NEWS OF THE WORLD TOLD BY THE SUN'S CORRESPONDENTS

SHORT TERM OF LIFE PREDICTED FOR TANGO

It Will Be Danced Out After Another Season, Said Jules Claretie.

CAPUS CALLS IT DISEASE

Corsetmakers Fear Bankruptcy if Modern Step Is Not Suppressed.

Special Correspondence to THE SUN.

PARIS, Dec. 18.—A scathing arraignment of the tango from the pen of Jules Claretie (M. Claretie died on December 23) is published in the papers here. The retired director of the Comedie Francaise declared that for certain people of society every adversary of the tango is an imbecile who is a victim of his scruples. For many moralists who are not hypocrites the tango is the most visible of invitations to wrongdoing, while for Alfred Capus the dance is a disease like another very modern one and which seems, in short, an outbreak of snobism.

"I know very well," wrote M. Claretie, "that the reproaches directed to-day against the tango were directed in turn against all the new dances. The polka was in its time the rage of the salons and the terror of mothers. A young girl who danced the polka was vaguely considered as emancipated. She only needed to read George Sand. The waltz also was called indecent when it first became popular. Now the same accusation is directed against the tango.

"One cannot compare, however, the waltzer to the tangoer. The girl who waltzes preserves her grace and her elegance, while the woman who dances the tango loses all this and her seduction becomes more provoking than esthetic. The tango is to the waltz what the auto bus is to the tilbury. But the bear dance is to the tango what the ringing laugh is to the attack of epilepsy. The tango is the folly of the moment. The waltz used to be called the folly of the day, but the folly of the tango is of another sort.

More Sobriety Demanded.

"The apparition of an aerial dancer gives the sensation of something nonsizable, winged, etherial. It is the intoxication of the mortal who sees a nymph pass before him, smile, beckon and then disappear. But the father, the fiance, the husband who sees his daughter, his "promise," as they say in Brittany, his wife caught up in this furor of the tango, will demand a little more sobriety in its movements and in this special intoxication.

"The tango will soon go. After another season it will be danced out. However, those who have been stung by this tropical tarantula can still tango in peace. The time has not yet come."

One of the strongest opponents of the tango in Paris is the Argentine Minister, who will have none of it. It is never danced at the legation and one day he showed the members of an orchestra to the door for daring to play a tango air. Senor Larreta said the tango brought to his mind "ideas really too shocking."

Barred by Argentine Society.

"The tango is danced in the Argentine, especially in Buenos Ayres," he said, "but it is a dance confined to disreputable houses and taverns of a low order. It is never danced in fashionable salons or by people of refinement."

Senor Larreta explained that society people in the Argentine would never allow their wives to indulge in such an indelicate dance as the tango. The national dance, the pericon, is a sort of pavane made up of dignified and complicated movements in which only the tips of the fingers of the dancers meet. The Argentine Minister concluded by saying that the tango is only a passing craze like the cakewalk, which has nothing in common with the temperament of Europeans.

The tango, it is said, has wrought havoc with the corset business in Paris. The 'derniere mode' is to have the waist free. To be able to dance the tango and to have the latest form the body must be held by a "nothing" and still kept rigid. The tango demands suppleness of those who dance it, but the dance itself must become supple if it does not wish to put the corset makers in bankruptcy.

It is not an uncommon sight now to see dancers arriving at a ball carrying little valises. In fact, some trunkmakers are turning out special valises made for the purpose, small, daintily covered and just the right size to hide in a corner of the cloak room. In the valise is carried a change of clothing, for tangoing is real exercise and a wilted collar is generally the result of the first dance on the programme. After about the fifth dance the dress shirt is dress no longer. Perhaps the obliging hostesses will soon furnish bathrooms where their guests can refresh themselves before finishing the dance programme.

The tango seems to be a wonderful exercise, but who in society wants exercise?

The tango's successor promises to be a revival of the sober quadrille and a new dance called "La Rallonge," which is a variation of the Boston, danced very fast, with a curious balancing of the body and some bewildering steps which are very puzzling to the new pupil.

