MANY AIRSHIP COMPETITIONS

Contests Will Be Spread Over a Week and Valuable Prizes Awarded

PARIS, March —The aeroplane experiments of Wilbur Wright and Henry Farman have led to the organization of numerous competitions for the present year, the prizes representing over $100,000. An interesting contest will be that at Monaco where prizes worth $20,000 will be competed for. The course from point to point is nine and half kilometers, and the aviators will be required to fly their machines above the sea. So far only a few aviators have entered, though it is expected that the number will be increased by the end of the month. It is suggested that the fact of the aeroplanes having to fly above water will deter aviators from entering this competition. But the most important contests of the year will take place at Reims, where the prizes will amount to $40,000. One contest will be for aeroplanes flying over a course of ten kilometers; there will be a speed competition over thirty and ten kilometers, and an altitude prize. Another event will be confined to airships, the prize being given to the one which attains the greatest speed.

The contests will be spread over a week and the Aero club intends to take part in them. At Brescia aeroplane contests similar to those arranged to take place at Reims and Angers will be held. The prizes amount to $40,000. In addition the year will witness a distance competition for $10,000 and the Michelin cup, worth $4,000, the course measuring 124 kilometers or nearly seventy-eight miles. The government will give $20,000 in order to encourage the science of aviation. It has not yet been decided how the money shall be divided, but it has been suggested that the state should subsidize a laboratory and contribute a certain sum to the National Aerial league for its pilots' school. Another suggestion put forward is that prizes should be awarded to the steerable balloon which makes the longest journey during the year, and to the French aviator who flies a French machine the longest distance in a straight line.

MRS. BRAMWELL BOOTH SOUNDS WARNING NOTE

Serious Question with Reference to Engagement of English Girls Abroad

PARIS, March —A serious question is raised by Mrs. Bramwell Booth with reference to the acceptance of so-called engagements abroad by young English girls. Inquiries in this country show that these children are secured something as follows: "A dancing academy advertises for pupils on very easy terms. After a few lessons the master speaks to any sharp or pretty girl and tells her she could obtain a good situation as a music hall artist in Paris or somewhere else, with plenty of money and nice frocks and so forth. The child tells her parents, who are generally in poor circumstances. They inquire and are introduced to an agent. He duly fans the flame and presently the girl is engaged at good wages. The girl, arriving in a strange city, with no knowledge of the language is immediately at the mercy of a very doubtful class of music hall and garden proprietors and their clients. She soon finds out she is expected not only to dance, but to make herself agreeable to visitors, and after a little while in many cases the consequence is as I have already hinted."

NEGRO AND WHITE FIND MARRIAGE UNCONGENIAL

Husband Seeks Divorce Because Wife Deserted Him—Wife Then Institutes Proceedings

PARIS, March —A divorce case of an unusual character recently came before the third tribunal. A few years ago a Parisian dressmaker married a pure blooded negro from Senegal. The union of black and white was not a happy one. One day the wife left her negro husband, who sought consolation in divorce. But the wife replied to his suit by suing for a divorce on her own account. "If I left home," she pleaded, "it was because my husband was jealous and brutal." She declared that the negro was accustomed to consider women as slaves and inflicted punishment on her.

The court, however, found that the wife's demand was inadmissible, inasmuch, as she had not witnesses to prove what she had stated. The negro obtained the divorce he sought because the wife's departure from the conjugal domicile constituted a grave injury which was clearly defined by the law.

CRUEL TREATMENT OF LUNATIC

Locked in a Rabbit Hutch Since September

PARIS, March —A divorce case cruelty comes from the village of Matreserie, near Douguenas. A young man of 29, an idiot from his birth, was shut up in a rabbit hutch by his parents. Had been kept in the hutch since last September. The idiot was in a terrible condition. He could not rise from the rotten straw on which he lay. The young man had been put away by his parents, who, furious because on account of his infirmity, he was unable to do any work, decided not to keep him in the house. When questioned on their conduct the couple gave cynical replies. They are now

Among the passengers on the French liner La Bretagne, were a party of ten nuns, belonging to the order of "De la Sagesse." As the ship came into port, the nuns gathered around Capt. Naurras and blessed him for the care taken of them. They are bound for Canada. This picture was taken as the sisters were blessing Captain Naurras.

