

REAL ANCIENT HISTORY

When The King of France Began To Persecute The Protestants

HE ROASTED CHRISTIANS

Crimes in the Name of Justice, Religion, and Politics—Some of the Trials Which the Early Christians Had to Undergo—French Catholics Had a Sure Method to Get the Money When a Collection Was Taken—Even North Carolina Has Suffered on Account of Intolerance—Massacre in Which no Protestant Was Spared.

BILKINSVILLE, N. C., March 4, 1912. Correspondence of The Caucasian-Enterprise.

In 1548 the King of France began to lay hit on the Protestants in that country. He thought the clergy too mild in their manner of treating them. For the benefit (?) of the Protestants he erected a chamber composed of the members of the Parliament of Paris. When the Queen wuz coronated he caused a number of "heretics," as they were called, to be burned, and he wuz present in person to see that the fire wuz good and hot. Oh! the crimes that he been committed in the name of justice an' of religion—an' of politics. And our own country iz not free from hit even now, if George Washington wuz the father of hit—I mean of our country. From 1550 to 1562 there were several bloody wars between the Catholics an' Protestants in France. The Queen of Navarre, sister to the French King, protected the disciples of Calvin while they were persecuted by the clergy an' the Parliament. But the prosecutions an' the executions only seemed to strengthen the Christian adherents. When Francis II. ascended to the throne the forces of Calvin could number many members an' not a few of the men were men of prominence. Admiral Coligny an' his brother Andelot an' Cardinal Chantillon were each firm friends of Protestantism in that day which tried men in France. The Prince of Conde leaned that way, too. But the kingly court, however, seemed determined to crush out Calvinism by open and violent measures. Images of the Virgin an' of the saints were placed at certain places in the streets or towns an' lighted toppers were burned before them at night. Any person who chanced to pass in day-time or at night were compelled to drop a contribution in boxes erected for the purpose an' to bow with reverence an' kneel before the images. If anyone refused they are said to hev bin knocked down, beaten an' otherwise mistreated.

But countries other than France hev suffered from religious ignorance an' bigotry, an' other religious organizations hev bin guilty of permitting an' even encouraging hit. Two or three of the strongest church organizations in the State of North Carolina, the best State in the Union, an', in some respects, the greatest, hev been guilty of religious an' political intolerance. Not a wul of the ministers nor the members were, but hit hev bin the long suit of many politicians, an' there is still more of hit than a person without political experience would imagine, though hit iz fairly well cloaked an' iz managed more adroitly than hit wuz several hundreds of years ago. Of course no political party iz entirely free from hit, an' that iz not to be hoped for. But one of the great political parties in this country hev had no capital stock except bigotry an' intolerance for the past forty years. An' the fact that at least nine out of ten—probably a larger per cent of the office-holders in certain sections belong to the two organizations iz proof that no matter how useful the denominations may be, they are being used as a cat's-paw to pull the political chestnuts out of the fire. But a wul this will grow better instead of worse I think. Vote as you pray an' you will do much to help stamp out a wul earthy wrongs. For instance, if you hope to get fifteen or twenty cents per pound for your cotton this fall, if you are praying for such a great blessing so you can pay your indebtedness, school your children an' buy comforts for your family, don't vote for five or six cent cotton, twenty-five cent corn, nor four cent pork. In so doing you will a wul be on the best road leading to religious an' political tolerance, something the people of France did without for such a long time before an' durin' the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries much to their own hurt, for the French people, like our own people, hev always been noted for intelligence an' industry, an' the country iz favored with a magnificent climate an' the soil iz highly productive; the people only needed to be let alone in a political an' religious way, an' they are now entering upon the threshold of that desirable mode of existence, I believe. If the kind reader will pardon my slight digression, I will return to the main subject. In August, 1572, the Catholics began a massacre which lasted for

five days. Religious zeal, or, rather, hatred, had been worked up to the highest pitch an' no Protestant was spared. Even soldiers, who should hev been upholders of law, were used in the determined effort to stamp out Protestantism. Neighbors, an', in many cases, close relations, fell as victims of the knife, sword or other weapon in the hands of fanatical Catholics. Admiral Coligny, Count de Rochefoucault, the Count de Montgomery, and nearly a hundred others, a wul prominent citizens, who occupied suburban residences across the river Seine from Paris, tried to escape on horseback, but were pursued by the Duke of Guise an' some soldiers an' were nearly a wul cut in pieces. The young King of Navarre an' the Prince of Conde were spared for the time an' were brought before the King an' commanded to abjure their religion. The King of Navarre consented; but the Prince hesitated. The King then exclaimed: "Death, mass or battle." Thus intimidated the Prince an' he "took water." The King iz said to hev encouraged the lawlessness in every way.

