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TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1905. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

FIFTY-FIFTH YEAR.

PART TWO.

The Saturday "News" Special Foreign Service.

STRANGE ROMANCE IN HERMIT'S MURDER

Striking Life Story of Bibiano Gil, The Unfortunate Spanish Friar.

SON OF A FAMOUS BANKER.

Driven from the Homes of Relatives In Search of His Wealth He Was Cruelly Assassinated.

Special Correspondence.

MADRID, April 19.—In real life it is generally a sordid story that is laid bare by a murder. But the murder of a poor Spanish friar, Bibiano Gil, has revealed a tale of blended pathos and tragedy, of sorrow and heroism, of sin unatoned and of a noble purpose frustrated that recalls some of the most moving romances of Victor Hugo. It has furnished Spain with something more than a nine-days' sensation. "His Father's Sin" might well be the title of this history, for its most pathetic chapters and the terrible crime which ends it were fruits of a proud man's infamy. As usual, it was the innocent who suffered through it.

Senior Antonio Gil y Laeeta was a personage much esteemed in Madrid. He had the knack of making money and the still rarer knack of keeping what he made. He accumulated a large fortune in the banking business and doubled it by successful commercial ventures. He took an active interest in local politics, was a member of the common council and ultimately rose to be president of the municipal government of Madrid. The king conferred on him the order of Charles II, and of Elizabeth the Catholic. A man of austere habits, who lived frugally and was seemingly entirely free from the profligate vices of society, he was regarded as a fine type of the model citizen.

All his life Senior Gil remained a bachelor. In his household was a maid-servant, Josephine Mendez, who, to the misfortune of poverty, admitted that of a pretty face. It is said that Gil promised to marry her. To escape a scandal, however, that might have involved awkward results for a man who prided himself on his reputation as a pattern of virtue and propriety, he turned her out of the house. He gave no provision for her support—she was opposed on principle to investing money in anything that did not promise a good profit—and the poor girl hid her shame in a garret.

LEFT IN A FOUNDLING ASYLUM.

There, in 1870, was born the man whose tragic death and pitiful story has caused so profound a sensation throughout Spain. The poor mother wrote repeatedly to the child's father imploring him to take pity on their side and out of the abundance of his wealth make some allowance that would afford the little waif something like a fair chance in life. To these appeals Gil returned no answer. He was concerned only that his should run no risk of besmirching his own reputation.

Life went hard with poor Josephine. Nora went with the struggle to support herself and her infant, she was smitten with a fatal disease. When it became apparent that she had only a little longer to live, she left her child at a foundling asylum, pinning to its aged dress a card on which she had written:

"This infant is named Bibiano Gil and has been christened. He is 18 months old and has not been acknowledged by his father."

To the one friend who had not abandoned her in her trouble—Mark Gonzalez, an old man—she confided the story of her child's parentage and exacted from Gonzalez a promise that when the boy had reached his fifteenth birthday he would tell him the whole sad story. Perhaps, she said, his father's heart might be softened by that time and he would do something for the lad. Then she returned to her garret to die.

But holding by the simple faith the priests had taught her that to obtain forgiveness for her own sins she must first forgive all who had wronged her,

she sent Senior Gil a letter telling him that on her deathbed she had pardoned him.

He was presiding over a meeting of the common council when the missive was handed to him. He read it up and proceeded with the affairs of the council. It was a fine example of self-sacrifice of the devoted official who disdains to permit his own private cares and griefs to interfere with the transaction of public business. Three days later Josephine died and received a pauper's burial.

When little Bibiano was five years old he was transferred from the foundling institution to an orphan asylum. He turned out an unusually tractable and intelligent youngster, and as he grew older manifested such a keen and devout interest in the spiritual teachings of his pious instructors that it was decided to train him for the priesthood. FATHER REFUSES TO ACKNOWLEDGE HIM.

True to his pledge, old Mark Gonzalez looked the boy up on his fifteenth birthday and told him all about his parentage and the whole pitiful story of his mother's betrayal and suffering. Anxious to only strengthen Bibiano in his purpose to devote himself to a religious life. He made no attempt at the time to communicate with his father, but pursued his theological studies with increased zeal.

When 18 years old, released from the seminary where he had completed his studies, Bibiano went to Madrid and called on Senior Gil, to whom the intervening years had brought great increase of riches and of appreciation for his distinguished civic virtues. The banker received him with some show of kindness, admitting that it was his father, regretted that his position and reputation would not permit him to openly acknowledge their relationship, commended his resolution to become a religious minister and dismissed him as poor in pocket as when he entered the house. He had wasted no money on the mother and evidently he did not intend to waste any on the son.

