

PETRONIUS, THE INFAMOUS

Was One of the Most Depraved
of all MenInvented Amusements Notorious
for their Atrocity—Was a Learned
Scholar.That the most morally depraved man
in all human history should have been
made the hero of romantic fiction and
drama is a curious circumstance.Ordinarily the hero of a romance is
invested with high and noble character-
istics; but there have been exceptions
in those stories where pirates and high-
waymen were set up for the admiration
and applause of the reader. But in
every such case it was sought to show
that the robber heroes had more good
traits than bad.It was with the same sort of idea
that, in his famous romance of "Quo
Vadis," Sienkiewicz has chosen as his
hero the most morally depraved man in
all human history. That person was
Titus Petronius, the man who invented
amusements that catered to the basest
passions of the basest of human mon-
sters, the Roman emperor, Nero, the
fifth in the line of the bloody and cruel
Caesars.Petronius, who was a man of unusual
accomplishments, learned, a consum-
mate critic, a poet of note, cultured in
all the fine arts, and enormously
wealthy, had but one employment for
all his manifold talents, and that was
to design and create and lead in the in-
famous revels with which Nero was
wont to vary his atrocious and inhuman
crimes.As the hero of Sienkiewicz's romance,
Petronius is invested with all the cul-
ture and taste of an epicurean and the
steadfast mien and untroubled com-
posure, under all circumstances, of a
stoic philosopher. But the real truth
seems to have been that this man was
so worn out with indulgences in sensu-
ality, and so hardened by familiarity
with cruelty and bloodshed, that he
was incapable of any healthful human
emotion, and, in order to realize this,
he has only to turn from the elegant
and heroic patrician of Sienkiewicz's
creation to the pages of Petronius' own
book to see what he really was, for,
although his literary works are ex-
cluded from the curricula of the col-
leges for youth, they must have been
extremely voluminous, as the fragments
of books XV. and XVI. of his "Satyri-
con," are all that survive.Of all the Roman authors, Petronius
was unique and remarkable for being
the first novel or story writer known.
His "Satyricon," written in the purest
Latin, abounding in the most satirical
with the broadest humor, the wisest
philosophy and studded with poems of
all sorts, from the most ambitious epic
imitation, and garnished with the most
trite learning, is nothing more than
an account of the escapades of a most
corrigible brace of rascals and the
various persons in whose company they
happen to fall.One of these fellows was a professional
person, traveling as a lecturer, pro-
nouncing at one moment the most edi-
fying discourse on taste and morals in
literature, and at the next engaging in
the vilest debauchery. His companion,
a scholar, is equally base. They
begin with a poet who declaimed his
poems on the fall of Troy and the civil
war in Rome to whomsoever would
listen, but was as often stoned from the
forum as rewarded with applause and
money.These three rascals were complete
types of confidence men, at one time
working their schemes on the wealthy
and at others stealing from the com-
mon people, but never failing to preach
the highest morality, while they prac-
ticed every vile abomination known to
the most debased of the human race.Nevertheless, this book, infamous as
its morality, is a gem of literature;
giving the most accurate picture of
the manners and modes of life among
the most enlightened people in the
world in Nero's time. It contains the
celebrated story of the "Theban
Satron," a chaste and most beautifully
sentimental episode of human life, and
the "Banquet of Trimalchio," the only
complete description of an elaborate
Roman dinner extant.It was the author of such a book, the
predecessor to the jaded appetites and
perverted passions of the most bestial
nature that ever walked in human
form, who is made the admired and ad-
mirable hero of Sienkiewicz's celebrated
romance, and is set up with his lordly
liberality and his pagan stoicism to
match the constancy of the martyrs
maintained by Christian faith and love.But this contrast is merely a trick of
art, not intended to detract from Chris-
tianity, in whose interest "Quo Vadis"
was written. It is the province of the
artist to create out of ignoble material
the most admirable works, as it is of
the miner to find jewels among rub-
bish, or of Christianity to transmute the
basest of human beings into saints.
Therefore it is that there is no sort of
wonder expressed that the most de-
praved man in the ancient world can,
after a lapse of eighteen centuries, be
transformed into the most admirable
personage in an alleged historical ro-
mance.—New Orleans Picayune.