VATICAN TO PASS ON TANGO.

Twelve Holy Congregation Consultors Studying Dance.

Special Correspondence to THE SUN.

ROME, Dec. 17.—As briefly cabled to THE SUN, twelve out of the twenty-four consultors, whose duty it is to study the subjects brought for consideration before the "Holy Congregation on the discipline of the Sacraments," are hard at work on a very difficult and delicate task. Several bishops wishing to know whether the church formally condemns certain kinds of fashionable modern dances, especially the tango, have recently submitted to the Congregation of the Sacrament, which deals with all the disciplinary questions concerning sacraments, a set of carefully formulated doubts or "dubia," which have been referred for examination to twelve consultors of the congregation.

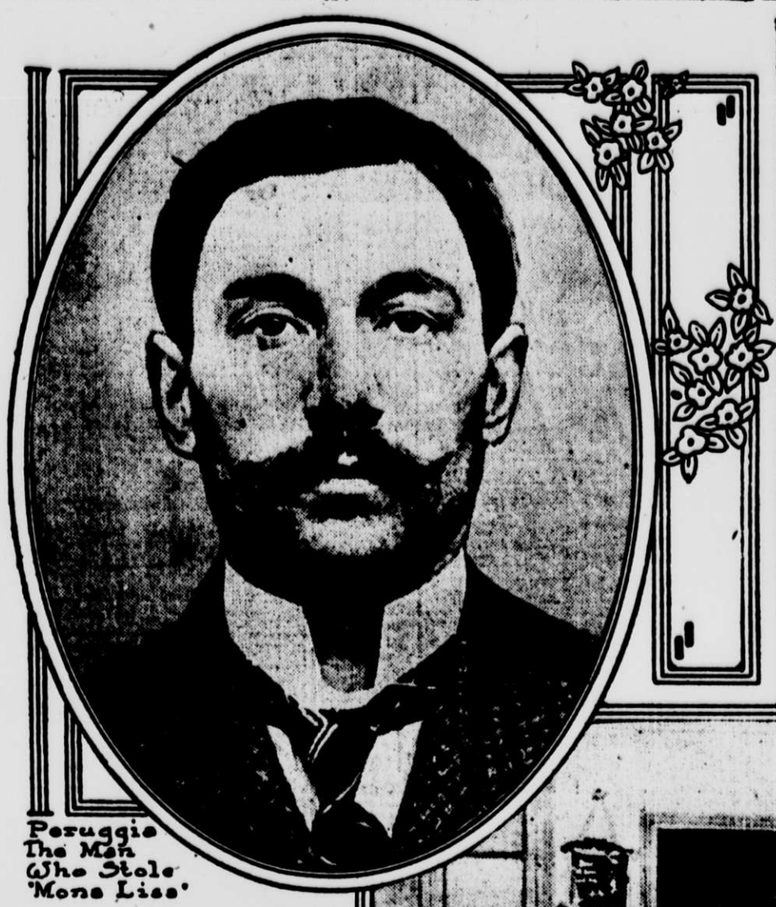
The consultors, men of great piety and deep learning, noted for their theological experience, after carefully studying the case must draw out a printed report and submit it to the cardinals who form the congregation and who will decide on what reply should be given to the doubts expressed by the bishops.

What the bishops want to know is whether the priests of their dioceses can give absolution to penitents who accuse themselves in confession of dancing the tango. Naturally enough, all Catholic bishops are empowered to condemn every act or practice which, even if not sinful in itself, is apt to lead to sin. Obviously the modern style of dancing in general, and the tango in particular, is openly disapproved by the Catholic hierarchy the world over and many bishops have already warned the faithful of their diocese against its indulgence.

The doubts expressed by the bishops are evidently the result of questions submitted to them by confessors who had to deal with cases of penitents accusing themselves in confession of committing sin through dancing the tango. A uniform rule is consequently needed for the guidance of confessors in similar cases, and it may be assumed that the doubts expressed by the bishops practically consist of a single question; namely, "Is tango dancing a sin?"