HUSBAND TO SAVE "CRAZY" MARQUIS

PARIS, March —A family tragedy recalling the darkest mediaeval romances of castle towers and moats is at the present moment being enacted in the heart of Paris, and among the most aristocratic circles here. I do not wish to cast blame anywhere, or attack anybody, but I may tell the story as it has leaked out among the friends of the parties concerned.

The Comte and Comtesse de Venoble, whose elder daughter is the Princess de Corande, had married their younger daughter to the Marquis de Norac.

No sooner was she married than the marqise discovered absolute incompatibility with her husband the marquis, and proceeded to ask for a divorce, based on charges so serious that she won her suit.

It has since been established that every one of her allegations was sheer invention. But from the very day that freedom was restored to her, her own family declared her insane, and presently due legal authorization was obtained to place her in an insane asylum. This was two years ago; and ceaselessly the marquise, who does not consider herself insane at all, has implored for mercy and has written desperate appeals to the outside world and even to her ex-husband, the marquis, calling for help.

Attempts Suicide

A few days ago, preyed upon by absolute despair, she attempted to commit suicide by jumping out of her bedroom window while her guards were not watching. But, though life had forgotten her by the wayside death refused to claim her. She survived in spite of her horrible injuries provoked by her fall.

Attention was drawn to her case, however, and the courts have now been asked to intervene. It is her wronged husband who would be her rescuer, and he declares himself ready to forgive her and marry her afresh, in compliance with the law. But her family, which is now enjoying the income from her dowry, refuses to surrender her. An early solution is expected; but French law has seen such strange vagaries in recent years that there is no forecasting the result.

* * *

One of the finest places in Paris has just reopened its gates after being closed for fifteen years. It is that of the Baron Adolphe de Rothschild who, having made his fortune in Naples, came to Paris and built his home in the Parc Monceau, one of the finest quarters in our capital.

Millions for Furniture

He filled it with marvels of furniture, glories of ancient tapestry and precious glass and pictures by old masters valued at twenty millions of francs. At the recent death of the Baronne Adolphe, this princely home passed to her nephew, the young Baron Maurice de Rothschild, who, having married Mademoiselle Alphen, a recognized personification of grace and beauty, gave her this palace as the fitting frame for her social triumphs.

The resurrection of this home has recalled public attention to the man who erected it and who, in his love for money, came to a singular and terrible end. Fallen into a mental state which paralyzed all thoughts save his dominant instincts, he would sit from morning till night against the wall of his magnificent villa of Pregny, near Geneva, bareheaded, holding out his hat in the hope that some passer would let fall a piece of silver.

This form of folly is peculiar to rich men; but here it was doubly strange, overtaking one who was also a wide patron of the arts and a great philanthropist.

FAMOUS HYMN WRITER DEAD

Aged Author of "There's a Friend for Little Children" Passes Away

LONDON, March 26.—There was a deeply moving scene by the graveside of Mr. Albert Midlane, the famous hymnologist, at Carisbrooke cemetery on Thursday afternoon. Great numbers of little ones gathered there and sang the hymn which has made its author's name revered the world over, "There's a Friend for Little Children." This hymn has been translated into every known tongue.

Albert Midlane passed peacefully away shortly before midnight on Saturday at the ripe age of 84, having been born in the Isle of Wight, on Jan. 23, 1825.

He was apprenticed to the printing business in Louth, and after attaining his jubilee as a tradesman, retired and settled down at Newport.

From his youth he had been a large contributor to various religious publications, and on Feb. 7, 1859, wrote the hymn "There's a Friend for Little Children." For this and his other publications in the interests of religion and morality, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Gold Medal of the Sunday School union.

Mr. Midlane was the author of over 1,000 hymns, most of which found their way into the selection in the various hymnals of our time.

Amongst the various notable publications from his pen may be mentioned "The Victor's Garland," "Leaves From Olivet," "Bright Blue Sky Hymn Book," and "Rays from the Cross of Calvary."

