



HELP WANTED AND SITUATIONS WANTED 20 Words for 10c.

By the Red Death.

About the middle of the seventeenth century there lived in Venice a certain mighty duke, so rich and powerful as to be feared by friend as well as foe, for that was a period of constant murder and assassination. It was the custom of this duke to give costly banquets in the great hall of his palace, but there was always one thing to mar the festivity of the occasion—the constant dread of some secret agent of death. And what rendered still more to mystery and fear on these occasions of festivity was the presence of the Red Mask. No two lords of the feast, on his left hand, always sat a silent, mysterious figure in a red domino, with a blood-red mask concealing every feature. Before the guests separated he quietly rose, gave his hand to the noble host, and then went slowly, solemnly and silently around the table, shaking hands with each. As all believed that he was the duke's secret poisoner, he was regarded with awe and dread and came in time to be spoken of as the lord of the Red Death. His fatal purpose was effected one evening, but it was conjectured that upon one of his jeweled fingers he wore what was known as the "death ring"—a ring curiously constructed, with deadly poison in the interior, which could be ejected by a sudden pressure upon a concealed spring, into the hand of any one taken unawares in conversation. In the very zenith of his life and power the duke one day received the singular intelligence that a gentleman had made his appearance in Venice so lately resembling him in face and figure that more than one person and mistaken him for his grace. "Who is this adventurer?" angrily demanded the duke. "Go, seek him out and say it is my pleasure to see him at my palace." The stranger was found and readily accepted the invitation of the nobleman, who received him in his private apartments, with only one attendant present. The resemblance of the two was certainly very striking. "Who are you?" demanded the duke in an imperious tone on Friday evening next. "I am the Count of Palmira!" At the mention of this title the attendant of the duke gave a slight, quick start and fixed his eyes searchingly upon the stranger. "I am glad at least to hear you are a nobleman," pursued the duke, "as the thought of having my likeness borne by a plebeian would have been too humiliating. There should be but one such face in Venice, count!" "So think I, duke!" "I may hope, then, that you will take early leave of our proud city!" "I was in hopes your grace had made arrangements to quit the country." "You are honest, count!" "By the bones of St. Mark!" the duke began, in a malignant rage, but added, in quite a different tone, with a forced smile: "Your pardon, count, I am too hasty. It is not the fault of either of us that we look alike and have tempers alike. If we cannot be friends, there is no need of our being enemies." "I am disposed to meet your grace half way in either anger or friendship." "I thank your lordship, and trust you will honor my language on Friday evening next with your presence, when I will do myself the pleasure to introduce your lordship to some of the first nobles of Venice." As Antonio left the presence of his noble master he seized the first opportunity to say to the count: "My lord I have a private word for your ear. We are countrymen." "Indeed?" "Yes," pursued Antonio, speaking low and in Spanish, "I know your house well, and I would serve you. Your life is in danger here." "So I believe." "I think this banquet is given expressly to destroy you!" "I had my fears." "If you will come to it and follow my instructions, you shall not only be saved, but you will become Duke of Francavilla." "How? speak!" "Seem indifferent to my remarks now, my lord. Have you ever heard of the Red Death, my lord?" "Never, to my knowledge." "It is briefly this: On the nights of festivity a figure in red domino and red mask sits near the duke. At the close of the feast this figure shakes hands with all present, and it is rarely that some one of the nobles does not die shortly after. Does your lordship comprehend?" "When I do—secret poison." "When this Red Mask takes your hand on that night he will leave within it a paper of instruction, which you must find an opportunity to read in secret and follow to the letter." "How do you know this?" "You shall know how I come." "I will come, though how am I to know you mean to save me?" "If I meant you ill, my lord, what need to warn you?" "True—it is enough—I will be here." Punctual to the appointed time, the Count of Palmira appeared at the banquet of the Duke of Francavilla. At the close came the hand-shaking round of the dreaded Red Death. The count, being a stranger, seemed the most indifferent of any, as was natural he should. He bowed outwardly and drank and then seemed to reflect. In this mood he held the small paper which he had just received in such a way that he could peruse it without being suspected. This paper contained these words: "Feign illness and be shown to a private apartment. I will be there to complete the design." In a few minutes the duke, who had been furtively watching the count, remarked with seeming concern that he feared his lordship was ill. The nobles exchanged glances, and each breathed freer, as he fancied he had discovered the victim in other than himself. But the count, instead of getting better, seemed to grow more faint, and his kind host suggested that he should be shown to a private apartment and his chief physician summoned. He offered his arm to the count, who leaned heavily on it, and thus left the hall. Passing through an anteroom, they entered one hung with damask and richly furnished. The Red Mask, who had left the banquet hall before them, was standing here, as if awaiting their coming. As the duke