Accuses French Governor

Paris, Nov. 12.—The flight of the
Cambodian Prince Inkanthor to Brus-
sels is furnishing the Parisians with
much interesting reading and is giving
the foreigners a glimpse of French col-
onial officialdom.A newspaper publishes a letter con-
taining the grievances which Inkanthor
presented to the French government in
behalf of his father. This appeal for
justice is eloquently worded and is al-
most pathetic, although the defenders
of the governor general of Cambodian,
Doumer, assert that Inkanthor and his
father, King Norodom, are strikingly
faithful to the Oriental traditions of
mendacity.The document charges Doumer and
those about him with robbing and brow-
beating the king. It declares that
Doumer suppressed the king's right to
farm out the Cambodian gaming saloons
because the concessionists declined to
pay the governor general an annual
blackmail of \$25,000. The king was
thereby deprived of a revenue of \$140,-
000 and 400 taels in gold.Similar accusations are made against
Doumer's predecessors, and Prince In-
kanthor says he found among the lead-
ing personages in the colonial world of
Paris a man who became rich by selling
the King Norodom brass for gold and
sorry Australian hacks for French thor-
oughbreds.An inspired reply to the document,
just published, admits that the colonial
administration is not above reproach,
but declares the documents not worthy
of credence, as Inkanthor is an impos-
ter, representing himself as an heir to
the throne, when the French govern-
ment alone decides this matter, and
has designated the king's brother as
his successor. It is further asserted
on the gambling question that King Noro-
dom violated the convention by author-
izing traveling gaming bells, in order
to exact a larger income. Moreover,
the king is accused of conspiring to
overthrow French domination by an
insurrection.It is now reported that the French
government has asked that Inkanthor
be expelled from Belgium, and the
Parisians are awaiting to see what will
happen to King Norodom, who is 67
year old. He is not likely to be dis-
turbed, as today he telegraphed to the
government, expressing regret at his
son's action and saying that the latter
was not authorized to make a claim
against France. At the same time the
king telegraphed to Inkanthor, at Brus-
sels, ordering him to return home at
once, under penalty of serious punish-
ment if he disobeys.

Starved to Force Divorce.

New York, Nov. 12.—In an affidavit
filed in a suit she has brought against
her husband for a separation Mrs. Abra-
ham Shaplowitz charges that her hus-
band tried to starve her into suing for
a divorce. On one occasion, after she
and her baby had been without food all
day, she implored her husband to give
her a few pennies to get something to
eat. She asserts that he flew into a ter-
rible passion, and after telling her to
go out and beg he threw a knife at
her. Mrs. Shaplowitz says her husband
frequently returned home with food.
He would sit down at the table in her
presence and eat, refusing to give her
or the baby anything. When she asked
for some of the food he would beat and
kick her. Finally last November, Mrs.
Shaplowitz says, her husband left her.
A few days ago he returned and told
her that he wanted her to get a divorce.
He said that he would give her until
Rosh Hoshana, the Hebrew New Year,
in which to decide to take proceedings
against him. If by that time she had
not obtained a divorce he said he would
leave the city and she would never see
him again. Shaplowitz was locked up
in default of \$300 bail.\$3—Mumm's extra dry champagne,
\$3 per bottle, at Aurora No. 1.

Granulated fresh laid eggs at Meeker's.

Fine line of 25c goods. Rochester.

We fit glasses. Pioneer drug store.

Any kind of wine \$5 per bottle at the
Regina Club hotel.\$3—Mumm's extra dry champagne,
\$3 per bottle, at Aurora No. 1.

Cyrus Noble whisky. Rochester.

Fresh carrots and turnips at Meeker's.

STROLLER'S COLUMN.

One figure familiar in Dawson society
last winter is missing now. His rotund
form is not seen nor is his jolly chuckle
heard at local social gatherings. Who
is referred to? Who could be referred
to that answers the above description
but Capt. J. J. Healy, the veteran
merchant and founder in this far north-
land of that large business enterprise
known as the N. A. T. & T. Co.?And speaking of Capt. Healy brings
to the mind of the Stroller a remark
he made one night about a year ago at
a meeting of the trustees of the Board
of Trade in President L. R. Fulda's
private room in the A. E. Co.'s store.
Mr. Fulda, as is his invariable custom,
called the attention of his guests to the
big demijohn filled with "A. E. best"
on the table and, after a portion of
its contents had been discussed by all
save Capt. Healy, who declined with
thanks, Fulda's ever present box of
cigars were passed. These were also
declined by Capt. Healy. "Do you
not smoke, either, captain?" said Mr.
Fulda."No, no, no!" said the old pioneer.
"I made a promise a number of years
ago that I would not smoke another
cigar until I was worth a million dol-
lars.""W-a-l-l, C-a-p-t-a-i-n," drawled out
Secretary Frank Clayton, "I s-h-o-u-l-d
t-h-i-n-k y-o-u a-r-e a-b-o-u-t r-e-a-d-y
t-o t-a-k-e a s-m-o-k-e!""Well," said the captain as he pulled
his goatee, "not quite, not quite, but
I am about ready to strike a match."In these days of mad dogs and hold-
ups at the points of pistols one does not
know at what hour, or minute, even,
he may be up against the real thing.
When a man is assailed by a mad dog
in his own yard, or stood up and
forced to shell out in his own store, he
is apt to quietly arm himself for just
such emergencies. Being caught un-
armed and in perilous proximity to a
grizzly bear once caused an old Rocky
mountain trapper to utter the first sup-
plication of his life. The story is a
familiar one to all who have read Coin
Harvey's book on finance, and is this:The old trapper went from his cabin
to a nearby spring for a bucket of
water, thoughtlessly leaving his gun
in the house and being armed with
only his hunting knife. On his return
trip he found the right of way disputed
by a grizzly bear, the largest and most
savage looking he had ever seen. It
never occurred to the bear to turn and
flee. It was not that kind of bear.
The thought of turning and fleeing
never crossed the mind of the man as
he was not that sort of trapper. Bruin
reared up on his hind legs, opened his
mouth, put up his mits and otherwise
gave indications of being ready for the
fray. Dropping on his knees and roll-
ing his eyes heavenward the old hunter
said:"Oh, Lord! I am not like the Pres-
byterians and Methodists, forever bother-
ing you with my little troubles, and I
ain't going to bother You this time! All
I've got to ask is this: If you can't be
on my side, don't be on the bear's.
Just remain neutral and you'll see the
d---st scrap on record!"If the present cut in the price of
wood is due, to the belief that cold
weather for this winter is a thing of
the past, it is very apt to prove a case
of misplaced confidence. "Old Bory"
has only let go for a fresh hold; be-
sides, winter is not supposed to begin
until the 21st instant. The action of
the wood dealers is commendable, how-
ever, and is one which should be emu-
lated by the butchers and grocers.