NEW SEA TERROR FORECAST

Experiments With Internal Combustion Engines

LONDON, March .—The Evening News says experiments by the Vickers' Sons & Maxim company as to adaptation of internal combustion engines to large ships have proved so successful that the admiralty has decided upon the immediate construction of a new type of battleship outdistancing the Dreadnought type almost as far as the latter outdistanced its predecessors. The new battleship is to be a veritable floating fortress, the absence of funnels enabling it to move its heavy guns in complete circle fire as well as deliver broadsides. The new ship will be armed with 13.5 inch guns and will have a displacement of 21,000 tons and a speed of twenty-five knots.

FIRE MYSTERY

Red Ink Note in Suspect's Writing Suggests Suicide

LONDON, March 6.—The cruel murder of a boy clerk at East Wemyss two weeks ago has had a startling sequel.

The clerk named Brown was found with his throat cut, and a bag of gold which he had been sent to fetch from the bank for wages was missing.

A man named Edmonstone, "wanted" on suspicion, was afterwards reported to have been seen in different towns and cities of the United Kingdom, the latest being at Glasgow.

On Thursday a note written in red ink was found on a parapet of a bridge over the River Cort, at Paisley, reading as follows:

"I murdered Mickie Brown. You will find my body at the foot of the water near by. I filled my pockets with stones. I bid good-bye to mother. Good-bye.—Alexander Edmonstone."

It appears from the records of the police court at Cupar that the signature to the note is identical with that inscribed by Edmonton when he was dealt with for a breach of the peace at Cupar last year.

The authorities at Paisley at once proceeded to drag the river but met with no success.

HORSES FOR ABROAD

Magistrate Determined to Put Down Cruel Trade in Animals

LONDON, March 26.—Declaring that he meant to put a stop to the cruel trade in old and emaciated horses for the continent, Mr. Rose sentenced Joseph Harrison, at the Tower Bridge police court to a month's hard labor.

Inspector Rogers, of the R.S.P.C.A., stated that the prisoner, who is a horsekeeper of Clarence street, Hackney, was leading the animals in Tooley street when arrested. They were both lame, and were very weak. The prisoner remarked that he was taking them to the docks to be sent abroad, and he then said, "I'm off" and took to his heels. He was caught in Potter's Fields and at the station he said, "I bought both horses myself to send abroad."

Mr. Rose: It would have been interesting to see if they would have been allowed on the docks.

W. Kirk, veterinary surgeon, said that both animals were only fit for the knackers. One was in a starved, emaciated condition, with a very long coat, and the other's knees were badly cut

GRAND DAUGHTER OF NAPOLEON ON STAGE

Madame Giselle de Ravenel Has Won Herself a Place Among the Best Actresses

PARIS, March 4.—A grand-daughter of Napoleon III is making a great sensation as an actress at the Casino at Nice. She is Madame Giselle de Ravenel and is the daughter of the Count and Countess de Becherel. Her father was the son of Miss Howard and the Emperor Napoleon III.

The romance of Miss Howard and the man who made himself emperor began when he was known as Prince Louis Bonaparte and was locked up in a cell in the prison at Ham. It was Miss Howard who furnished $100,000 which permitted Prince Louis to escape from prison and become Emperor of France.

Napoleon III showed his gratitude not only by paying back the money, but also by presenting Miss Howard with the Chateau of Beauregard, now owned by the family of Baron Hirsch, and also the mansion in the Avenue Gabriel, now occupied by the Baron Gustave de Rothschild. He conferred upon her the title of Countess de Beauregard.

Her Father American

The countess' father, whose given name was Martin Constantine Harryett, an American, was naturalized in France when 21 years old, and given the title of Count de Becherel. He married a high-born Hungarian lady, Marianne de Churzy, and had three children, of whom the Countess de Ravenel was one. He died tragically eighteen months ago in Paris.

The countess has won a place for herself among the best of French actresses and she possibly will go to America on a tour. It is Charles Frohman who has gathered her up in his world-wide contracts.

Franco de Crosset whose play "Arsene Lupin," is to be produced in one of the Frohman theatres in New York this season, has fritten a quaint kind of sensational play for her. According to contract it seems the play and the countess are to appear in America next season.

WOMAN OF 70 YEARS HAS STRANGE ROMANCE

LONDON, March . — A singular romance is related in connection with the announcement in the Irish newspapers of the death, at Kabul, Afghanistan, of Emily, widow of the late Henry Simpson Lincoln.

