

## Bars Pen Names.

A cablegram to the St. Louis Globe-Democrat under date of Paris, July 18, says: M. Gervaise, deputy for Nancy, has drawn up a bill compelling people to drop pseudonyms, or pen names, and to use their own. The bill will soon be presented to the chamber of deputies, and already it has caused consternation in the ranks of literary men and artists, for nowhere else are pseudonyms so freely used in the literary and artistic world as in Paris.

Writers who have made reputations and are known to their readers only by their pen names believe that they will suffer great loss if they be forced to abandon them. The Countess de Martet de Janville, who is known to readers of society novels by the name of "Gyp," is in tears. Pierre de Coulevaire, who has made such clever studies of American women, will be recognized with difficulty by her real name of Mlle. Fayard.

Not one in fifty would know Jean Lorraine by his family name of Verdier.

Even the traveled and cultured Pierre Loti is not widely known by his real name of Julien Vaud. It is doubtful if even professors of literature know Anatole France by any other name. His real name, Antoine Thibaut, conveys no means and conjures up no poetic beauties.

A kindred confusion will be caused in the ranks of journalists. That fighting editor, Urbain Gohier, will not be permitted to sign himself, for this is merely his nom de plume. Octavo Uzanne, nephew of the late M. de Blowitz, and a writer on the *Matin*, will have to sign his family name or none at all.

The Duke de Pomar must give up his democratic signature of Victor Bellechasse, and if the queen of Naples wishes to continue to contribute to newspapers it will not be over the name of the Countess Isola, as she has hitherto done.

Caricaturists are similarly in trouble. The world-renowned Caran d'Ache will become plain Emmanuel Poire; the witty Willy will become Gauthier Villars. All the potency attached to the name of Rejane would have to be rearranged should the law compel her to wear the name of Mme. Porel.

The further sacrilege of making Jane Hading become plain Jeanette Hadingue would be committed. It would force Mme. Calve to be put upon the dead walls of the city as De Roquer.

The adoption of the bill would lead to the debaptism of the leading names of literature, the stage and the press.

## None of Man's Business.

We'd like to know why it is that ladies have their dress skirts made so long that they are obliged to carry a half dozen yards of cloth in their hands in order to be able to walk?—Arlington News.

Strange how some men will spend so much valuable time in issueless curiosity as to the whys of a woman's conduct. There is no "why" in the case. No man knows anything about any woman that ever lived, except his mother. And she is not like any other woman—not another like her ever lived. A married man finds out new things about his wife every day; finds that he doesn't half know her; never did know her, never will know her; she's too much for him, too much for any man living. She's the riddle of creation. In time he learns to quit asking fool questions like the above, and about her net hose and half hose, or which end of her dress is short. It's none of his business, and he won't find out by asking, either.—Eagle Grove (Ia.) Eagle.

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