The cruelties just mentioned a wul occurred in an' near Paris. In other cities, Lyons, Orleans, Ronen, an' Bourges, practically the same course wuz pursued. The Viscount Orthes, who commanded in Bayonne, in reply to the King, sent word that Bayonne contained brave citizens an' soldiers "but no executioners," meanin' that the orders of the King had not been carried out in regard to the Protestants, which wuz a brave reply under the circumstances, for the King, no doubt, meant business. The course of the Bishop of Liseux wuz a wulso highly commendable durin' the same effort to exterminate a wul of the Protestants. In reply to the King's orders, though he wuz himself one of the big men in the Catholic denomination, wuz, as follows: "You must not execute them (the Christians). Those you have commanded to destroy are of my flock; they have gone astray; but I shall use my endeavors to bring them back to the right fold. The gospel does not say, that the shepherd should spill the blood of his flock; on the contrary, I read in it that I ought, if necessary, to spill my blood for them." If I am any judge of such matters the Bishop of Liseux wuz rite an' he wuz a real Christian Catholic. If a wul the leaders of the Catholic denomination in France had been made of the same stuff they would not hev killed 25,000 Protestants in France in a few days' time, 10,000 of them bein' residents of Paris.

After it wuz all over, King Charles tried to justify his cruelty an' crime by sayin' that the Protestants had formed a conspiracy to seize his person an' do terrible things to him. If the King of a great country with a powerful army an' navy couldn't defend himself against a handful of Christian Protestants he ought to have quit tryin' to act as King. But as proof that the thing wuz planned an' fully premeditated, in Spain an' Italy, neighborin' countries, both strongly Catholic, public meetings were held at once an' solemn thanks were returned to God for "the triumph of the church militant."

The result wuz a bitter an' bloody civil war between the Catholic an' Protestants of France which lasted for many months. Both sides finally gave up, but not until the Protestants had gained part of what they were fighting for, liberty of conscience. France continued to go backward in the meantime an' the King, hoping to get things in better shape, concluded a treaty with the Protestants an' temporary peace wuz restored. But the King did not intend to carry out the terms of the treaty, an' did not. Another religious war soon followed.

Az ever, ZEKE BILKINS. (To be continued.)

DEFECTS OF SYSTEM.

(Continued From Page 1.) teachers' institute debars such a teacher of teaching in any public school in the State." Is that section carried out? About one-half of the teachers attend the institute, defraying their own expenses with hard-earned money from a rough winter's toil, the other half remain at home, save their money and enjoy a pebbel vacation, and when the time comes for employment every teacher is fed out of the same spoon, neither granting nor seeking preference. Is there any fairness in that? No. But that is the Democratic way of doing business.

A certain County Superintendent recently consulted the State Superintendent in regard to this section of the law; and also this method of employing teachers, and the answer came back spontaneously. "Adapt yourself to the case, which meant employ whoever he wished. Now if the State Superintendent is given that much power, and his ability be only half equal to his power, North Carolina has a modern law-giver to which the ancient Moses is not to be compared; and with the evil effects of such a law-giver already prevalent and the many more imminent, tyranny and oppression is inevitable, and we may readily anticipate all the cruelties of a King George the third.

If the public school system is corrupted at the very fountain head,

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MRS. M. SUMMERS, Box H - South Bend, Ind., U. S. A.

its various branches under the same supervision could not do otherwise than bear corruption to every part of the State. The Democratic party in North Carolina had become so un-Democratic in principle that it should no longer be known as such but since it wishes to rob the people of every right of local self-government and appoint every official in the land, in order to have a name more applicable to the principles it upholds, it should henceforth be known as the "Appointer Party," for our State under the present Democratic administration is but little better than a limited monarchy.

Another great impediment in the way of educational progress is too many worthless books in reach of almost every child throughout the State. Indeed it is astonishing to see the vast amount of the public school fund expended annually in purchasing the worthless books that fill our rural libraries. Of course there are some good books in these libraries. But nine-tenths of them are worse than useless; the reading of them produces a positive injury to the mind; they not only distract your attention, but blunt your faculties. Children should not be permitted to read these useless books.

It must be remembered by all that the Democrats have done heretofore, then we cannot be surprised at what they are now doing, more than seventeen years ago when the school system was in the hands of the Democrats, they began to squander the money, and the whole public school system came near being wrecked, but fortunately for the poor children, the school system fell into the hands of the Republicans, and without an additional dollar of taxation, but with exactly the same amount of money the public schools of the State were increased two and one-half weeks; and now that our public school system is in the hands of the same old squandering machine, and is speeding swiftly down the road of deterioration and decay, we must have immediate relief or the whole public school system is going to be wrecked. The nit is up to the next Legislature to hear this call for service, and to nobly respond.