EDUCATIONAL.

VOCAL PIANO, VIOLIN—Students at all grades private lessons at only \$1.00 a week. A responsible professor of acknowledged ability offers this extraordinary inducement in order to secure full knowledge and skill from the first of the year. ADDRESS CONSERVATORY, 1110 N. 10th St., Philadelphia, Pa. dec-29-31

LESSONS in drawing, oil, water colors, and pastels, pen and ink, one can learn in a short time without experience. \$3 per month if you call before 10 o'clock. 830 N. 10th St., Philadelphia, Pa. dec-29-31

PIANO Organ, Vocal Music and Theory. ADAMS, 1110 N. 10th St., Philadelphia, Pa. dec-29-31

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stated his guest to a divan, the Red Mask quietly closed and bolted the door. Then, producing a small rope with the ends fastened to the hands of the duke as he bent over the count, and throwing the rope around his neck, drew it tight and strangled him before he could comprehend his murderous design and raise his voice for help. When the duke was quite dead the mask was removed, and the face of Antonio appeared before the count. "Quick, my lord!" said Antonio, pale and trembling at what he had done. "Disrobe, put on the dress of the duke, return to the hall, and be lord of the banquet. If you succeed in deceiving the assembled guests, which I trust your close resemblance will enable you to do, we are safe; if you fail, we are lost." This device of the Count of Palmira was soon dressed in the gorgeous robes of the Duke of Francavilla, and the counterfeit was so perfect that none but a wife could have detected the difference. The plan of the iniquitous schemer succeeded to the letter, and the guests that night retired in the belief that the false duke was the real. The next day the Count of Palmira appeared in St. Mark's place and other parts of Venice in his own proper person. This device of the suspicion that he had been poisoned, as all at the banquet believed. In fact, it was only through the dying confessions of the count himself that the truth came out at all, which many would not believe.

Long before this event, however, the Red Death had ceased to appear because of the real death of Antonio, whom his new master had murdered in turn for fear of being himself murdered or betrayed by the only one who possessed his fatal secret.