Accepting poverty as his lot, Bibiano joined an order of mendicant friars. He traveled on foot through Spain, visiting several of the most famous sanctuaries and journeyed far in foreign lands, obeying the Scriptural injunction with respect to money, subsisting entirely on alms, preaching the Gospel, ministering to the sick and afflicted as he found opportunity, and sharing his food with any beggar who might claim a portion. After a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, he went to Rome, having meanwhile become member of the Franciscan Order.

POOR BIBIANO'S AMBITION.

His piety, humility and unworldliness had attracted attention in high places. Pope Leo XIII appointed him custodian of the celebrated shrine dedicated to the virgin old man, and perhaps he remained for some years. His heart yearned for a father's affection, and he said several times to the Madrid banker, but the latter persistently refused to acknowledge him openly as his son. Advancing age, however, appeared to exercise some softening influence on the stern old man, and perhaps he felt some promptings of remorse for his cruel treatment of poor Josephine. When the young friar made him farewell on the last of these visits Senior Gil kissed him for the first time and told him that in his will he would recognize him as his son and bequeath him all his fortune. But while he lived he would cling to his money and his reputation.

It was paternal love, and not wealth, that Bibiano had sought, but the prospect of having a large fortune at his disposal, filled him with joy, for it would enable him to realize an ambition he had long cherished—the founding of an asylum for illegitimate and forsaken children. He returned to Italy and again became a wanderer. It was in March, 1904, when he chanced to be again in Rome, that he received a letter from a priest telling him that Senior Gil had died in December of the previous year intestate, and his sister, Dona Jane, and his two nephews, Don Meliton and Benedict Gil, had taken possession of his fortune.

On foot Bibiano journeyed to Madrid. The loss of the fortune meant the loss of the home for poor, dishonored waifs which he had intended to establish, and for them he was resolved to make a fight. Senior Gil's relatives meanwhile had bought a magnificent mansion in Madrid and were living in sumptuous style. They refused to receive the friar and a liveried flunkey slammed the door in his face.

FIGHTING AGAINST WEALTH.

Without means though he was, and compelled to live a hand-to-mouth existence on charity's doles, the friar's unselfish purpose supplied him with a stronger stimulus than most worldly folk find in avarice alone. By dint of courage and persistency he overcame all the legal obstacles that wealth could

(Continued on page 14.)

Morganatic Wife Wins a Big Triumph.

Abandonment of Marriage Schema Between Prince Victor Napoleon and Princess Clementine of Belgium is a Decided Victory for the Beautiful Madame De Bauciere, Mother of the Pretender.



RESIDENCE OF PRINCE VICTOR NAPOLEON'S MORGANATIC WIFE, MADAME DE VEAUCLERC.

It is Situated in the Rue de Louvain, Brussels, Just Behind the House Occupied by the Prince. Its Position in the Picture is Indicated by a Cross.

Special Correspondence.

BRUSSELS, April 29.—As readers will have learned from the telegraphic dispatches, it has been authoritatively announced that there will be no marriage between Prince Victor Napoleon and Princess Clementine of Belgium. The claimant to the French throne and the daughter of the king of the Belgians have yielded to diplomatic and family pressure and abandoned their engagement.

Curiously enough, the person who really comes out on top in the quarrel that angust folk have been playing with Cupid in the last few months is the one whose interests have been apparently least considered by them—Madame de Bauciere, the beautiful morganatic wife of Prince Victor. It was reported some time ago that she had effaced herself as a possible impediment to the marriage by wedding an Italian nobleman. The story, however, was probably got up to make things easier for the French pretender and to quiet the consciences of some of his supporters, who are not supposed to recognize the superiority of royalty to the chains of ordinary mortality. Even among noblemen with free and easy notions of matrimony it is difficult to find a man willing to take over a family of quasi-illegitimate children. Anyhow he has not turned up yet.

A DIRECTORY WIDOW.

While the match was pending Madame de Bauciere, who figures in the directory as a widow, left her house in the Rue de Louvain where the Napoleonic heir was in the habit of visiting her daily. It is expected, however, that she will soon return to it and that in the pleasures of domestic life the prince will realize himself for the first time, while his agents are skirmishing among the courts of Europe for another prospective bride.