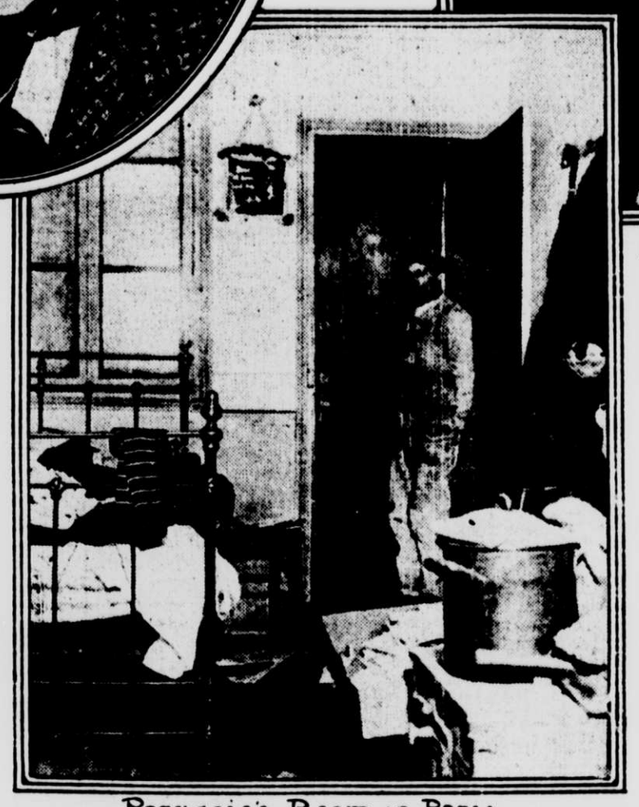
The consultors of the Congregation of Sacraments must answer this question, and the main difficulty of their task is due to the fact that their experience in theology is insufficient for the decision of the case. Their judgment must be based not on theory but on practical evidence, and naturally enough the learned consultors, who know absolutely nothing about tango, have to collect such evidence from outside sources.

The work of the consultors will, it is expected, not be concluded before at least six months.



Peruggia The Man Who Stole 'Mona Lisa'.

M. Ricci, Italian Beaux Arts Director.



Peruggia's Room in Paris
Photos by Courtesy of the Mobin

Mona Lisa Had Poor Home for Two Years

The little room in Paris in which the "Mona Lisa" was concealed for more than two years by Vincenzo Peruggia, the man who stole it from the Louvre museum, is "room 64, two flights up, first door on the left, in the left corridor," as the janitor explains to those who call to see it. The house is located in that part of the Rue de l'Hopital St. Louis known as the Clos Heron. This is a block of workmen's dwellings, chiefly inhabited by Italian workers in Paris, so that the lady of the smile was at least surrounded by her fellow countrymen.

On entering the little hall outside the room a dark closet is seen to the right and a second door gives access to the room itself. Between these two doors, covered with old clothes and newspapers, the picture was in little danger of being seen. In the room may be seen an iron bed, still unmade since Peruggia's departure, a chair, a table, a few hooks for clothes, a mass of miscellaneous things on the mantelpiece, while on the wall are a landscape and a framed picture of the Milan Cathedral. Here Peruggia lived for three years. Gaetano Girondi, a friend of his, who lived in the same room, which measures ten feet by thirteen, for the same three years, declares that he never saw the picture.

In the statement made to Giri, the Florence art dealer to whom he offered to sell the picture, Peruggia explained as follows how he stole the famous painting:

"It was on a Monday, when visitors are not allowed and only men working there are admitted to the Louvre. I was not working there at the time, but I was known to the guards and was allowed to enter without difficulty, the more so as two of my compatriots were at work that day. I had no difficulty in removing the picture and in getting it out of the museum. I simply put it under my blouse and passed quietly before the concierge, who noticed nothing."

