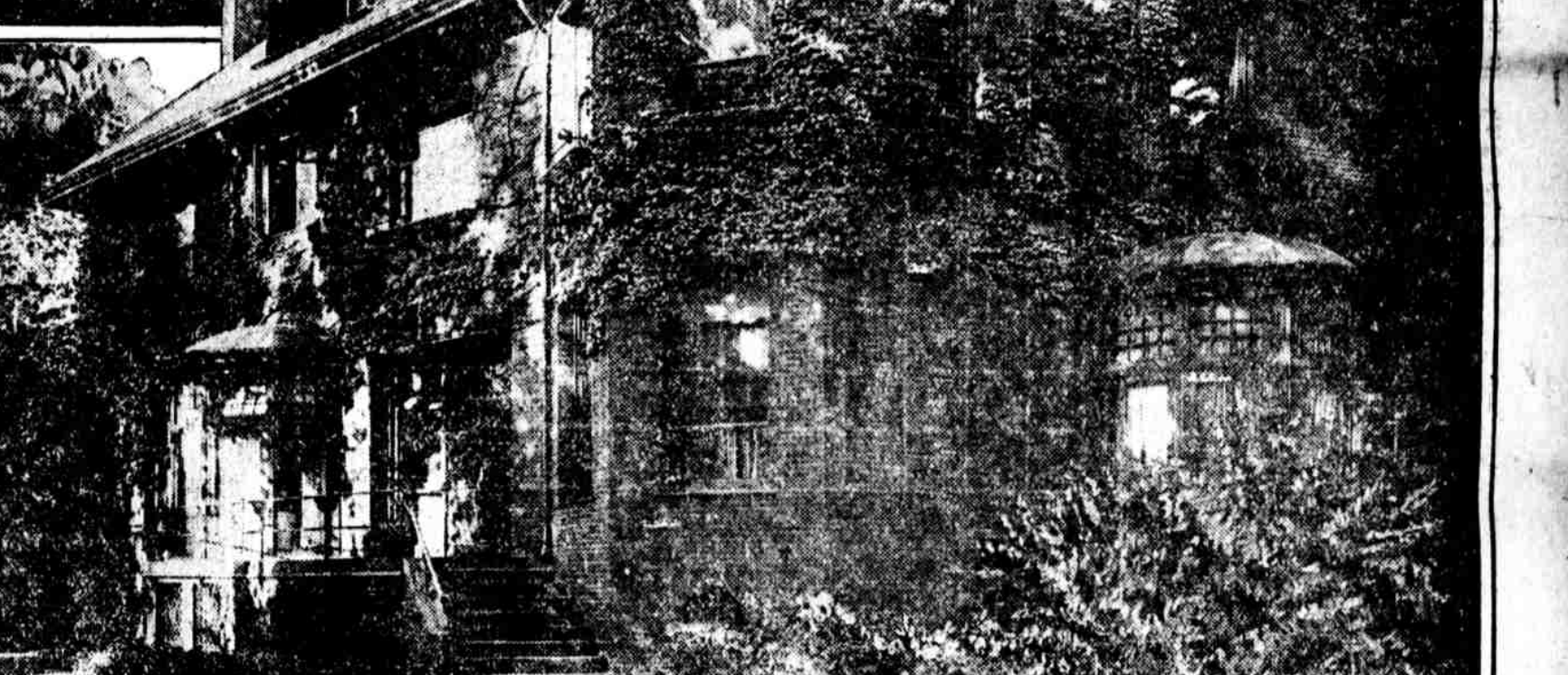
Among the heirlooms of the Pellew family are the cocked hat and shoes buckles of Benedict Arnold, the American traitor, which were left in a British boat.

Little is known here of the estate. The Pellews remember it was rather rocky and hilly. Canonteign House, which was located at Dunstford, near Exeter, was burned October 18, 1912, and it is not known even what kind of building was succeeded.