What Madame has been doing during her absence from Brussels has been kept extremely quiet. She is a very discreet, retiring sort of woman as becomes one occupying her anomalous position. A photograph of her would be worth considerably more than its weight in gold, but it is impossible to obtain such a likeness—except "fakes." It is possible that knowing how things stood she has been content to let the great people who ignored her play all the cards they had up their sleeves to prevent the match that would have turned her adrift. I have the best authority, however, for stating that Me-

dame de Bauciere personally appealed to the ex-Empress Eugenie to use her influence against the marriage. One of the most tragic figures on the European stage, whose hopes and ambitions have all been buried in the grave, poor Eugenie's own sufferings might well have moved her to sympathize with the woman who, whatever may be her legal status, has long been a faithful wife to Victor Napoleon.

CHANGED HER VIEWS.

Whatever motives may have weighed most with the ex-empress—some say it was the fear of causing an embroilment between Belgium and France—she certainly changed her views on the projected marriage. Not content with merely withdrawing the consent to it which she had given, she threatened to cut the prince out of her will if he persisted in adhering to the engagement, and furthermore, to deprive him of the annual allowance of 50,000 francs which she has made to him for many years. It was that which settled the matter with this titillating representative of the name and fame of the greatest man in French history. With his supply of cash cut short he could no longer dream in comfort of the greatness he hopes his shadowy inheritance will some day bring him without incurring any risk of endangering his own position.

PULLED THE STRINGS.

On the other side, King Leopold pulled all the strings possible to induce Clementine to renounce the engagement which she had entered into in defiance of his authority. In response to hints from the throne many men prominent in public life, including the prime minister, wrote her letters, imploring her not to endanger Belgium's pacific relations with France by wedding a man whose ambition could be realized only through the destruction of the republic. It was pointed out to her that if she persisted in that course it might lead to the ultimate sacrifice of Belgium's independence. She was asked to set an example of exalted patriotism and sacrifice for her affection on the altar of her country. She did not look for other advisers who, professing to be actuated only by considerations of her personal welfare, assured her that with a man like Victor Napoleon her married life would inevitably be a joyless one, that between her and happiness would always intervene the memory of the woman who had the best claim on his life's affections.

THE PRINCESS YIELDED.

And so Princess Clementine yielded. But she exacts a price for her renunciation. It is a separate establishment of her own where she will be freed from her father's tyrannous domestic rule. That is now being arranged for her and will be ready for her occupancy when she returns from the Riviera at the end of the month. It is a picturesque little place at Laeken, known as the Bellevue, and is situated opposite the monument to Leopold I.

There is no question of any hearts being broken over the business. Clementine is in her thirty-third year and there is nothing of the spring chicken about her. So much unhappiness has been seen in her family that she can save few of the illusions of youth left. It was said that when she became engaged to the prince that the motive which weighed most strongly with her was the desire to obtain a home of her own where the old king could no longer dominate over her. That she has now obtained and doubtless thinks it well worth all the fuss it has cost her to get it.

NOT MUCH IN LOVE.

As for Victor Napoleon, no one imagines that he was ever very seriously in love with the princess. She was three years old and as a would-be emperor he holds that the question of mutual affection is a minor matter where royal alliances are concerned. As he has been getting on in life he has been urged to marry in order to provide a legitimate heir to the throne he covets. Very likely he will postpone tackling the matrimonial question again until his aunt, ex-Empress Eugenie, is dead and he is in possession of her money.

ANOTHER MATCH.

Meanwhile there is already talk of another match for Clementine. The visit of the Dowager Queen of Saxony

to the Count and Countess of Planders—the count is King Leopold's brother—is generally regarded as a prelude to negotiations for a marriage between the princess and the king of Saxony, who divorced his wife, now the Countess of Montignoso, after her escape with M. Girou. The story has been denied by certain Belgian organs that are supposed to get tips from the king, but that does not prove there is no truth in it. It only shows that the king does not desire a public discussion of the matter just now. As regards assurances of domestic happiness such a match does not hold particularly bright prospects for the princess, and royal-blooded pretenders count on little in the luxury of choosing their own husbands.

LIGHT ON COURT LIFE.

Princess Stephanie, Clementine's elder sister, has just written a letter which sheds an illuminating light on the conditions of continental court life. As the wife of the dissolute Crown Prince Rudolph of Austria, Stephanie led a most wretched life until his tragic death set her free. Then she found happiness by kicking over the board the most notorious court intriguer, recently she lost a maid, Ida Huss, who had been her devoted attendant since 1886. The letter above referred to contains a glowing account of the after-praising her faithfulness and loyalty, and referring to her as a "real guardian angel" the writer concludes with these remarkable words: "The royal ladies and chamberlains only served me because of my position. They cared nothing for the woman. Not one among them has remained true, not one single one has thought of the little bourgeois who thought not, who felt nobly, who acted nobly."