Giri has since said that when he and Poggi had persuaded Peruggia to take the Da Vinci masterpiece from the little hotel where he was stopping in Florence to the Galerie des Offices for examination by art experts Peruggia wrapped it up in a cloth and put it under his overcoat. As the trio passed the hotel office the janitor came out quickly and asked what Peruggia was carrying away. He was evidently afraid that the man was walking off with a picture from his hotel room, which shows that the humble chromos of the hotel (now rechristened the Hotel Joconde) are better guarded than the masterpieces of the Louvre.

ROBBED CHURCHES IN FRANCISCANS' GARB

Two "Lay Brothers" Caught After Plundering Many Chapels in Italy.

Special Correspondence to THE SUN.

NAPLES, Dec. 17.—The police have just arrested two lay Franciscan brothers in the Convent of Portici who have been identified as the leaders of a gang of burglars who have specialized in robbing churches and convents in southern Italy.

Some time ago these two men applied to the prior of the Convent of Serra in Irpinia to join the Franciscan Order as lay brothers. The prior admitted the two men, who at once adopted the garb of St. Francis and went about the country begging for alms. They proved an invaluable acquisition for the convent, as for months and months they returned daily loaded with provisions and money which they said the faithful had contributed to the poor followers of St. Francis.

Many churches and convents in the neighborhood were at the time mysteriously broken open at night and everything of value, including the money in the alms boxes, was stolen. The police failed to find the least trace of the mysterious burglars and all the persons arrested on suspicion had to be released for lack of evidence. Meanwhile out of the way churches continued to be regularly raided and silver chalices, candlesticks and votive offerings as well as valuable vestments, were carried away.

A few days ago the church of Serra was broken open and the old parish priest was murdered after having been robbed of all his savings, amounting to $150. The two lay brothers were seen returning to the convent early in the morning after the murder was committed, but no one suspected them.

The two men later asked the prior to have them transferred to another convent. He compiled with their request and sent them to Portici. On the night of their departure from Serra the Convent of St. Francis was broken open and $1,000 worth of sacred vestments and votive offerings were stolen from the church, while all the prior's money, as well as his only pair of boots, were taken from his bedroom.

On the night of the arrival of the two lay brothers at Portici the church there was stripped of all the votive offerings and all the alms boxes were emptied. Finally the police became suspicious and arrested the two men, who were found in possession of a considerable sum of money, which naturally represented the proceeds of all the stolen church property during six months hard "work."

The accomplices of the lay brothers who received and sold the stolen goods have also been arrested.

ITALY WILL HAVE SAILOR KING.

Present Ruler's Legs Are Too Short for Admiral's Uniform.

ROME, Dec. 15.—Although the King of Italy is Commander in Chief of both the army and navy, neither Victor Emmanuel III. or his father or grandfather ever wore the uniform of an Admiral. The first King of United Italy was too much of a Piedmontese soldier to wear a naval uniform, and in fact he looked down on the navy. King Humbert inherited his antipathy.

The present King realizes that Italy owes a great deal to the navy, but he cannot wear a naval uniform owing to his exceptionally short legs. Top boots, riding breeches and a short military coat make the King look taller, but a naval long coat is out of the question for him. He is determined, however, that his son, the Prince of Piedmont, shall be a sailor King, and he accordingly appointed a naval officer as his governor. The Prince will join the navy as soon as possible, and, unlike former Crown Princes of Italy, will follow a naval instead of a military career.

ON TRAIL OF TREASURE, IS HELD AS SORCERESS

Sardinian Woman Discovers Document Indicating Location of Fortune.

Special Correspondence to THE SUN.

ROME, Dec. 15.—An old Sardinian woman named Anna Romano has been arrested at Sassari charged with obtaining money under false pretensions. The Italian penal code has no provision dealing with magic and consequently when Anna Romano was surprised at midnight by the police surrounded by several women holding torches over a hole she had excavated in the courtyard of a house, despite the fact that the woman was openly engaged in magical practices, she was accused of swindling money from the credulous torch bearers.