Notice.

Notice is hereby given that a list of
all placer mining claims in the Yukon
territory which were sold at public
auction and which have not been taken
up, is being prepared for publication at
once, and after the first publication
thereof no grant will be issued, under
such sale as aforesaid, for any claim so
advertised. All purchasers are, there-
fore, notified to apply for their grants
immediately.(Signed) J. LANGLOIS BELL,
Assistant Gold Commissioner.Dated at Dawson this 14 day of De-
cember, 1900.Six varieties fresh vegetables at
Meeker's.

Large African cigars at Rochester.

Meeker delivers fresh vegetables up
creeks.\$3—Mumm's extra dry champagne,
\$3 per bottle, at Aurora No. 1.

Public Notice.

Under ordinance No. 38, of 1900, an
ordinance respecting vaccination, two
public vaccinators have been appointed
namely, Dr. Macfarlane, First avenue,
Dawson, for Dawson and neighborhood,
and Dr. La Chapelle at Grand Forks,
for Bonanza and Eldorado with their
tributaries.All residents in those districts who
have not complied with the said ordi-
nance in procuring declaration or cer-tificates according to schedules A or B
of said ordinance before the end of the
year shall be dealt with according to
the provisions of said ordinance.Dated at Dawson this 13th day of
December, 1900.J. H. MACARTHUR, M. C. H.,
Dr. Macfarlane's hours in office
daily, 10 to 12 a. m., 2 to 4 p. m., 6 to
8 p. m.A new and large jewelry store now
occupied by Lindeman; Monte Carlo
building.Mumm's, Pomerey or Perinet cham-
pagnes \$5 per bottle at the Regina Club
hotel.

Wall Paper...

Paper Hanging

ANDERSON BROS., Second Avenue

FULL LINE CHOICE BRANDS

Wines, Liquors & Cigars

CHISHOLM'S SALOON.

TOM CHISHOLM, Prop.

THE TACOMA BOYS

YOU CAN
HOLD US UPIf we don't succeed in Pleasing
and Satisfying You in every
particular,For the Best Bargains in Grocer-
ies and Provisions to be obtained
in town.OUR MONEY
IS YOURS

CLARKE & RYAN, GROCERS

Corner 6th St. and 2nd Ave.

THE TACOMA BOYS.

Mumm's the Word!

In order that all should have an
opportunity to greet their friends
in a suitable manner during
Christmas and New Years we will
sell during the HolidaysMumm's Extra Dry and
Pommery Sec for

...\$75.00 Per Case...

...Alaska Exploration Company...

"White Pass and Yukon Route."

A Daily Train Each Way Between
Whitehorse and Skagway

COMFORTABLE UPHOLSTERED COACHES

NORTH—Leave Skagway daily, except Sundays, 8:30 a. m.,
Bennett 12:15 a. m. Arrive at Whitehorse, 5:15 p. m.
SOUTH—Leave Whitehorse daily, except Sundays, 8:00 a. m.,
Bennett 1:25 p. m. Arrive at Skagway, 4:40 p. m.E. C. HAWKINS,
General ManagerS. M. IRWIN,
Traffic ManagerJ. H. ROGERS,
Agent

You Fellows

From the Creek

Want to drop in and see us when you come to town

You know you were always welcome to sit on the
counter and whittle in '97 times, and it's just the same
old place now.You can sit on the steam pipes and shoot out the
electric lights, and be perfectly at home as of yore.Incidentally we can swap yarns about how
much cheaper goods are, and possibly fit you out for
the season for about what you used to pay for a sack
of flour.

Don't forget the Old Trading Post

Alaska Commercial
COMPANY

Telephone 23

WE HAVE

1 40 H. P. Locomotive Boiler

AT A BARGAIN

also TWO 12 H. P. PIPE BOILERS

The DAWSON HARDWARE CO.

2ND AVE.

PHONE 36