SWEPT THROUGH A GORGE. Experience of Two Army Explorers in the Black Canyon. San Francisco Call. Lieutenants Davis and Potter of the United States Army, with their guides, Barney Weaver and John Smith, returned at Yuma recently by boat from Needles. The army officers had been assigned the duty of exploring the river from Black Canyon to Yuma, with a view of improving the navigation. They met with nothing of any interest from Needles northward, but on the last part of their trip they had excitement and dangers enough to last them the rest of their lives. Their boat, which weighed 800 pounds, was sent by Porter to the straits and from there by wagon twenty-two miles to Diamond Creek. This is 200 miles further up the river than required for their purpose, but they wanted to see some of the scenery of the Grand Canyon. The boat, supplies and men had to be lowered with ropes down the sides of the canyon. The discovery was at once made that the boat was not adapted for the voyage, being a keel boat, narrow and heavy. It was so shallow that it became utterly unmanageable, and every moment threatened them with death. They were bumped on rocks, thrown against the sides of the canyon, and from spray and shot through gorges, with the rapidity of an express train. With salvation out of their sight there was apparently nothing but certain death ahead of them. Above rose the perpendicular walls of the canyon thousands of feet. Still the boat kept in the water for seventeen terrible miles when a rock trap was reached. Quick as lightning the boat was tossed bottom upward, rolled over and finally crushed to pieces. The men struggled to save their lives. It was useless to try to save anything else. But, strangely, none of them were hurt and they reached a place of safety. At once their dangerous situation forced itself upon their minds. There they were, without provisions and shut in to meet certain death by starvation. They started down the canyon, hoping to find a trail by which they could get out. After many a weary mile the men decided to follow some of the steep trails, which were only a few inches wide in places. Success attended their efforts, although at times they hung between water and sky, the edges of the cliff. Occasionally their strength seemed to fail, but a slight of that awful chasm below was sufficient. At last the boat was reached, and the men were delivered from the terrors of the canyon only to find themselves in a desert. They struck out bravely, knowing that they had only to reach the river to reach safety again. At Hackberry station four haggard, ragged, dirty and almost shoeless men dropped down to wait for the next train. They reached Needles again to rest and rest for the voyage to Yuma. A Rooster as a Witness. At Sylva, in the county court last Monday, a very extraordinary and amusing witness was introduced in a stealing case. It was a rooster, which had never occurred in any courthouse. This was a domestic rooster. Two negro boys were prosecuted for stealing chickens from another negro. The prosecutor proved that his chickens were missing, and he claimed to have identified them in the yard of the accused. It then devolved on the latter to prove their ownership. One of the brightest young lawyers was conducting the defense, and he very ingeniously introduced in evidence the above-mentioned domestic rooster, which belonged to the defendants. In order to show the similarity in appearance between the rooster and the suspected chickens, the latter to prove their ownership. The rooster, when put on the stand, crowed vociferously, as if to proclaim the innocence of the accused, and furnished such amusement to the court. After hearing all the evidence, the judge discharged the prisoners, and told the prosecutor that, while it was perhaps true he had lost his chickens, yet he was convinced they had become the prey of swine.

HELP WANTED AND SITUATIONS WANTED

FOR RENT—(one furnished room, suitable for gentleman, near Government Printing Office, board if desired; reasonable, also two unfurnished rooms. 365 H St., N.W. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—Two front rooms, for complete cooking utensils, dishes, gas, heat, bath, and organ; \$14 per month. 391 10th St., N.W. near Smithsonian. It

WANTED—Dining room in house with roomers. DIXING ROOM, 1110 N. 10th St., N.W. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—Unfurnished, single and double rooms, large and small; new houses for sale and rent. 637 N.W. 5th St., N.W. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—322 1/2 N. 2nd St., 2nd floor, front room, large, bright and cheerful, with board for \$2.40; back room \$3.45; refs. exchanged. dec-29-31

UNFURNISHED rooms, signs for each. JOHN S. SHELLEY, 623 10th St., N.W. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—Furnished, nice rooms for housekeeping. 129 A St., N.W. near Capital. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—2 rooms, nicely fur.; let for rent; table board. \$16. Address 721 11th St., N.W. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—Desirable rooms; conveniently located, at moderate prices. 912 12th St., N.W. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—Safely fur.; 400 front room, with electric heat and light, gas, electric light and electric bath; tiled bathroom; terms reasonable. 1912 13th St., N.W. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—Two handsome rooms; rosewood furniture; private family. 722 11th St., N.W. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—Unfurnished rooms; central furnace heat; moderate rates; housekeeping permitted. 709 8th St., N.W. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—Two, comfortably furnished rooms, with heat and light; gas, bath all on the same floor; \$9 per month; from January 1. 709 8th St., N.W. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—3 unfur. rooms, bath, gas, and electric. 349 10th St., N.W. 706 9th St., N.W. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—Three nice rooms at 338 12th St., N.W., with heat. dec-29-31

WANTED—By gentleman and wife two desirable unfurnished rooms for housekeeping; walking distance from Interior Department; terms must be reasonable and stated. Box 2 X, this office. It

WANTED—3 or 4 unfur. rooms for light housekeeping; 3 adults; state price. Address C. S., this office. dec-29-31

WANTED—Houses.