The women admitted that they had given the sorceress money and all opposed her arrest, as they were convinced that she was on the point of discovering great treasure. The police do not believe in treasures, however, and very likely Anna Romano will be sentenced to a long term of imprisonment.

Strange as it may seem the existence of the treasure is corroborated by fact. Anna Romano is in possession of a document written in the sixteenth century in which it is related that a wealthy woman of Sassari, fearing a French invasion, hid all the money, jewels and plate she owned in a secluded place. This woman was subsequently murdered and her body was buried in the courtyard of her house. A faithful servant knew that her mistress wore around her neck a locket containing the document with the description of the place where the treasure had been hidden. When Anna Romano was arrested she had just discovered the corpse of the murdered woman and the locket with the secret document. The police found the locket, but not the document.

WOMAN CHEERS UP CHARLTON.

American, Unknown to Wife Murderer, Sends Him Gifts.

COMO, Dec. 15.—An American woman whose son went to school with Porter Charlton in Omaha and who is now spending the winter in Switzerland, has been regularly sending newspapers and magazines to Charlton, who is in prison here awaiting trial for the murder of his wife.

Charlton has not been able to discover the name of the woman. On Thanksgiving Day he was agreeably surprised when instead of the plain meal he ordered from a local restaurant he received an order of turkey with cranberry sauce and regular American pumpkin pie. The restaurant keeper informed the warders that an American woman had paid for the treat and ordered a similar dinner for Christmas. She refused to give her name, but merely said she knew Charlton when he was a boy.

GOT $2,000 FOR FAKE PAINTING.

Dealer Fooled Italian Government With Copy of Old Master.

ROME, Dec. 17.—About two years ago Creste Innocenti, a Roman art dealer, secured the services of a poor Russian painter named Sergius Zagoskin, who for $100 a month agreed to produce replicas of paintings by old masters. The agreement proved very profitable. Zagoskin imitated so well a painting by Jacob van Ruysdael that Innocenti was able to sell it to the Italian Government for $2,000.

Zagoskin, despite the fact that he made no money out of the transaction, felt very much pleased with his work. When he saw his painting hung in the Borghese picture gallery and read articles written by prominent art critics in Italy, who not only praised the "masterpiece" but admitted that it was worth four times the price paid for it, he could not help confiding to some friends that the supposed Van Ruysdael was his own work.

His secret became public property and the Government experts, who had pronounced the painting a genuine masterpiece, admitted that they had been deceived. The art dealer, the painter and a middleman have just been brought to trial, and while Zagoskin was acquitted, as he proved that he simply executed the work at the request of his employer, the art dealer, Innocenti, was sentenced to two years imprisonment and fined $400 and the middleman to a year's imprisonment and a $200 fine.

AMERICAN OFFICER SWINDLED.

Neapolitan Guide Shows New Method of Extracting Money.

NAPLES, Dec. 15.—A new method of swindling which was practised on a United States naval officer here during the recent visit of the American battleship fleet has just come to light.

When the battleships Arkansas and Florida were here a boat race was held between the crews of the two ships and it was won by the men of the Florida, who naturally got shore leave and went to one of the principal restaurants of the city to celebrate. The men were having a very good time when a Neapolitan guide offered his services to show them round the city. The man was repeatedly sent away, but he continued to bother the sailors. Finally one of the sailors got up and attempted to push the man out. As the guide resisted the sailor went at him, gave him a good shaking and kicked him out.

Nothing more was heard about this incident until the police notified Capt. Maxwell of the Florida that some of his men would have to be tried before the Naples court for seriously wounding a peaceful citizen. Capt. Maxwell found out that the guide had gone to the local hospital, reported that he had been attacked by American sailors and asked the doctors to attend to a scalp wound in his head. As the doctors certified that the wound would not heal before ten days, and according to Italian law such a wound is considered serious, the man insisted that the police should take action and have the sailors brought up for trial. Capt. Maxwell fixed everything up by paying the man an indemnity.

