

Old Letters Put New Light Upon Louisiana Sale

True Story of Land Deal Told in Documents Held by Missouri Society.

St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 15.—In the archives of the Missouri Historical society at Jefferson Memorial here there rests, temporarily, a set of letters in which the true story of the Louisiana Purchase is told.

The letters were written from the year 1801 to 1803 by Robert Livingston, American ambassador to France at that interesting period in the world's history. They are addressed to Rufus King, then ambassador to Great Britain, and some of them contain the signature of James Monroe, in addition to that of the author.

Nothing more than a little matter of \$4,000 stands between the Missouri Historical society and the coveted manuscripts which were recently brought to the attention of John H. Gundlach, St. Louisan and himself an insatiable collector of old books and manuscripts.

An entirely new light is thrown on the story of the great purchase, generally considered the most important event in American history, next to the revolution itself, by these letters, and an effort will be made to raise funds for their purchase.

Gundlach has recently made an invaluable addition to his own private collection of books and manuscripts in the form of a set of autographed letters written by Napoleon Bonaparte.

Most of them are addressed to his cousin, the Duc de Belluno, one of the military leaders in the Napoleonic wars, and contain characteristically concise instructions as to the conduct of the campaigns preceding the great Russian disaster. The letters are dated 1813.

"I shall consider it a piece of good news," says one letter, "when I learn that the enemy of 8,000 has got itself into a mess at Leipzig and has been destroyed."

One of Gundlach's greatest treasures is an autographed letter from Pope Gregory XIII to Charles IX congratulating him for his success in destroying so many heretics by means of the massacre of St. Bartholomew.

Another is a letter from Jerome Bonaparte conveying to his mother the news of the late emperor's death. "For all we know, the accursed English had conspired to murder him!" the bereaved brother writes.

Equally interesting is a lengthy letter written by the Marquis de Lafayette to the noted Englishwoman, Lady Sidney Morgan, vividly describing the last days of Napoleon in exile.

Forty odd autographed letters of Richard Wagner, many of Lincoln and Roosevelt, several of Beethoven, Haydn and other celebrities, as well as part of the original minutes of the first constitutional convention, are part of the Gundlach collection, which represents the work of a lifetime in assembling.

"The passion for collecting manuscripts is nothing short of a disease," Gundlach says, "and once you've been bitten by the microbe there's no cure for you. But to get the fullest pleasure out of this hobby, if hobby it is, you must be free from all narrowness, all prejudice—national, religious or political. You simply stand off and, in a purely objective way, watch the march of history."

Papillion Notes
The juniors of the Papillion High school will out on a play entitled "When a Feller Needs a Friend" Friday and Saturday evenings, November 15 and 22.

The Ladies auxiliary met Thursday at the home of Adam Grambo. An interesting program was rendered.

Mrs. John Dugan and H. Sprague departed Monday for their home at Steamham, Colo., after having spent several weeks with friends at Missouri Valley.

Miss Eliza Wilson spent the week-end at the home of her sister, Mrs. Clyde Barton, and family at Missouri Valley, Ia.

Mrs. C. D. Myers of Indianapolis is visiting this week at the home of her aunt, Mrs. E. Galewood. Mrs. Myers was formerly Miss Marie Hodge of Papillion.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Strawn returned to their home at Broadwater, Neb., after spending some time at the home of their son, J. E. Strawn, and family, here.

Mrs. and Mrs. J. W. Curtis of South Omaha spent Sunday at the home of Mrs. A. F. Empey.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Macgurie spent Wednesday with friends at Valley.

Mrs. M. H. Brown entertained at a 4 o'clock dinner Wednesday evening in honor of her mother's 74th birthday anniversary.

Bridgeport—Edward Williams, an employe of the Scotchbluff sugar factory, was seriously scalded by explosion of one of the "batteries," throwing steam over his feet and ankles.

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High Courage In Low Places.

By O. O. McINTYRE.