Some twelve years ago a young Indian Mohammedan studying at the Royal College of Surgeons, at Dublin, resided with Mrs. Lincoln, who was about seventy years of age. When the young Indian finished his studies she determined to accompany him back to India and left the Unitarian church for Mohammedanism. In the course of time the Indian obtained a position in Kabul as secretary to the Amir of Afghanistan and there Mrs. Lincoln followed him braving the formidable journey from Lahore to Kabul by horse and palanquin, although about eighty years of age.

Arriving in Kabul she was obliged to live in the retirement observed by Mahommedan women, and saw the young Indian no more though she was allowed to talk with him unseen. Her last letters to her Dublin friends told of loneliness beyond expression and of her belief of approaching death. Almost immediately afterwards came a telegram stating that she had passed away.

ROTHSCHILD WEALTH SAVED FROM GAIETY THEATRE ACTRESS

Miss Grosvenor's Engagement to Lord Dalmeny Regarded as Move of Roseberys

LONDON, March .—It is stated freely in club and society circles that the betrothal of Lord Dalmeny, son and heir to the Earl of Rosebery, and the Hon. Dorothy Grosvenor, cousin of the Duke of Westminster, was "arranged", by Lord Rosebery in order to keep the Rothschild millions — the Countess of Rosebery was a Rothschild—out of the pretty hands of the stage beauty.

Lord Dalmeny has been constant in his attention to a very attractive member of the Gaiety Theatre company and has been one of the most popular habitues of London's white way.

Miss Grosvenor is a charming girl, tall, clever and pretty, and London society is of one voice in declaring that she is deserving of a saintship for taking in hand the fate of the future Earl of Rosebery.

ANIMALS FOND OF STRONG DRINK

Bibulous Horse and Beer-Drinking Bantam Cited in Strange Case

LONDON, March .—The summons against Frederick Hope Palmer, a retired captain of the merchant service, for ill-treating a toy black and tan terrier dog by administering alcohol was dismissed by the magistrate at the Southwestern police court.

The animal in question was said to be worth £150, and the story for the Society of Cruelty to Animals, who prosecuted, was that Palmer took it to the King's Head public house, Clapham Park road. Remarking that the dog would eat and drink anything, he called for a small quantity of gin, whisky, brandy, rum and Benedictine. He soaked a piece of biscuit in each and the dog consumed it, finally, it is alleged, falling unconscious from the counter and dying.

Alexander Piess, M.R.C.V.S., was called as an expert. He expressed an opinion without making a postmortem examination that the dog met its death by taking the liquor soaked in the manner described. He had known a tablespoonful of neat whisky to kill a Scotch terrier.

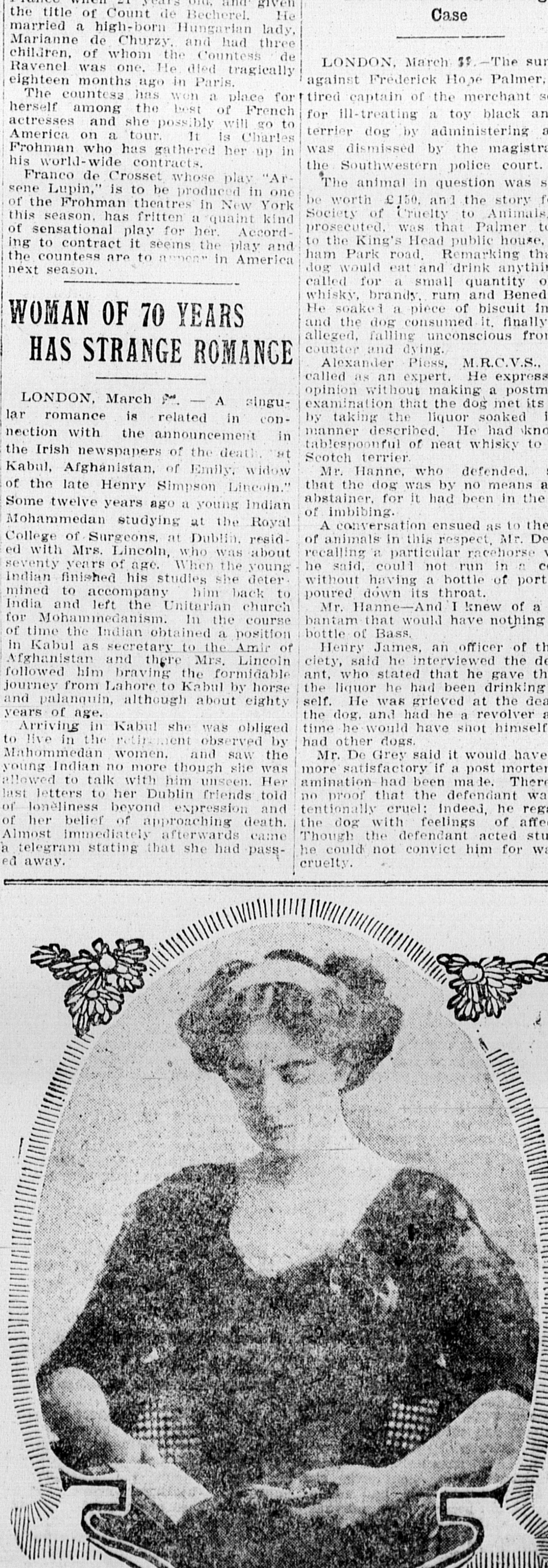
Mr. Hanne, who defended, stated that the dog was by no means a total abstainer, for it had been in the habit of imbibing.