It has now been discovered that the man with the wounded head was not the guide, but an obliging friend who happened to have his head cut open and impersonated him and divided the money he got from the Captain.

EXPOSITIONS COSTLY TO ITALY.

Appropriations Never Sufficient for Expenses and Graft Is Cause.

ROME, Dec. 15.—The fact that Italy has not yet come to a decision regarding participation in the Panama-Pacific Exposition recalls that Italy's participation in expositions has invariably resulted in considerable loss of money to the State, as the funds appropriated by Parliament were never found sufficient to meet expenses. It is an open secret that the financial failure of every exposition is due to the mismanagement of the exposition commissions and it is hinted that many people, including some officials, make a good profit out of expositions.

Despite the fact that several millions were spent for the expositions of Rome and Turin in 1911, as well as those of Liege and Brussels, fully $3,000,000 is still needed to cover all expenses and a bill will be presented to Parliament to sanction this further expenditure.

It is reported on good authority that several members of Parliament will insist that Italy refrain from participating in expositions before a full detailed account of how this money was spent is presented to Parliament. If this motion is passed Italy will not participate in the San Francisco exposition and the sum of $400,000 appropriated for this exposition will be used to pay the deficit of former expositions.

FUNERAL PLUMES TO GO.

London Undertakers Agree to Suppress Headgear on Horses.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—The end of a long tradition will be reached at the end of the year by the passing of the plume as part of the ritual of mourning. Acting on a recommendation of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals the majority of London undertakers have agreed to discontinue the use of plumes on horses.

Some of the more elaborate plumes weighed as much as ten pounds, in addition to which horses at a "grand" funeral are sometimes hampered by black velvet trappings and postilions. London, and particularly the poorer parts, has for years been the home of gorgeous funerals, at which mutes, plumes and big manifestations of mourning were considered indispensable to an adequate tribute of respect.

OLD LONDON DISAPPEARING.

Seventeenth Century Houses Giving Way to Modern Improvements.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—Many fine seventeenth century houses are in danger of demolition. The old must give way to the young, and domiciles of more than passing interest to what, no doubt, is rightly reckoned to be the march of improvement. But it is no less a grief to the Londoner who loves his London.

Among those threatened are Inigo Jones's Ancaster House in Lincolns Inn Fields, and another, 55, in the same thoroughfare, notable for having been the residence of Boswell, Hudson, the master of Joshua Reynolds, Perdita (Mrs. Robinson), Richard Brinsley Sheridan and Kitty Clive.

LONDON STAGE AMERICANIZED.

Actors From U. S. in Many Leading Productions.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The English stage is rapidly becoming Americanized. At the Alhambra most of the music and the artists are American. An American, Julian Alfred, is producing the new revue at the Empire, and another American, Ned Wayburn, is producing the Christmas revue at the Hippodrome, in which Miss Ethel Levey, American, will be the star.

Two leading parts in "The Girl From Utah" at the Adelphi are being played by Americans, Joseph Coyne and Miss Ina Claire. And now it is announced that the cast of the new piece at the Gaiety, hitherto as English an institution as Christmas pudding, will be largely American.

CENTENARY OF THE POTATO.

Commemoration of Parmentier's Death to Be Held Soon.

DUBLIN, Dec. 18.—Irishmen are specially interested in the forthcoming commemoration of the centenary of Parmentier's death. It was he who was responsible for the general introduction of the potato as an article of food, a dietetic innovation, which at first met with considerable opposition.

Louis XVI. helped to popularize the vegetable by having it served at a banquet, but the royal cook unfortunately cooked the leaves only. However, when Parmentier showed his critics how a potato should really be boiled the new vegetable was speedily taken into favor.

ITALY SEES NO WAY TO STOP EMIGRATION

Government to Hasten Railroad Construction to Aid the Unemployed.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

ROME, Dec. 27.—Premier Giolitti, in a debate this week in the Chamber of Deputies, said that Italy was facing two serious problems, unemployment and emigration. He said the latter has reached a phase where no remedy is available. To combat the former the Government intends to spend $400,000 in Government building, while railroad construction will be hastened so as to increase the demand for unskilled labor.

