

# The Times' Daily Short Story.

## MASKED

(Original.)

When Larned was in college he was first in athletics and last in his studies. Then came a tour abroad. Disdaining such effeminate affairs as railway carriages, Larned used his legs. Tramping in Germany, he stopped one evening at a hotel in a summer resort where preparations were making for a masked ball. He asked the landlord for a costume and was given one—a Faust—which he was informed had been engaged several days before, but relinquished during the afternoon. Larned put it on and went down into the ballroom.

Among the women was a Marguerite, a trim, graceful figure with an immense plait of blond hair, who on seeing Faust at once manifested an interest in him. Larned was not long in advancing and asking for a dance.

"Ach," said the lady as soon as he opened his mouth to speak, "you are some one else!"

Larned begged for an explanation, but the girl only laughed and put him off with the remark: "I am well enough satisfied. Don't pry into other people's affairs."

During the evening a Phillip II, was crying the Faust and Marguerite couple with as much apparent chagrin as they seemed to be mutually pleased. At last just as Faust was leading Marguerite out to dance the king of Spain marched up to him and said:

"Here, I will relieve you of the lady."

"No one will relieve me," replied Faust, "of any lady whom I have asked to dance unless she wishes it."

"But I am"—he checked himself.

"I don't care if you're the grand duke or the kaiser. The lady must decide between us."

"It would have been impossible," said the girl, "for Marguerite to prefer any one to Faust, even a king. However, I'll dance the next with your majesty if you so command."

The man turned on his heel and walked away.

"Now, what have you done?" said Marguerite. "He will challenge you, and you will have to fight him."

"Oh, that's in my line," replied Faust. "If I had to meet him in a disquisition on a philosophical problem I would offer a humble apology. Unfortunately I was given the lowest order of accomplishments."

When the dance was over a man tapped Larned on the shoulder. They retired, and it was arranged that a duel with rapiers should take place at once. The parties passed separately from the hotel so as not to attract attention, and the seconds led the way to a barn near at hand. Lanterns were procured and the principals placed in position. To Larned's surprise his opponent chose to fight masked.

They were about evenly matched in

skill, but the German is never equal in expedient to the American. Larned sidled around till he put his enemy in a position where one of the lanterns shone directly in his eyes, then put several inches of steel in the fleshy part of his right side. It was not a dangerous wound, but just how serious no one knew. The mask was removed, the clothing torn open and the wound examined.

"Your serene transparency!" exclaimed the doctor. "I thought you were the other man."

"I intended to be, but changed my mind."

"I am sorry," said Larned, "to have stepped into a mistake through your intended costume, but rejoice to have winged you so slightly."

His serene transparency was removed by carriage to his own bed. Larned went back to the hotel. In the hall stood Marguerite unmasked, and a very high bred, pretty German fraulein she was. She appeared relieved at seeing one of the combatants return unhurt and anxiously inquired for the other. Larned assured her that he had got off with a flesh wound.

"It was my fault," she said. "He is my betrothed. We agreed to come here as Faust and Marguerite. He changed his character and instructed the landlord to rent his Faust costume to see how I would act with another."

"It seems to me, fraulein," said Larned, "that he found out not only how you would act, but how the another would act."

"He is jealous."

"He will prize you all the more for seeing you prized by the another."

She looked at him with her eyes of northern blue, and he read a story. Here is what he read condensed in that one look:

"I am noble; you are not. I must marry within my circle, my husband being chosen for me. Tonight I have met the man I could love, but between him and me is an impassable barrier. We have met without introduction; we part with a passing acquaintance. If we meet again it will be as strangers."

"Fraulein," said Larned softly, "having met you is the episode of my life. I regret having come for a moment between you and your betrothed and had I known he were such would have resigned you at once. I assure you that these few moments of happiness will not cause me to forget that we are merely masked acquaintances."

She put out her hand and gave his a pressure, accompanied by a look, that he remembers to this day. Then she turned away. When they met the next day in the gardens she was walking with a retinue of friends. Outwardly at least they were both masked.

Larned learned that the betrothed couple were related to the reigning house, that the man was rich and the girl a court belle. The only explanation he ever got of their attending so plebeian an entertainment as a hotel ball was that it was a freak and in mask.

PHILIP CAREY LEEDS.

## CONDITION OF TRADE

### Aside From Usual August Vacation Dullness, Business Is Good.

### WHEAT TAKES A BIG JUMP

But Better Reports From Producing Districts Disappoint Speculators' Hopes—Failures For the Week.

New York, Aug. 22.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says: Business is well maintained aside from the quieting influence of the vacation season, which somewhat restricts trade and retards collections. Making due allowance for the period, there is no cause for complaint. The adverse factors that have been operating against prosperity in recent preceding weeks are no longer as potent, normal influences gradually prevailing. Labor controversies still exist, curtailing the output of a few products and the consumption of all the necessities of life. Crops are not going to market as freely as usual, although the agricultural outlook is distinctly favorable. In spite of several obvious reasons for expecting a check to freight traffic earnings of railways thus far reported in August show an average gain of 9.6 per cent over last year and 18.2 per cent over 1901.