SOLACE FOR WORRY.

King Leopold finds solace for his domestic worries in his old age by increasing the number of his residences. The principal one of them—the chateau de Laeken—is undergoing enlargement to about twice its original size and will, when completed, be one of the most magnificent abodes of royalty on the continent. The plans for the additions were partly drawn by the king himself and include a private theater, two picture galleries, one being built on the site of the former pavilions, to the right and left of the main structure. The left wing will contain the king's private apartment, consisting of a spacious study, a semi-circular library, a bedroom and bathroom. Behind these, facing the lovely terrace overlooking the lakes of Laeken Park, a library is being built of semi-circular shape. The right wing, to be called the Pavillon des Princesses, will consist of two large apartments, each comprising drawingroom, bedroom and dressing-room. A chapel will be annexed.

JENNIE BOISE.

The chateau is famed for its conservatories and green-houses, which are unrivaled in Europe. They have a total length of two miles and contain every imaginable tropical plant, including unique specimens from the Congo Free State. The prince's library is being built of semi-circular shape. The right wing, to be called the Pavillon des Princesses, will consist of two large apartments, each comprising drawingroom, bedroom and dressing-room. A chapel will be annexed.

DEPEW AND VANDERBILT.

To Meet in Paris in July.

Special Correspondence.

ONDON, April 29.—I learn that Senator Chauncey M. Depew will meet William K. Vanderbilt in Paris during the first week in July. It is expected that at this conference the final details will be arranged for a month's holding company. It is understood here that this would have been accomplished before had not the Northern Securities case in the supreme court cautioned delay. The successful operation of the plan of the Mackey's company, which placed in share form all the interests of the late John I. Mackey in the Commercial Cable company, Postal Telegraph and other enterprises, will probably be followed as the plan adopted does not contain the objectionable features of the Northern Securities case.

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in Washington, as well as of the legal points involved.

Senator Depew is a connecting link between the Morgan and Vanderbilt followings, and the legal firm of Stetson, Jennings and Russell, the senior member of which was President Cleveland's partner, is employed in both. It was Francis Lynde Stetson who laid out the Northern Securities plan and his mistakes in that case will be a disadvantage of when he finds the legal loopholes for the Vanderbilt company. At least these are the opinions which prevail in London.

Girl of Seventeen Killed by Russian Police.

Special Correspondence.

WARSAW, April 15.—Russian officialdom's latest victim is a girl of 17—Angelo Zochowski, who has just died as the result of barbarous treatment meted out to her in Warsaw prison.

It will be recalled that during the recent riots in Warsaw many of the school children "struck"—the only means they had of showing how passionately they sided with their parents in their animosity against the oppressor. With the juvenile protest Angelo Zochowski was a pupil of the second gymnasium, as it is called, was associated. She was promptly arrested and placed in solitary confinement, after which the police officials set to work to terrify her into telling who were the ring leaders in the "strike." As Angelo steadfastly refused, they kept her short of food and water, and when, after a course of this treatment, she finally held out, she was beaten several times a day. Her health gave way under this brutal handling, and now she is dead—but she has left behind her a trail of the murderers whom she wanted to know.

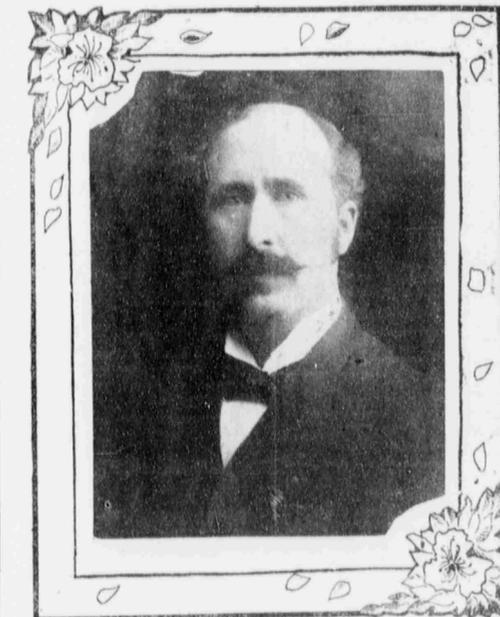
Warsaw, already on the point of revolt against Russian rule, has been inflamed almost to madness by the fate of this unfortunate child. To add to the horror of the story, 19 other girls of the same school are still in prison and liable to similar treatment.