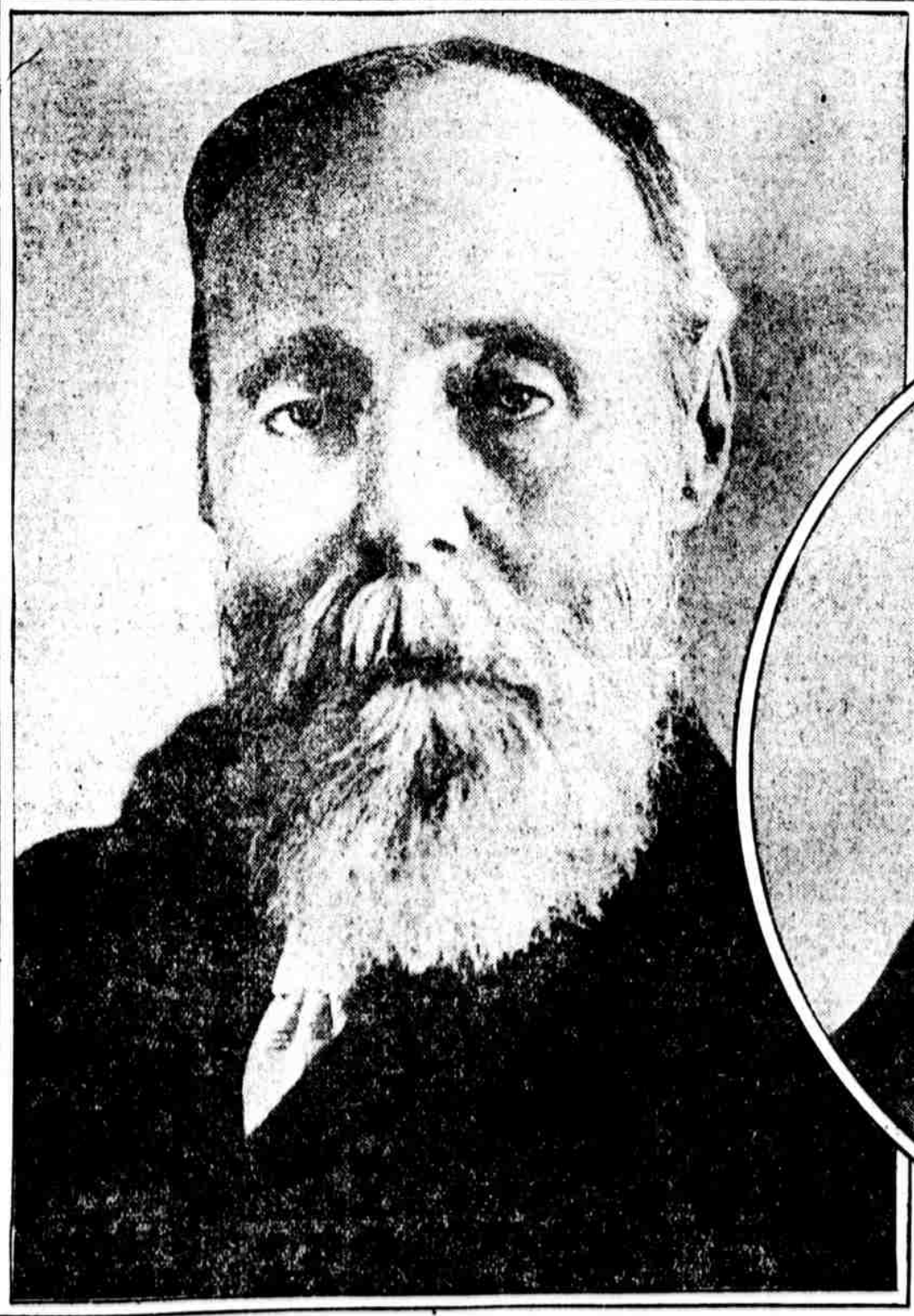
The Pellews, in fact, do not know whether they have on their hands a valuable property or a white elephant. Originally there was a pension of 2000 pounds a year, or \$10,000, and the whole estate a few years ago was estimated to bring an income of 2755 pounds per annum. Following the fire the young viscount

Dyeing." "Exercises in General Chemistry for Laboratory Use." "Lessons in Toxicology for Laboratory Use." "Manual of Practical Medical and Physiological Chemistry."

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Massachusetts Avenue home of Viscount Pellew in Washington



Viscount Pellew, who received 3000 acres of British land with title



Charles Ernest Pellew, who will assume title upon death of father



Viscount Pellew is indifferent to title and will spend remaining days in Washington

of movement, he cleared the seas of French cruisers and obtained complete protection to English commerce.

Created Baron of Exmouth of Canonteign in 1814

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