WANTED—To rent small business house for office; house price not to exceed \$30 or \$35; I have receipts to show since 1872; must be cheap and in good locality, in fair condition and from owner only. Address L. M., this office. dec-29-31

FOR SALE—Miscellaneous.

FOR RENT—1212 1/2 St., N.W., nicely furnished rooms; bath on same floor, southern exposure; refs. moderate. 11-00

FOR RENT—Furnished rooms, every home; fine location; convenient to all car lines and departments; small hall room; suitable for young man; \$5 per month; refs. 444 Mass. Ave., N.W. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—Furnished back room; 2d floor; convenient; refs. 418 2d St., N.W. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—Two nicely furnished rooms, with board; heat and light; gas in a room; convenient to G. P. O. and all street car lines. 618 N. 1st St., N.W. dec-29-31

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FOR RENT—Furnished rooms for housekeeping; 1333 1st St., N.W. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—3 unfur. rooms; front exposure; ten \$10 per month. 1015 5d St., N.W. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—927 1st St., N.W., hall room; \$5; gentleman only. dec-27-31

FOR RENT—2 newly furnished rooms in private family, with or without board; 126 C St., N.W. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—Two well furnished rooms, back and front, communicating; together or apart; \$8 and \$10, respectively; all modern improvements; private family. Apply at 215 E. St., N.W. dec-29-31

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FOR RENT—1412 F St., N.W.; two front office rooms over Deslo's Jewelry store and opposite the Boston Hotel. dec-27-31

FOR RENT—1713 13th St., N.W.; newly furnished, new papered rooms, well heated; with or without board; refs. moderate. 1713 13th St., N.W. dec-29-31

FOR RENT—Nicely fur. room, with good board. 616 H St., N.W. dec-29-31

PERSONAL.

DR. CHAS. R. DAVIS has no far recovered from his long illness as to be able to attend to patients, and will be pleased to see them again. DAVIS & SON, Dentists, 1018 N. Y. Ave., N.W.; CHAS. R. DAVIS, D. D. S.; L. F. DAVIS, M. D., D. D. S. dec-29-31

THE friends of Prof. and Mmc. Macdonald are invited to an especial psychological entertainment at No. 407 G St., on Monday evening, 8 o'clock. dec-29-31

FOR ADOPTION—A handsome healthy baby girl to respectable party. Inquire 18 4th St., N.W. dec-29-31

COAL—COAL—Buy coal and wood at 20 and K Sts., at the dump, and save 20 to 25 per cent. Telephone 742. Call me up. L. J. GODFREY. dec-29-31

AS in the past we'll continue in the future, selling the most elegant custom-made suits and overcoats, the least bit worn, at figures that are good to know about. JUST'S OLD STAND, 619 B St., N.W. dec-27-31

PERSONAL—Washington, D. C., Oct. 28, 1895. I have used Crump's Tonic for Indigestion and Constipation and have been greatly benefited. While the tonic is gaining over 25 pounds in flesh. MYRON M. PARKER. dec-27-31

TRIPLE "Ten Bolt" fire cuts. WORKS, 324 Seventh St., N.W. dec-27-31

SALE of Paintings, reduced prices; painting lessons. Studio 425 4th St., N.W. dec-19-10

LADIES needing confidential treatment, safe and sure relief in all female trouble, constipation, irregularities, tumor, cancer, uterine habit, leucorrhoea, etc. Separate rooms for patients before and during confinement, and find homes for infants if required. Strictly confidential. MRS. DR. KENNER, 16 Fourth St., N.W., near E. Capitol St., Washington, D. C. 205 1/2