SUNDAY REST IN SPAIN.

King Alfonso's new "Sunday Rest law" is thoroughly and characteristically Spanish, and will not, I fear, meet with the approval of the leaders of the Sunday rest movement in this country. Thus bull fights are to be allowed on the Sabbath, the council of state and the cortes having decided that the prohibition of bull fights on Sunday would be contrary to the spirit of the Sunday rest law, since as the toreros and bull fighters, having no work to do during the week, do not need rest on Sunday; secondly, if bull fights were to be held on any other day of the week, they would have the effect of taking people away from their work, and also because the work of the toreros cannot be considered as labor, but rather as art, on a line with that of the actors of those semi-sacred plays and dramas the performance of which is expressly permitted by the new law on Sunday. So that the Sabbath will continue, as heretofore, to be the one day of the week devoted throughout the length and breadth of Spain to the national sport of bull fighting.—New York Tribune.

TEA CIGARETTES.

The fashionable doctor has now to wrestle with a habit which is even harder to combat than the drug craze, because it is so very easy to indulge, and seems so very harmless in itself—the practise, so freely resorted to in boulevards, of smoking "cigarettes" or certain brands of tea. It does not sound very dreadful, indeed, it seems more innocuous than smoking Turkish tobacco, but the doctors can tell a very different tale.—London World.



DONALD ROSE'S EUROPEAN MISSION.

How Former Salt Lake Man is Inducing Old World Emigrants to Come to the United States.

Special Correspondence.

LONDON, April 15.—Donald Rose, formerly of Salt Lake City, Utah, a bit of new general European representative of the Illinois Central Railroad company, has just returned from a trip to Austria and Italy, where he met the government authorities regarding the possible diversion of Italian and American settlers in the United States from the Eastern to the Southern states. Mr. Rose does not represent his railroad in this matter, but the governor of the states of Louisiana and Alabama.

The Italian government has just received the report of a commissioner who has made a personal visit of investigation into the Southern states, for the purpose of reporting upon the

AMERICAN LILY GETS RELIGIOUS.

After King Edward Took an Interest in Church Work She Became Industrious.

WHAT WILLIE WALDORF BOES.

Typhoid Fever Has Driven the Appetite for Oysters Out of the Mouths Of the Aristocracy.

Special Correspondence.

LONDON, April 29.—Lily, Duchess of Marlborough, has recently become a generous patron of the Church army. Until the king showed his appreciation of the work of the society by inviting its leader, the Rev. W. A. Carille to Buckingham palace, it had not been numbered among the charities to which she contributed. Stimulated by the royal example she is now making amends for her previous neglect. She has visited several of its depots, addressed cheering words to their inmates, and distributed among them a lot of religious literature obtained from Lady Wimborne's bookshop. Her checks, of course, she sends to headquarters. It is a striking illustration of the value of the king's influence. But the other American Marlborough duchesses—the reigning one—did not wait for that incentive. Before the king had shown any special interest in the work of the army she made a tour of its principal London stations, accompanied by Mr. Carille, and wrote a letter to the paper that has the largest circulation among rich folk, describing what she had seen and appealing to them to lend a helping hand.

WILLIE'S QUIET-RUNS.

William Waldorf Astor, accompanied by his son-in-law, Capt. Spenser Clay, has been taking quiet runs on his luxuriously equipped motor car, recently, in to obscure little country villages on the borders of London. A few days ago they were seen travelling at a moderate pace along by Epping Forest, and later on they appeared at Chigwell, where they lunched at the famous old inn immortalized by Dickens. Though his own literary style conveys no suggestion of it, Mr. Astor is an ardent Dickensian, and anything with which the name of the great master is identified he is interested in. It is said that he has an edition of Dickens so richly bound that many thousands of dollars could not buy it. He has a special man in from the well-known firm of W. H. Smith & Son to look after his library at regulated times, and no binder but this man is allowed to touch the Dickens edition. He has other editions for the use of his friends, and even the servants are allowed the free use of them when they feel they have time to read. It is estimated that the gold alone on



SCENE AT THE HERMITAGE AFTER THE MURDER.

Crowds From the Surrounding Country Flocked to the Place Clamoring for Vengeance Against the Assassin.