

A COURT OF NATIONS.

A HIGH COURT OF LAST RESORT TO DETERMINE DISPUTES.

How International Differences Might Be Adjusted if the Rules Did Not Prefer Arms and Destructive War to Peace, Arbitration to Big Affairs.

There is a great deal of carelessness in certain popular demands for referring questions between nations to arbitration. We all know what arbitration is in business. It is a very convenient way of adjusting certain questions which arise between two friends, each of whom wants to do what is right, but who take different points of view of the same subject.

Each of them "chooses a man," as the old New England phrase has it. Those two "men" choose a third man. All parties meet together and talk over the matter, and the court thus made decides. But for practical purposes we do not compel every person who has a question arising with another person to create a court which is to try that question.

This is a fair enough illustration of the necessity which now exists that the great nations of the world shall have a permanent tribunal, before which shall be brought the important questions which must arise in the affairs of nations with each other.

The greatest success was achieved when in 1789 13 different nations, here on the coast of the Atlantic, united to gather and established the supreme court of the United States. The thing has worked so perfectly and simply ever since that we have many readers to whom it has never occurred that there were might have been wars between Massachusetts and New York, or war between Missouri and Iowa, as bitter and severe as half the wars of the middle ages in Europe were.

Probably few of the auditors knew who Matthew Arnold was or what to expect from the next number on the programme, but they had been hearing some good old soul stirring verses, and interest was keyed to a high pitch. It chanced that the reader started with "Youth's Agitations," beginning, "When I shall be divorced, some 10 years hence" — Ho paused for breath, and in an instant a voice in the gallery shouted: "Ten years! Come out to Dakota, an yer can git one in two weeks." — New York Tribune.

At first the new court would have nothing to do. Everybody would be shy of it, but it would exist. It would consist of men of the very highest rank who had distinguished themselves before the world by their equity and wisdom.

At first the court would meet simply for its own organization and to await the reference to it of questions arising between great nations. In this period of leisure these jurists might well be engaged in digesting the international law of the world as it exists now and publishing from time to time their digest.

First Reporter—We got the scoop on you in that robbery in the street car. We were the only paper that published the name of the pickpocket, his arrest and the recovery of the money.

Second Ditto—Yes, but we were the only paper that gave the number of the car.—Boston Transcript.

Tobacco Benefited Him. "I feel that I owe a great deal to tobacco."

"Nervous temperament perhaps?" "No, I run a cigar store."—Kate Field's Washington.

Making Love to His Own Wife.

"Did you ever hear of a man marrying his own wife?" asked Harvey Kuttner of a party of good listeners last night. "I don't mean a divorced couple getting remarried, but a couple really going through the marriage ceremony a second time, with one of the two entirely ignorant of the fact. I met a case of that kind last year and am thinking of selling the idea to some novelist to build a plot on. It was in a small Ohio town, and the bride had been deserted by her husband 20 years before. She had long ago come to the conclusion that he was dead and had been looked upon as an eligible widow, who was fair and 40, if not fat, when a stranger came to town, got himself introduced to her and finally persuaded her to try the matrimonial experiment a second time. They were married after a short courtship, and a few weeks after the honeymoon the husband gave away his story and told his wife that she had married him twice without knowing it.

"His explanation was that on leaving her 20 years before he had gone on a protracted spree and had finally got himself sent to the penitentiary in a distant state for a long term. After being liberated, he was ashamed to look up his old friends and took it for granted that his wife had forgotten all about him by that time. He accordingly went abroad, and it was only on his return after a long period that he heard accidentally that his wife was still living at the old home. Rather than run the risk of being spurned for his heartlessness and relying on an entire change in his personal appearance, he conceived the daring plot of winning and remarrying his own wife. I don't know what the lady said when she was undeceived, but that is one of the details the novelist I sell the story to can supply for himself."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Greek Stools and Chairs.

The stools or chairs seen on Greek vases are in great variety, and as regards time cover a period of many hundred years. On some of them are figures seated on blocks of stone or wood, but the general form is that of stools with or without the feet of animals, sometimes having arms, but rarely backs. Sometimes personages are seen on vases or on statuettes seated on chairs, with backs of moderate elevation, curved in the form of the ruff worn by women in the time of Queen Elizabeth, which were probably considered thrones. A form of chair in common use among the Romans was that with curved arms, familiar to all those who have seen upon the stage the Roman plays of Shakespeare.

Chairs or stools of other forms were also in use among the Romans, made often within a certain degree of art and elegance and of costly materials. Sitting at table the posture now considered the most elegant and the most cleanly was not practiced by them, the reclining attitude corresponding more nearly with their ideas of ease and luxury.—San Francisco Chronicle.

No Need to Wait Ten Years.