DR. TAYLOR, 808 F St., N.W., makes full use of teeth for \$5; satisfaction guaranteed; teeth extracted without pain; gold filling, \$1; amalgam, 60c. 808 F St., N.W. dec-29-31

J. T. WALKER'S, 204 10th St., N.W., card, brush, comb, hair, comb, etc.; also, tooth, brush, comb, hair, comb, etc.; also, tooth, brush, comb, hair, comb, etc. Two and three-ply roofing material. apr-21-22

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LOST—Down water spaniel dog, with white breast. Reward paid if returned to 315 8th St., N.W. dec-29-31

LOST—Bet. E and H sts. on 7th and 11th sts. on a pocketbook, containing two railroad tickets to Norcross, Ga. Suitable reward if returned to Miss EDITH CURRIE, 1019 E St., N.W. It

LOST—On Saturday, pair gold spectacles, near 16th St., Ender will be rewarded if left at 1810 K St., N.W. It

LOST—Pocketbook containing sum of money, papers and cards; name of owner on cards, at the Lafayette Square Theatre. Saturday matinee; the finder will leave it at Office Metropolitan Hotel and receive reward. It

LOST—Saturday evening, Dec. 28, '06, a pocketbook containing a large amount of money, a photograph of a young man, a key, a letter of needles. A liberal reward paid if left with JOHN QUINN, 447 7th St., N.W. dec-29-31

LOST—Dec. 25, a small simple ring, set in silver, with a red topaz. If returned to 810 A St., N.W., get reward. dec-29-31

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DEPARTMENT STAMPS, all kinds and very quantity bought and highest cash price given. H. F. DUKER, 1065 7th St., N.W. dec-27-31

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FOR RENT—3 unfur. rooms; front exposure; ten \$10 per month. 1015 5d St., N.W. dec-29-31

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PERSONAL.

DR. LEON. 461 Missouri Avenue, dec-11-3m

\$100 reward for a case of dyspepsia or indigestion that cannot be cured by Crump's Tonic of Fruit and Spices. A delicious and invigorating tonic for stomach troubles. Quick acting. The good effects are felt from the first dose. CRUMP TONIC CO., 603 F St., N.W. dec-29-31

LOST—Down water spaniel dog, with white breast. Reward paid if returned to 315 8th St., N.W. dec-29-31

LOST—Bet. E and H sts. on 7th and 11th sts. on a pocketbook, containing two railroad tickets to Norcross, Ga. Suitable reward if returned to Miss EDITH CURRIE, 1019 E St., N.W. It

LOST—On Saturday, pair gold spectacles, near 16th St., Ender will be rewarded if left at 1810 K St., N.W. It

LOST—Pocketbook containing sum of money, papers and cards; name of owner on cards, at the Lafayette Square Theatre. Saturday matinee; the finder will leave it at Office Metropolitan Hotel and receive reward. It

LOST—Saturday evening, Dec. 28, '06, a pocketbook containing a large amount of money, a photograph of a young man, a key, a letter of needles. A liberal reward paid if left with JOHN QUINN, 447 7th St., N.W. dec-29-31

LOST—Dec. 25, a small simple ring, set in silver, with a red topaz. If returned to 810 A St., N.W., get reward. dec-29-31

WANTED—POSTAGE STAMPS.

DEPARTMENT STAMPS, all kinds and very quantity bought and highest cash price given. H. F. DUKER, 1065 7th St., N.W. dec-27-31

FOR SALE—Miscellaneous.

FOR RENT—1212 1/2 St., N.W., nicely furnished rooms; bath on same floor, southern exposure; refs. moderate. 11-00

FOR RENT—Furnished rooms, every home; fine location; convenient to all car lines and departments; small hall room; suitable for young man; \$5 per month; refs. 444 Mass. Ave., N.W. dec-29-31

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