A conversation ensued as to the taste of animals in this respect, Mr. De Grey recalling a particular racehorse which, he said, could not run in a contest without having a bottle of port wine poured down its throat.

Mr. Hanne—And I knew of a cock bantam that would have nothing but a bottle of Bass.

Henry James, an officer of the society, said he interviewed the defendant, who stated that he gave the dog the liquor he had been drinking himself. He was grieved at the death of the dog, and had he a revolver at the time he would have shot himself. He had other dogs.

Mr. De Grey said it would have been more satisfactory if a post mortem examination had been made. There was no proof that the defendant was intentionally cruel; indeed, he regarded the dog with feelings of affection. Though the defendant acted stupidly he could not convict him for wanton cruelty.



Miss Elfrieda Eden, whose engagement to Lord Brooke, son and heir of the Earl and Countess of Warwick, has just announced.

Hon. Lloyd George, chancellor of the British exchequer, who has created a sensation in English banking circles by a proposal to tax heavily the $15,000,000 of unclaimed balances in the British Banks.

GROWTH OF PERJURY IN LONDON COURTS

Becoming so Common That Judge Felt Constrained to Remark Upon its Growth

LONDON, March .—One of London's best known judges has felt constrained to remark in court upon the growth of perjury. He was reported as saying that he could take no notice of letters, because "people tell such lies in the box on oath that they are likely to tell much bigger ones in letters." In another case he observed: "If the powers given to county court judges were reasonable, I should have no hesitation in directing that the defendant and the witness, who supported him, should be taken before a magistrate."

Dealing with the matter subsequently in an interview, the judge said: "False swearing in the witness box is rampant. It has always been bad, but I am inclined to think it is on the increase. Certainly it is far worse in London than in the country; for in the provincial towns the communities are smaller than in London; witnesses are well known and are in consequence more careful of what they say.

"Something should undoubtedly be done to stop this wholesale abuse. The remedy which county court judges have at present is clumsy. We have power to have a witness whom we think has uttered wilful perjury arrested and commit him straight to the assizes, there to stand his trial. The judges at the assizes, however, point out that a difficulty arises in such cases. There are no depositions for the judge to read, no depositions to lay before the grand jury, and nothing to show what the perjury is. My suggestion is that a county court judge, in a case of perjury, should be able to have the person arrested and taken or bound over to appear before a magistrate also have power to instruct a solicitor to prosecute. Then the case would be thoroughly prepared, deposition would be taken, and the prisoner could afterwards be committed to the assizes if necessary."

AWAIT AN IMPORTANT EVENT

Spanish Royal Couple Anticipating the Queen's Accouchement

SEVILLE, March .—The King and Queen of Spain are spending the early spring in Andalusia, making their headquarters in the Alcazar, the ancient palace of the Moorish Kings of Castile and Leon.

