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AROUND THE WORLD

Dr. Simpson's Story of His Visits to the Countries of the Old World

COLOGNE (Continued)

Some years ago I was in Scotland at the head of Lough Tay. Here the Dochart, a small river or mountain stream, empties into the lake. About a mile from here is a beautiful glen and here the river divides so as to make a small island. For hundreds of years this has been the country of the McNabs and this island was the burial place of the chiefs. About 350 years ago the McNabs were at war with another clan called the Nieshes or McNieshes, and in one of the fights the McNabs almost cleaned up the Nieshes, the old chief, Findlay McNiesh, and a few of his followers escaping. Their houses were burned, women and children killed and cattle carried off. Old Finlay took refuge on an island in Lough Earn. During the following year the Nieshes lived on what they could plunder. When the anniversary of the battle drew near the McNab chief sent some of his men to Perth for a few loaves of white bread and a few hundred gallons of whisky to celebrate with. On their return they were attacked by the Nieshes, some of the men killed and everything taken from them. The McNab chief had twelve sons, the eldest being called "Smooth John" because he was so ugly. The McNab was not in very good humor when he heard of the loss of the whisky. He threatened the sons, but they said they could not reach the island, as the Nieshes had the only boat on the lake. At last one proposed that they should carry their own boat over the mountain to Lough Earn. It is eight miles by the shortest possible way and is worse than crossing Douglas Island at its widest part, yet they carried it over, a boat large enough to carry twelve men. They reached the island, found all the men except old Findlay in a drunken stupor—the result of the McNab whisky. Smooth John attacked the old man, and as he was too old and too weak to defend himself against such a man as John he went under quickly. John seized his long hair, dragged him to a log and cut off his head, which he carried home to his father. The rest of the Nieshes were killed, most of them without waking up, with the exception of one grandchild of Findlay, who slept through all the fray and was discovered next day by a monk who had a cell near by. The McNab had had the Nieshe's head put on his coat of arms and at the hotel where I stopped at Callander the Nieshe's head was etched on every window in the house. The McNab became very chasty after this and thought he was a big toad. He did not know what to do for a tomb, as the McNabs did not take to tomb carving. He made a trip to the island of Iona, where many abbots and old Scottish kings are buried. He looked the tomb over one pleasant evening, selected one and that night his men "lifted" it. They carried it over a hundred miles through the roughest kind of a country, and now the tomb is doing duty as the tomb of the McNab. There is a stone recumbent figure, but no inscription.

In the chapel of St. Stephen in the Cathedral of Cologne is the tomb of Archbishop Gerold, which is over a thousand years old, he having died, I believe, in 876. On the tomb is the recumbent figure of General Von Hoch-

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kirchen, who was killed in 1703.

In the chapel of the Virgin is the tomb of Archbishop Reinold von Dassel, who brought the bones of the three magi to Cologne. He died in 1167. On his tomb is the statue of Archbishop von Geroney, who died in 1362. I do not know if there are two men occupying one tomb like St. Lawrence and his partner at Rome or if they did like the McNab—emptied the tombs and put other men into them.

St. Engleberts chapel.—The original promoter of the cathedral was first buried here, but his remains are now in the treasury.

Chapel of St. Maternus.—This was the first bishop of Cologne. He lived about A. D. 300. In this chapel is the tomb of the warrior archbishop, Phillip von Steinsberg. I do not know why he is called the warrior archbishop, nor do I know why the newspapers always allude to Admiral Evans as "Fighting Bob Evans." For hundreds of years the archbishops of Treves, Cologne and other places had temporal as well as spiritual power and in those days when "might was right" an archbishop was compelled to fight to defend his property or territory and protect the lives of his subjects, and an archbishop who was not a warrior had a very uncomfortable time of it. This archbishop's tomb is surrounded by a little city wall with gates, towers and everything perfect. This is in allusion to the fact of his having strengthened the fortifications of Cologne in 1191. On the wall is the original ground plan of the cathedral.

Chapel of St. John contains the tomb of archbishop Conrad von Hochstaden, who began the building of the present cathedral. Engelbert meant well, but was killed before he had done anything and twenty years later Conrad did something—in fact, he did a great deal. His plan was followed until the cathedral was actually completed in 1880. The plan of the whole cathedral as originally drawn is in his chapel. It is torn in two and was lost for years after the French occupied Cologne. At last one piece was found in a farm house and the other in Paris, where it had been taken by a French soldier. The authorities had to pay \$100 for it and considered they got it cheaply.

Next is the chapel of the three magi, or wise men of the East who visited Bethlehem soon after the birth of Christ. For hundreds of years it was customary in taking oaths to swear by the three wise men, or the three kings, of Cologne. Their bones were in a convent in Milan for hundreds of years until 1164, when Frederick Barbarossa besieged Milan. As the people put up a good fight he vowed to hang the mayor as soon as he took the city. The mayor's sister, who was Superior of the convent, went to Archbishop Reinold von Dassel (whose tomb we visited a short time ago), and promised him the relics of the magi if her brother's life were spared. When the town was taken the archbishop obtained permission from the emperor that the Lady Superior should be allowed to leave the town with whatever she could carry away. She was a good strong woman and hoisted her brother on her shoulders and marched out with the band playing and colors flying. The bones are now in the treasury.

(To be continued.)



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