Complaints are beginning to be heard regarding the inadequate facilities of the railways, and it now appears that inconvenience and loss must again be experienced notwithstanding the extensive improvements. Sensational stories of the large number of buyers now at this center and the fabulous sums that they spend cannot be accepted as satisfactorily accurate, but it is probable that an increase over all previous years is actually occurring, despite the demoralization in cotton goods caused by speculation in the raw material. Sanguine sentiments are expressed in the dispatch from Philadelphia, where the textile plants are again busy, and especial strength is reported in lumber and building materials.

### Merchandise In Good Demand.

Merchandise is in good demand at Boston, business in some quarters is above the average for August, and the footwear industry continues fully occupied. Building operations are large, and a healthy tone is evident in whole sale trade at Baltimore, while the fall outlook is unusually bright. Bank exchanges at New York for the last week were 16.5 per cent smaller than in the corresponding week a year ago, but showed a gain of 11.6 per cent over 1901. At other leading cities there were increases of 2.8 and 8.2 per cent respectively.

Somewhat easier prices for the great food staples testify to brighter prospects. Wheat was formed upward in a most sensational manner, particularly at the principal northwestern flour center, but favorable news from spring wheat sections and a normal movement at the southwest disposed of "dollar wheat" for the time. Visible supplies are low, and liberal inquiries for foreign account encourage hopes that profitable returns may be secured by growers, but efforts to force prices beyond the limits of reason will curtail demand, especially for export.

No event of importance affected corn, which fluctuated in sympathy with the principal cereal. Western receipts of wheat amounted to 4,332,976 bushels for the week against 6,730,250 last year, and exports from all ports of the United States were 2,665,569 bushels compared with 4,116,772 a year ago. Corn arrivals were 2,061,774 bushels against 988,613 and Atlantic coast exports 322,048 bushels compared with 47,143.

### Small Exports Not Disappointing.

As July is usually the month of smallest exports there is nothing disappointing in last month's official return, which shows that the value of all merchandise sent abroad was only \$91,539,400, a decrease of \$3,683,446 compared with June, while there was a gain of \$2,748,773 over the same month last year. As there was a small loss in farm products it follows that shipments of manufactured articles were considerably heavier than a year previous.

Domestic producing capacity has been enlarged even more than home consumption, and consequently foreign markets will receive more attention. Imports were slightly larger than in the preceding month and \$2,032,513 more than in July, 1902, making a total gain in foreign commerce of \$4,751,280 over the same month last year. The net balance on merchandise account was only \$9,359,013, while exports of specie surpassed imports nearly \$5,000,000, making an increase in credits abroad of \$14,296,703, aside from the unknown factors of freight, insurance, tourists' expenses, etc.

Liabilities of commercial failures thus far reported for August aggregated \$9,965,185, of which \$5,151,151 were in manufacturing, \$1,733,747 in trading and \$30,287 in other commercial lines. Failures this week numbered 238 in the United States, against 207 last year, and 8 in Canada, compared with 30 a year ago.

### Quash Scranton Scandal.

Scranton, Pa., Aug. 22.—By a vote of 12 to 0 the select council indefinitely postponed action on the report of the bonding investigation committee recommending the unseating of Selectmen Evans, Regan and O'Boyle for alleged solicitation of bribes in connection with the Dalton street railway franchise. The three men attacked were not allowed to vote.

## TRAINING YOUNG INDIANS.

Results of the Outing System at the Carlisle School.

The twenty-fourth annual report of Colonel R. H. Pratt, superintendent of the Indian school at Carlisle, Pa., is devoted largely to the results of the outing system of the school in the civilization of Indian youth. Last year 519 boys and 429 girls had outing privileges for some portion of the year. While the boys worked largely for farmers, some were placed in mechanical situations, working side by side with the regular employees in various establishments. Others were employed at seashore and other summer resorts in such positions as are often filled by college students during vacation.

The united earnings of those who had outing privileges the past year were \$31,303. The workers save half their earnings, and the accumulated savings in two years are \$35,904. During the year 101 graduates of Carlisle were employed in the Indian school service of the department of the interior, their combined salaries being \$46,300. In this connection Colonel Pratt remarks that he has "never urged upon the department wholesale employment of our graduates, but rather have uniformly urged them to go out into the world and struggle for the good things of life in competition with our other peoples, and so begin tribal disintegration and their unification with our masses."

The total enrollment at the school during twenty-four years has been 4,903. Last year's enrollment was 1,298, from seventy-seven tribes, and forty-six were graduated.