It is said that a public reader of some repute, making a tour through the west, happened to have an audience one night in a South Dakota town whose "hustling" spirit created a demand for anything from Sunday dog fights to lectures on aesthetics. The house was packed, and the reader's efforts were followed with marked attention. Several selections had been well received, when some of the shorter poems of Arnold were announced.

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Substantial Studies Better Than Fads.

An honest education in the primary branches is all the public schools should be expected to give. As it is, there is a disposition to divert the pupils from substantial studies to fads that tend to defeat the main object of the public school system. By giving them a smattering of a dozen things they are deprived of useful knowledge that can be easily imparted in the schools and sent out into the world imperfectly equipped, when they might have been supplied with knowledge that would have been useful to them in every item.—Pittsburg Press.

Borax in the Arts.

In the arts the use of borax is constant. It produces the glaze on china, earthenware and tiles and is used in the enamel for granite ware, and is used in calico printing and dyeing and a flux for all metals, as it enables them to melt at a lower temperature. Used with pure, fine white sand in the proportion of four to one, it produces a glass so hard as to cut common glass like a diamond, while it is added to slaked lime where it is desired to render plaster fireproof.—Epicure.

The Interior of the Mormon Temple.

The interior of the Mormon temple has an air of mystery about it. Up to date none but the faithful have been admitted to its sacred precincts, and none of the inquisitive Gentile reporters are allowed to enter. As a matter of fact, there are portions of the interior which are as sacred as was "The Holy of Holies" in the days of the temple constructed by the wise son of David.—C. M. Jackson in Harper's Weekly.

Wedding Invitations.

Wedding invitations are always engraved on note paper. All figures, including dates, are written out in full, except the number of the house. There are no abbreviations. An invitation should never give the effect of being in a hurry. A matter of social function to be done elegantly must be done leisurely.—Philadelphia 7

A WHITE HOUSE GUIDE.

Entertaining Conversation of an Executive Employee of a Few Months Ago.

Not to be too personal, this account of White House visiting is taken from an experience in the past. It is on a day when the president is in the big east room, shaking hands with any Tom, Dick or Augustus who wishes to inflict himself on the head of the nation. There are numerous familiarly polite men lounging in the vestibule of the mansion. Their dress consists of indifferent business suits, very ready made in appearance, black, brown, blue and gray, ill fitting and often shabby. These are the servants of the place, whose duties are to show the guests through the public rooms and at times through the private ones. Their appellation in this house of the people is "guide." They are particularly the persons from whom the visitor to Washington gets the tone of the White House. If any one claims that these are gentlemen in office and not serving men, let him try them with a fee. It is not exacted, is forbidden, but — try it!

Through with the president, a group of people are invited by a guide to go into the other rooms. "These rooms has all been newly decorated," he says, "and after designs by Miss Harrison, and 'tain't necessary for me to say that she's a artist." A sweep of his hand takes in floor, wall, ceiling and furniture.

"This," he goes on, "is the famous blue room, where the president receives with his lady beside him. You have all heard of going behind the line. Well, the president stands here with his lady on his right and the ladies of the cabinet. That makes the line. After they shake hands the elight go behind the line where all the dignitaries is.

"That's right, ma'am. Sit right down." This to a woman who has rested against the arm of a chair. "All sit down and make yourself comfortable. People seem to think this house belongs to Miss Harrison, but it don't. It belongs to all of you. Miss Harrison wants everybody to feel at home. Now, in this room Miss Cleveland was married. She stood right there where that lady's feet is."

The modest appearing little woman on whose feet all eyes were centered looked inclined to put them in her pocket, but the guide went on remorselessly. "Where that lady's feet is placed."

"This clock," said the guide later, pausing before an elaborate mantel clock, "and them side ornaments was presented to George Washington, our first president, by Lafayette and presented by he to the White House. And it has been going ever since. Them lights are electric and just put in. You turn them on and off this way," illustrating.

"Seeing as you look interested, sir, you can turn them on once if you like."

The man to whom this kind permission was granted bears a name synonymous with electricity, but the famous electrician, as courteous as the guide, gravely manipulated the button.

Leaving after a quarter of an hour more of this talk, and a visit to the conservatories, and a peep at the private dining room, Selma expressed herself in this fashion: "All applicants for such work in the White House should pass a civil service examination before being accepted. Secondly, they should be obliged to wear a distinctive dress. Call it a uniform if the word livery is objectionable. But these men should look as neat and trim as postmen, motormen and car conductors. Thirdly, they must be as willing and obliging as they are at present. I would like to leave our president's house once without feeling half amused and half vexed and altogether ashamed, as I am today." — Newport News.

Queer Japanese Beliefs.