In a great banking institution I had been attracted by the cheery manner of a pale and sickly young man. I commented upon his good nature, under what seemed to me trying conditions, to his superior.

He told me that for a year the young man had been suffering from an insidious malady. But kept at his work, and when the bank closed in the evening went to a rest room and remained for two hours reclining on a sofa to recruit strength for the arduous trip to his home in New Jersey.

This is the sort of courage a great city in its rush and hurry sometimes overlooks. New York seems pitilessly cold and indifferent mostly because it does not know of the heavy hearts along the way. Contact here is casual. People meet and hurry on.

Thousands of unsung heroes brush elbows with their more fortunate brothers daily.

I know a motion picture director

West Ninth street. His wife is clerking in a store.

He managed to save a little and opened up a stationery store on Tenth avenue several weeks ago. Two days later a fire destroyed his uninsured stock and he went back to the office building. His wife now faces a serious operation.

Many men would be crushed. Yet he looks at the future with confidence. "What I have done once I can do again," he says. It is my guess he will come back.

Misfortune is a true test of courage. To rise above one's troubles is no easy task. It is human to whine and complain.

Nellie Reveil, five years ago, went to a hospital with the pronouncement she would never walk again. She had been an active woman—a theatrical press agent and a newspaper reporter.

For many years she was in a plaster cast. She always spoke of the time she would leave the hospital.

him \$10,000 a week. Carroll refused to be beaten.

There is a man in New York who has made six fortunes and lost them. Today he happens to be on the top wave. He says each one of his failures was absolutely priceless in teaching him something he would never have learned in any other way.

A recall with some pride a frail little Greek who about 12 years ago opened up a sidewalk fruit stand on Columbus avenue near Seventy-second street. He had only a few oranges, lemons, apples and bananas. They were polished to a sick shine.

In tattered garments he braved the wintry winds and at night slept in a nearby hallway. He was pathetic in his appreciation for the slight patronage I gave him. There was the added handicap of speaking only a few words of English. On one corner of his block was one of the finest fruit displays in town and below him a fine market place.

Courage.
His future looked altogether hopeless. But he had courage and hope. Today you ride past the same block on Columbus avenue and you see three complete stores given to him. An electric sign hangs out front. He employs 15 clerks. He added a delicatessen department and a soda fountain. He began his career with \$2.18. Today this young Greek is only 29 years old. He is worth \$200,000.

Rarely will you find a happier soul than Blind George, the newsdealer of the Bryant Park corner. In his world of darkness he has found the secret of happiness in making others happy. He is a friend of thousands and no one has yet heard George speak of his plight.

An old Latin proverb runs: "There is no greater misfortune than not to be able to bear misfortune."

People who interest me most are those who have suffered misfortune. They are more considered and they think more clearly. And they have more faith in their fellows.

Destiny.
I have been reading "Derrieks of Destiny," which is the autobiography of Samuel Gamble Bayne, former president of the Seaboard National bank and also the founder of that institution. It is an interesting study of a great man who made romance of business. He knew America and he believed Texas was the greatest state of all in natural resources.

Mr. Bayne was an intimate of John D. Archbold, H. H. Rogers, John D. Rockefeller, Theodore Roosevelt, Henry P. Davison, Pierpont Morgan, Mark Twain and all the great of New York of his day. His advice to young men is sound and worth repeating:

"Sometimes I see solemn young men reading books on success in which they are told to find a calling and stick to it. The gentle barnacle, I believe, when very young attaches itself to the bottom of a craft to which it has drifted with the current. It then stays put and gets somewhere. In so doing, it is serene and useless, and impedes the speed of its stout carrier. Arrived at last, at a safe harbor, the barnacle is its reward. It is knocked to pieces as soon as the boat goes into dry dock.