There is enough money collected annually for public school purposes to furnish free text-books, and give a four months' school to every child of school age in the State without any increased taxation. But so important is the future happiness and prosperity of the rising generation, and so great is the danger to the liberties of every poor white boy, the Republican party is in favor of furnishing free text-books no matter how much extra taxation it shall require. For there is an amendment placed in our State Constitution by the Democrats to deprive the poor boy who has not the time or opportunity for an education, of the sacred rights and liberties won by the blood of his forefathers on the battlefields of the Revolutionary War. For it says to every white boy in North Carolina, if you do not get sufficient education out of the public schools by the time you are twenty-one years of age to read and write any section of the Constitution you cannot vote, that means the poor boy who could not help himself is to be made stand back disfranchisement, and disgraced as a citizen forever.

It is not to be wondered that North Carolina is so far behind in education, and it must not be hoped to be bettered until the people regain the right to select the men to control their school funds and direct the public school system.

For the squandering of the public school fund, the constant changing of text-books, the deficiencies of the school law, the appointment of school officials, and the failure of the State Text-Book Commission and the State Board of Education to perform their duties are evils which are doing our State much harm. They are evils which are retarding its growth, destroying its harmony, impairing its character, rendering its institutions unstable, perverting the public mind and destroying the public morals. Now with every elevating element of our people in such a disastrous plight, at a time when conditions should naturally demand every true spark of patriotism, let every loyal son hear this call for service, and may we not prove unequal to the occasion, but may the memories of our glorious forefathers' achievements inspire us with true loyalty, fill us with a zeal for preparation, and give us the courage to redeem our beloved State from the tyrannical foes by which its prosperity is waylaid and beset.

Duel Between Prominent Merchants of Concord. A special from Concord to yesterday's Charlotte Observer says: "A sensational shooting took place in Ehrld's Department Store here this afternoon about 6 o'clock when Mr. Marion Hamilton, a well-known clerk in the store, shot Mr. M. F. Ritchie, a prominent young hardware man, and dangerously, if not fatally wounded him. On account of the prominence of the parties and shocking suddenness of the act, it aroused great excitement, which soon developed into a gloom that cast itself over the entire community."

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Trains Leave Raleigh 9:15 p. m.—Daily "Night Express," Pullman Sleeping Car for Norfolk. 6:15 a. m.—Daily for Wilson Washington and Norfolk. Broiler Parlor Car service between Raleigh and Norfolk. 6:16 a. m.—Daily, except Sunday for New Bern via Chocowinity. Parlor Car service. 2:40 p. m.—Daily, except Sunday for Washington. Trains Arrive Raleigh 7:20 a. m.—Daily; 11:20 a. m daily except Sunday and 8:15 p. m daily. Trains Leave Goldsboro 10:15 p. m.—Daily—"Night Express"—Pullman Sleeping Car for Norfolk via New Bern. 7:15 a. m.—Daily for Beaufort and Norfolk. Parlor Car between Washington and Norfolk. 3:20 p. m.—Daily for New Bern Oriental and Beaufort, Parlor Car Service. For further information and reservation of Pullman Sleeping Car space, apply to D. V. CONN, General Agent, Raleigh, N. C. W. R. HUDSON, W. W. CROXTON General Supt., Gen. Pass. Agt., Norfolk, Virginia.

SALE OF LAND FOR PARTITION. In the Superior Court— Before Millard Mial, Clerk. North Carolina—Wake County. John S. Johns, Solomon Freeman and Rena Freeman, his wife; Dennis Williams and Georgia Williams, his wife, Ezerster Stewart, vs. Sidney Finch, Maud, Georgia, and Ervin Finch, —the three last are minors. Order of Sale. By virtue of a special proceeding in Wake Superior Court and entitled as above, and a judgment thereof, I will offer for sale on the premises, near the town of Garner, N. C., on Saturday, the 16th day of March, 1912, at 12 o'clock M., the following described land:

Adjoining the lands of S. G. Holleman and others, and beginning at a stake—the corner of S. G. Holleman—thence eighty-eight (88) degrees, east twenty-four and three-fifths (24 3-5) poles to a stake, the corner of S. G. Holleman; thence south eleven (11) degrees, west twelve and one-half (12 1-2) poles to a stake; thence eighty-eight (88) degrees, west twenty-four and three-fifths (24 3-5) poles to a stake—S. G. Holleman's line; thence north seventeen (17) degrees, east twelve and one-half (12 1-2) poles to the beginning; containing two acres more or less. The sale is to be made for partition among the heirs-at-law of Allan Stewart, and to make real estate assets. The land will be sold in two parcels of one acre each to the highest bidder for cash. The title is perfect. J. C. L. HARRIS, Commissioner.

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