## ROOSEVELT ON UNIONS

President's Views as to Discrimination in Federal Offices Published.

### LETTERS TO CORTELYOU.

In Them the Executive Declares That No Rules of a Union Can Be Permitted to Override the Laws of the United States.

Washington, Aug. 22.—There is considerable excitement in union labor circles here over President Roosevelt's declaration that union labor will not be permitted to control the appointment of employees in government offices and that the ruling in the reinstatement of W. A. Miller in the printing office will be applied to all departments.

The president has authorized the publication of a letter which was sent to each member of his cabinet on July 23 by Mr. Barnes, the acting secretary to the president, as follows:

"The president directs me to send you herewith, for your information, copies of two letters sent to Secretary Cortelyou with reference to the government printing office, which define the attitude of the administration in connection with the subject discussed. They are sent to you for your information and guidance, as they indicate the policy of the president in this matter."

### Cannot Override the Laws.

The letters to Secretary Cortelyou were written on July 13 and 14. The salient sentence of the first letter was: "There is no objection to the employees of the government printing office constituting themselves into a union if they so desire, but no rules or resolutions of that union can be permitted to override the laws of the United States, which it is my sworn duty to enforce."

In the letter of the 14th the president quoted the finding of the arbitrator coal strike commission regarding the employment of labor as follows: "It is adjudged and awarded that no person shall be refused employment or in any way discriminated against on account of membership or nonmember-

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ship in any labor organization, and that there shall be no discrimination against or interference with any employee who is not a member of any labor organization by members of such organization."

Concerning this principle the president wrote:

"It is, of course, mere elementary decency to require that all the government departments shall be handled in accordance with the principles thus clearly and fearlessly enunciated."

**New York Firemen Parade.**  
Gloversville, N. Y., Aug. 22.—The crowning event of the firemen's convention was the big parade, in which nearly 3,000 uniformed men participated. All sections of the state being represented, it was the largest parade ever held at a firemen's convention. The band contest held was decided, and the money was divided between the Fort Dayton band of Herkimer and the Dunkirk band. The convention ended with a great fireworks display.

## THE "SINGING SANDS."

### Massachusetts Professor Explains Musical Notes at Seashore.

At the field meeting of the Manchester (Mass.) Historical society and Essex Institute Professor J. H. Sears of the Peabody Academy of Science spoke regarding the famous musical sands which have given the name of Singing beach to one part of Manchester's ocean front. He announced that he had actually discovered the cause of the peculiar sounds and had experimented so well that he could as an agent bring them about at will.

Professor Sears says the theory is, in brief, as follows: The sounds really are produced by minerals of a harder nature than the sand itself, which is composed of quartz and feldspar. Occasional grains of both quartz and feldspar contain inclusions of such minerals as tourmaline and zircon. Tourmaline possesses a hardness of nine, and that of zircon is from eight and a half to nine, while the hardness of quartz is seven and feldspar is still softer, with its hardness measured only at six.

The grains of quartz and feldspar which contain these inclusions upon being worn away leave the inclusions in a condition of points surrounding the grain of sand. These points, since they are so much harder than the mass of sand, give out a scratching sound when the sands are rubbed together, and these sounds are at Singing beach distinctly musical.

## SET OF DICKENS \$130,000.

### Extravagance of a Cashier Who Killed Himself.

When Howard T. Goodwin, cashier for Cassatt & Co., bankers and brokers of Philadelphia, killed himself last December it was said that, aside from his stock speculation, his only extravagance was book buying. To what lengths Goodwin carried this, says a late Philadelphia dispatch, develops as a result of the cataloging of his library, valued at several hundred thousand dollars, preparatory to its being offered for sale. He permitted himself indulgences in first editions, editions de luxe, rare works and extra illustrated volumes that halted at no expense.

Pre-eminent in the collection is a set of Dickens for which Goodwin had contracted to pay the enormous price of \$130,000. There were to have been 125 volumes with an extra portfolio of illustrations. When Goodwin committed suicide only three volumes had been delivered to him.

### Senator Morgan on the Canal Matter.

"If the Colombian congress has rejected the treaty it is because Colombia has respect for her constitution, a care for the integrity of her territorial limits, a desire for permanent relations of friendship with the United States and a regard for her financial interests," said Senator Morgan to a reporter of the Washington Post. "All of which dignity that republic in the estimation or other nations and peoples. Our duty, prescribed and enjoined by law, is to apply the appropriation made by act of congress to the Nicaraguan route, to which there is no valid objection of any sort. With the cordial assent and co-operation of Costa Rica and Nicaragua, republics that have always dealt with us in a spirit of sincere friendship and confidence, the canal will be speedily opened to the commerce of the world, and all nations will rejoice with our people."

### Cotton Still King in Texas.

"Cotton is still king in Texas," said Mr. J. E. Downes, a leading business man of Crockett, Tex., to a Washington Post reporter.