The castle was the favorite residence of Don Pedro, "the Cruel," who here murdered many of his royal guests for their money and jewels. The queen spends much of her time in the beautiful gardens of the Alcazar and in making short automobile trips to neighboring points of historical interest. The king frequently accompanies his wife, but spends the major part of his time hunting.

After holy week, which will be passed in Madrid, the king and queen go to Granja, the Versailles of Spain, situated high up in the Guadarrama mountains, to await the latter's accouchement, which is expected in May.

Woman Wants Husband

LONDON, March .—The clerk to the Cambridge board of guardians has been instructed to reply suitably to the following letter received by the workhouse master:

"I am writing to ask if you have a widower in your institution that would care to marry. I have not a lot of money, but can manage to live, and have a very comfortable home. I should like one who would enjoy a good home and wife. I am a widow, aged fifty-seven, and would like someone near the same age."

HIGHER VOLUNTARY TRAINING DESIRABLE

Decided to Establish a Staff College of the Territorial Forces—Action Has Support of Military Authorities

LONDON, March 14.—It has been decided to establish a staff college for officers of the Territorial Force. At a private meeting of lords lieutenant and chairmen of county associations, the need of higher voluntary training for "spare time" officers was fully discussed this week and it was decided to open a war school, to be run without profit on fees from the county associations, etc., sufficient only to pay the professors engaged. This action on the part of those in authority in the counties has the support of the military authorities. The school will be opened on March 22. A large number of commanding officers are interested in the scheme, the founders of which are Major the Duke of Westminster, president of the Cheshire County Territorial association; Lieut.-Colonel the Marquess of Tullibardine, Royal Horse Guards, chairman of the Perthshire association; Colonel the Earl of Scarborough; Viscount Esher, chairman of the London County association; Lieut.-Colonel the Right Hon. George Wyndham, M.P.; Capt. Laycock and D. Maguire.

The school is intended to serve the Territorial Force or any future development on broader or general service lines, the aim being to give that higher instruction which the voluntary class of officers stands so much in need of. Professors are being chosen to give instruction for promotion to command in history, strategy, law, organization, tactics and hygiene. Staff rides will be arranged in the commands, and the whole curriculum will be a counterpart of the staff college at Camberley for regular officers.

TRAINED MONKEY AS SHOP LIFTER

Acrobatic Performer with Monkey in His Pocket Caught at the Trick

PARIS, March .—For several days a shabbily dressed man had been noticed strolling about one of the big shops, inspecting various articles, but never buying anything. It having also been remarked after his visits that goods were missing from the counter at which he had paused, detectives were told to keep an eye on him. He entered a large emporium and was soon inquiring the price of different trinkets. As the salesman was answering his questions a head was seen to peep out of a pocket of his overcoat and soon a paw followed, with the result that several rings left that particular stand, entering into the selfsame pocket with the paw and the head. Presently the visitor, after thanking the salesman for his information, moved on to a counter where lace was laid out in tempting array. The employe was requested to show some of the most valuable samples and once more the head disappeared into that recess.

The detectives walked up to the visitor, asked him to accompany them, and took him into custody as soon as they were out in the street. They also captured the monkey, for such it was, which he had trained to grab at goods while he was keeping the venders engrossed by his questions as to prices and quality. The man, who is an acrobatic performer at fairs, perceiving that the game was up, submitted mildly, but his companion did not take his own arrest so philosophically and resisted fiercely. The man is at the depot of the prefecture of police, and the monkey has been consigned to the pound.

DESERTERS FINDS COOL WELCOME IN LORRAINE

Colonel of German Regiment Censures French Deserters for Their Action

PARIS, March .—A few days ago two dragoons deserted from a regiment at Luneville, carrying their military effects with them and fled into Germany. Once across the frontier the welcome their received was the reverse of cordial. They appeared to have forgotten that the residents of the Lorraine village, though German subjects, were French at heart. The mayor of the village told them plainly that their conduct was unworthy of good Frenchmen. The deserters fared no better with the colonel of the German regiment before whom they were taken. The colonel informed them that their conduct in deserting their flag admitted of no excuse. Filled with remorse the two dragoons demanded to be sent back to France, and were accompanied to the frontier post at Coincourt by German gendarmes. Suffering from hunger and fatigue, the deserters finally arrived at the barracks of their regiment where they received an icy welcome from officers and men. They will be brought before a court martial.

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