This plan is not considered likely to bring about a reduction in the emigration statistics because unskilled Italian laborers who have worked on the American railroads cannot be persuaded to remain in Italy and do the same kind of work for a quarter of the wages.

If the "education test" clause in the immigration bill now before the United States Congress is adopted it will mean that thousands of Italians will not be allowed to land in the United States and measures to cope with a vast increase in the number of unemployed here will have to be adopted. The measures so far adopted will be entirely insufficient.

Another clause of the bill is even more seriously regarded here. This is the proposal to place American health officers on Italian emigrant ships. An almost identical plan was proposed by the Argentine Government two years ago. The Italian Government looks upon it as a breach of international law and a limitation of Italian sovereignty. If this clause is insisted on Italy will probably prohibit Italian emigration to the United States altogether until the clause is repealed.

This step was taken against the Argentine and the effect of it on Italy was scarcely to be noticed as the Italian emigration to the Argentine was deflected to the United States. Argentina repealed the law after a year, but it is doubted that similar action on the part of Italy toward the United States would have the same result. The Italian Government is therefore counting on the support of all the European countries which supply emigrants to the United States. The impression prevails here that this method will result in the elimination of the clause from the United States immigration bill.

CARUSO'S SLANDERERS GUILTY.

Jail Sentences for Prima Donna and Chauffeur Are Increased.

ROME, Dec. 17.—A sequel has been supplied by the courts to the suit brought last year in Milan by Enrico Caruso, the tenor of the Metropolitan Opera in New York. It will be recalled that Signor Caruso instituted legal proceedings against the prima donna Ada Giacchetti, his chauffeur, Romati; a theatrical agent named Loria and a newspaper reporter named Turco. The trial ended in October, 1912, with the conviction of Signora Giacchetti on the charge of defamation, of Romati and Loria for subornation of witnesses and of Turco for perjury. All the defendants were, however, acquitted of slander. The District Attorney appealed against the sentence and insisted that the defendants should have been convicted for slander as well, while in turn the defendants appealed to have the sentence quashed.

The two appeals were heard together and decided in two days. The court ruled that all the defendants were guilty of slander and hence increased the terms of imprisonment inflicted in the first trial by six months. The theatrical agent, Loria, was besides convicted for perjury, while the newspaper reporter was benefited by the so-called law of pardon or conditional conviction and dispensed from serving three months imprisonment unless he is brought before the court in future on another charge. Neither Signora Giacchetti nor Caruso's ex-chauffeur was present. Both are abroad and unable to return to Italy without risking arrest to serve a year's imprisonment.

CATALONIA TO SEEK ABSOLUTE AUTONOMY

Administrative Home Rule Bill Signed by King After Long Fight.

TRADE BOOM PREDICTED

Province Pays 11 Per Cent. of All Taxes Collected in Spain.

Special Correspondence to THE SUN.

BARCELONA, Dec. 15.—Ask any inhabitant of this thriving city or of any of the three provinces which make up that part of Spain known as Catalonia, "You are a Spaniard, senor, are you not?" Ten chances to one the proud reply will be:

"No, senor, I am not a Spaniard. I am a Catalan."

The spirit of which this aloofness and local pride are a token has just won a victory for which the Catalans have been fighting for a hundred years. King Alfonso has just signed a bill granting administrative home rule to the three provinces, and this action is believed to be but the forerunner of a measure granting absolute autonomy to Catalonia.

The Catalans are proud not only of their race but of their mines, industries and education. Catalonia is the richest part of Spain. Among the enterprising and shrewd Catalans, who look upon the reigning family as reactionaries and reserve all their sympathies for their Provencal neighbors, whom they so closely resemble in race, language and temperament, French influence and republican ideas have spread rapidly. They have taken the form partly of powerful labor organizations, socialist groups and even anarchist societies.