"Since I left home I see our people are talking of a 4,000,000 bale crop, and this estimate is not too big if the boll weevil or some other unlooked for misfortune doesn't come along to spoil things. If the 4,000,000 yield does materialize it ought at \$50 a bale, which is not too high an estimate, be worth to Texas farmers \$200,000,000. Here is a tidy sum of money, a good bit more than all the gold that is dug out of every mine in the Union, with Alaska thrown in. Cotton will still be king in Texas at least for many a year."

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Cash on hand and in banks,	144,176.61	Deposits,	\$1,009,832.02
	\$1,089,296.76		\$1,089,296.76

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## MR. BALFOUR CORRECTED.

### MacVeagh Says That English Is to Be Spoken at Hague Court.

London, Aug. 22.—Wayne MacVeagh, senior counsel for the United States in the Venezuelan arbitration, has written a letter to the Times, calling attention to the statement made by Premier Balfour in the house of commons Aug. 14, that there was an unexpected delay in the settlement of the Venezuelan question owing to the fact that France and Spain objected to the use of the English language before the tribunal and that the question had been left to the tribunal itself to decide.

Mr. MacVeagh says Mr. Balfour must have been either misreported or misinformed since the language difficulty was already settled, it having been decided that the English language should be used at The Hague.

## Socialist Gains in Reichstag.

Berlin, Aug. 22.—The Socialists are entitled to have appointed from their party one of the three vice presidents of the Reichstag on account of their increased representation, and the other parties appear willing to concede this. The Socialist leaders, however, differ as to whether they ought to accept the office, because it would limit their complete freedom of obstruction and opposition. Herr Bebel takes this view, but Herr Bernstein favors accepting. The Socialists of Munich have rejected the idea by a majority of eighteen, while Stuttgart voted for it.

## Bold Train Robbers Captured.

Winnemucca, Nev., Aug. 22.—Sheriff Lamb of Humboldt county has captured four men at Lovelock who, it is alleged, have been operating through this section very successfully for some time past. The four men boarded two freight trains fifteen miles east of Lovelock and robbed everybody found riding on the trains, then beat them up and threw them off the swiftly moving cars. Patrick Welsh of Paisado, Nev., was shot three times after being robbed and died later from his wounds.

## Navy Yard Tor on Fire.

New York, Aug. 22.—Fire was discovered on board the navy yard tug Pontiac while going down the bay. She ran alongside the cruiser Chicago, which put a stream of water on the blaze, extinguishing it with slight damage. The tug proceeded to Fort Lafayette later.

## Slain by Blow of Fist.

Frankfort, Ind., Aug. 22.—A blow with the fist which broke the victim's neck caused the death of Harvey Thomas. Thomas quarreled with Harry Loveland, and the latter is alleged to have struck the fatal blow in the fight which followed.

## English Yachtsmen Disappointed.

London, Aug. 22.—All the press comment here on the Shamrock III's performance evidences the growing conviction that she is incapable of recapturing the America's cup under any weather conditions. The papers claim that the abortive race showed nothing of the respective merits of the two boats, but they admit that the performance of the challenger did not fulfill the expectations of her behavior in a light wind, and say that Captain Barr seems to have shown smarter seamanship.

## Killed by a Golf Ball.

Philadelphia, Aug. 22.—After lying unconscious since last Tuesday Bertha Hermann, aged fourteen years, has died in a hospital here from the effects of being struck on the head with a golf ball. The child was watching the play on the Sharon Hill link, near here, when the ball struck her, fracturing the skull. She fell unconscious, and lingered in that condition until death ensued.

## Great Potlatch In Progress.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 22.—One of the greatest of the many Alaskan potlatches between the native tribes of the great north land is now in progress at Taku, in the southeastern section of the territory. It is between the ancient Auk and the belligerent Takus. This is the first time the present generation of the Auk was ever invited to a Taku potlatch.

## Lorimer Returns From London.

Liverpool, Aug. 22.—The Rev. Dr. George C. Lorimer of New York is a passenger on the Dominion line steamer New England, which has sailed from this port for Boston. He had been drawing great congregations during his stay in this country, but refused all overtures to accept a call in London.

## Parks' Trial Resumed.

New York, Aug. 22.—The trial of Samuel J. Parks, the walking delegate of the Housewives and Bridgemen's union, has been resumed before Recorder Goff. The defendant's testimony created considerable surprise, especially his denial that he had ever seen his accuser, Josephus Plenty, until he saw him in the court room a week ago.

## Forty-four Years a Postmaster.

Bloomington, Ill., Aug. 22.—Frank J. Schriber, said to have served longer than any other postmaster in the United States, has died at Cruger, Woodford county, aged seventy-seven. Schriber was appointed postmaster during President Buchanan's administration in 1859, and served continuously for forty-four years.