The Japanese believe in more mythical creatures than any other people on the globe, civilized or savage. Among these are mythical animals without any remarkable peculiarities of conformation, but gifted with supernatural attributes, such as the tiger which is said to turn as white as a polar bear on the date of his one thousandth birthday. They also believe in a species of fox which if it lives to be 50 years old without having been chased by a dog transforms itself into a beautiful woman. This same fox, if he can manage to live for a century, gains additional powers, such as becoming a wonderful wizard, etc. When he lives to be 1,000 years old, he becomes a "celestial fox," with nine golden tails, and has the power of going to heaven and returning whenever he chooses.

These Japs also believe in a multitude of animals distinguished by their monstrous size or by the multiplication of their members. Among these are serpents 800 feet long and large enough to swallow an elephant; boxes with eight legs; monkeys with four ears and seven tails; fishes with 10 heads attached to one body, the flesh of this last monster being a sure cure for boils, bites of poisonous serpents, hydrophobia, etc.—Philadelphia Press.

States Meant.

A monthly statement, Mo.; a weekly statement, Ill.; a personal statement, Me.; a graphic statement, Del.; a written statement, Penn.; a decimal statement, Tenn.; an interesting statement, Miss.; a historical statement, Ark.; a confident statement, Kan.; a rich statement, Ore.; a lump statement, Mass.; a spirited statement, R. I.; a medical statement, Md.; a French statement, Va.; a French statement, Ala.; an emphatic statement, O.; an emphatic statement, La.; a close statement, N. Y.; a neutral statement, I. T.; a neat statement, Wash.; a doubtful statement, Wy. — Truth.

A Pleasant Opinion.

Patient—Do you think smoking hurtful, doctor? Doctor Smarte—Hem! Ah—do you smoke? Patient—Yes. Doctor—But not enough to hurt you, that's easy enough to see. Patient goes off happy and never begrudges the \$3 he pays for this unbiased verdict.—Boston Transcript.

NEBRASKA AMERICANS.

Are Your Names Enrolled on the List of A. P. A.'s—Read the Principles.

We have received the following letter from the state president of the American Protective Association:

Editor of THE AMERICAN, Omaha, Neb., Dear Sir:—Believing the publication of an outline of the principles of the American Protective Association would be beneficial to the order in the state of Nebraska, and knowing it will heighten the interest in and favor for the association if the public is placed in possession of a brief outline of our policy, belief and principles, I would respectfully ask you to publish the following:

First—The members of the American Protective Association believe in the perpetuation of the public school system as it exists today.

Second—They believe in a complete separation of church and state; by which we mean no laws shall be enacted respecting the establishment of any religion; and that no money shall be appropriated from either the national, state or municipal treasuries for sectarian purposes.

Third—They believe in the right of every man to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience; an untrammelled press and one ballot for each and every citizen fairly cast and honestly counted.

Fourth—They believe in free speech, whether rich or poor, high or low,—who come to this country with a desire to familiarize themselves with our laws and form of government, and who swear allegiance to the United States without a mental reservation in favor of any foreign prince, potentate or pope, as men worthy of being clothed with that highest honor—American citizenship.

Fifth—They believe in the restriction of immigration, so as to protect the honest citizen-aborer from the depressing effects of the criminal, contract and pauper Roman Catholic horde that is swarming to our shores.

Sixth—They welcome to their council chambers men of all nationalities, believing that the accident of birth is not a true test of Americanism; Seventh—They are willing to lay down their lives, to spend their fortunes, and, if need be, to take up arms in defense of their country and her institutions.

Eighth—They are unalterably opposed to priestly dictation and interference in the affairs of state, knowing that whenever church has been placed above the state, the liberties of the people have not only been jeopardized but completely overthrown.

These, Mr. Editor, are what you get from the cardinal principles of the order, and if they meet with the approval of any of your readers who are not members of the order, we would be glad to have them unite with us. The order is not partisan. Democrats, republicans, prohibitionists, independents and mugwumps compose its membership. There are but two requirements—that you are not a Roman Catholic and do not recognize the church as being above the state.

To conclude, if any member of the order knows where a council can be organized he is requested to communicate with me, and upon recommendation from such member's council that he is reliable I will grant a dispensation to such member to organize a council at the point designated.

By concerted action the membership in Nebraska can be doubled inside of sixty days and the number of councils can be increased even beyond the expectations of the most sanguine members of the order; and to that end I earnestly request the hearty co-operation and assistance of every member of the order. Let us all go to work. Ask your neighbor what he knows about the A. P. A. Show him the principles of the order. If they meet his approval ask him why he does not join. Let us work! Let us agitate.

Yours in F. P. P., J. S. HATFIELD, State President, COLUMBUS, Neb., May 2, 1903.

Read and Reflect, A. P. A. Primmer

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