It is on this account that when Spain is in the throes of a political convulsion, such as those which followed the war with the United States and accompanied the war in Morocco in 1909, or when labor is on strike, no matter in what part of the peninsula the trouble is located, it may be taken for granted that Barcelona will contribute the biggest thorn in the side of the Government.

Seat of All Opposition.

Everything which is opposed to the present Government of Spain has its representatives in Catalonia. There are Carlists, who have been fairly quiet for some years but are always hoping for a chance to fight; socialists, who seize every opportunity to bring about industrial demonstrations; republicans, who make no secret of their desire for the downfall of the monarchy; Catalans in general, who ask for nothing better than to be left alone to rule their province in their own way without dictation from Madrid.

Because of the fact that Catalonia has contributed by far the largest quota for the expenses of the national administration the Catalans have been fighting for years for fiscal independence. This has been granted by the new act of the Cortes. The inhabitants of the richest provinces of Spain believe that, now that they have been relieved of what they termed an unjust burden, they will be able to develop their mines and other industries in the manner they have wished.

The association which has kept up a constant fight for autonomy has been in existence for several years. It is known as the National Union. It received the active support of labor unions and within a short time after its birth it had affiliations in all the large cities of the three provinces and even in cities outside Catalonia.

It regulated hours of labor and wages. The employers and property owners of the province were, however, in supreme control of the organization. The immense number of strikes for which Barcelona and Gerona have acquired notoriety in the last few years were due in part to this fact. The labor unions broke away from the National Union several times and attempted to obtain their demands by their own efforts, looking on the National Union as too much of a political organization and one which devoted too little energy to striving to bring about better conditions for the workers.

The National Union took advantage of the disastrous war with the United States to force the hands of the Government. The delegates of the union met in Barcelona in 1898 and declared that Catalonia would pay no taxes until the war, which was ruining the commerce and industry of the port, was ended. They pointed out that the Catalans would have to bear the major part of the cost of the war over Cuba.

This declaration was followed by peaceful demonstrations in Barcelona and other Catalonian cities. Turbulent Barcelona was in no mood to be satisfied with talk and protest and the city was in an uproar in two days. Troops were called out, the province was declared under martial law and the usually gay city took on all the aspects of a besieged place. Anarchists swarmed into the city from France and Italy and soon the military prisons were filled with social outcasts from all parts of Europe, who openly formulated plans for violence, treason and murder.

The National Union denied that its members took part in the rioting or that it had advised the use of force, declaring that its attitude toward the war was adopted only to compel the Madrid Government to grant fiscal autonomy to Catalonia.

Scotland Yard Inspector Sent.

Frequent demands on the national Government were made by the union to clear the city of Barcelona of the anarchists, but nothing definite ever was done in this matter. The Madrid Government on one occasion did make a show of dealing with the evil. The Minister of the Interior asked Scotland Yard to send a man to tackle the job. Inspector Arrow was sent to the Mediterranean port in 1907 to reorganize the police force. He accomplished this task and then gave to the municipal authorities a list of undesirable aliens with their addresses in Barcelona and nearby cities, asking that they be expelled from Spain. Nothing was done.

Several times since that year the National Union has shown an anti-military spirit. This was especially apparent when Spain went into the war with the Moors on an elaborate scale in 1909. Following the denunciation of the war by the National Union, there were demonstrations in almost every city of the peninsula against the sending of the flower of the Spanish youth to meet death in the desert.

Catalonia's importance in Spanish industrial life is apparent from the fact that although the commerce of Barcelona was seriously checked by the war with the United States it recovered within a year, and in 1899 paid into the national Treasury $2,750,000 in industrial and commercial taxes, or 11 per cent. of the whole amount thus collected in the country. Barcelona is now a port of call for thirty-five important shipping companies. There are nearly 200,000 workers in its mills and factories.

The measure to grant home rule to Catalonia caused the downfall of two Ministries since it was introduced in the Cortes in May, 1912. Premier Dato announced on taking office three months ago that this would be one of the measures that he would insist on and he has succeeded in having it adopted.