"Learn when to leave a place in this life for which one is not fitted, either by nature or training, is often a hard task. There is, however, nothing more dreary in the world than engaging in a calling which offers no zest and no thrills. One of the first lessons in business,

"I remember a few years ago when a friend of Earl Carroll's came to me to discuss Carroll's plight. At 30, after a successful career song writing and play writing, he was down to the last dollar and steeped in debt. We went to see him. He was the most optimistic of the trio. He was down but not out.

Today he has two successful plays on Broadway and a theater that bears his name. The income from six companies of "White Cargo" alone nets

ABE MARTIN

On the Old Family Doctor

When we look at our fine, dapper doctors of today as they whizz here an' there in their high-powered cars, performin' marvelous operations an' savin' scores of human lives without th' aid o' whiskers an' plug hats an' shiny frock coats, we begin t' realize

break a leg, or git poisoned, jest you watch an' see how soon your doctor kin git t' you from th' golf links, or a the-ater. It's amazin'! O' course if a feller's bleedin' t' death an' his doctor is addressin' a commercial club meetin', or attendin' a corner stone

a horse. A big, round, or tall dignified, bewhiskered, livery stable smellin' doctor o' thirty-five years ago would no more swap his plug hat an' Prince Albert coat for a golf outfit than he'd jump off th' court house. He might, if he couldn' git



The ole time doctor would occasionally play a little croquet if he couldn' get out o' it.

that we've lived t' witness great changes. An' our doctors o' today find time t' keep their communities tuned up an' in good health, an' also identify 'emselves with th' civic life o' their towns an' cities. An' believe us, keepin' up with th' civic life o' our time an' attendin' t' business too, is goin' some. We know a fine, young lung expert that made 18 holes in 74 yesterday, an' also remounted four sets o' lungs, took in a movie in th' afternoon, an' solicited for th' community chest 'til 10 p. m. If you

I learned, was to quit before it was too late.

Another bright little tome has been written by Edward James Herman, an advertising man of Indianapolis, Ind. It is called "Health is Wealth." It is devoted to the art of keeping 100 per cent alive and rarin' to go but, unlike many of these efforts, it offers a true modicum of common sense. Mr. Herman among other things points out that it is becoming old-fashioned to walk a mile. That is something about which to reflect.

layin', it makes it sort o' ticklish. But such cases have been handled successfully. When Art Smiley's nephew fell off a smoke stack Dr. Moppa wuz on th' spot in his golf clothes jest as he lit. "I could have caught him," Doc said, "if they'd phoned me a minute sooner." But we don't think a doctor ought t' live four or five hours yet. It don't look fair. Th' doctors o' thirty an' forty years ago did little civic work, an' cared less fer th' the-ater. They stuck t' business an' often it took 'em nine or ten hours t' drive t' a case o' mumps, or a sore toe. They wuz very dignified an' mussy, an' their plug hats wuz allus rubbed th' wrong way. Their frock coats wuz too big an' they all smelled like

out o' it, play a little croquet, but he took himself too seriously t' wear a uniform, or git very fer from his office. (Copyright, 1924.)

"Trench Rats" to Come Here for Vet Meet

Organization Corresponds With "Cooties" and "Forty 'n Eight."

The playground organization of the Disabled American Veterans of the World War, known as the "Trench Rats," will hold its national gathering in Omaha, during the week of the D. A. V. national convalesce here, June 22 to 27, 1925, according to Adj. Wilbur Shaw, of the local organization. Volney P. Mooney of Los Angeles is head keeper of the Trench Rats society, which was instituted last June at the D. A. V. national convention in Salt Lake City.

The Trench Rats correspond to the Forty 'n Eight of the American Legion, and Cooties of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Since its birth, the organization has grown rapidly in membership and number of "cages".

The society, in addition to its playground activities devotes much time to charity work, specializing in care of wives and families of wounded and disabled American world war veterans, who have died or are unable to work or support their families.

The national convention of the women's auxiliary of the Disabled American Veterans of the World War will be held in this city during the same week.

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