

A LEAGUE FOR CRIME

WOMAN PLANNED EVIL DEEDS FOR 200 MURDERERS AND BURGLARS.

Baroness de Godeau's Notorious Reputation and How She Won It—This Queen of Criminals is Keen, Daring, Possessed of Broadness of View and Executively Capable of Managing Friends and Things.

The head of the Paris Murderers and Burglars' Trust has just been discovered, and turns out to be a woman, Mme. the Baroness de Godeau, 21 years old, a veritable Pierpont Morgan in respect to keenness, daring, broadness of view and management of persons and things.

Ten days ago an old miser lost 75,000 francs in Government bonds by an anonymous midnight visitor. As he had the numbers, the papers were quickly located in a banker's office. The man of money laughed in the police lieutenant's face. "Stolen? Impossible! I bought these bonds from one of our most esteemed and highly-connected customers."

"Her name? Why, of course, Madame the Baroness de Godeau, Folie St. Clot Palace, Rue Reuilly." Clot Palace used to be the home of one of Marie Antoinette's favorites, and the farm amounts to more than 30,000 francs per annum. Still the lieutenant had his doubts, and decided to pursue the bird, no matter how precious the cage and how beautiful the plumage. The neighbors hardly know her ladyship, as she was seldom seen on foot, and had so far refrained from calling—probably because she thought herself above Rue Reuilly folks.

Visitors Call at Night. "Does she receive many visitors?" Never in daytime, as far as had been observed, but at night the great dining-room, where the ill-fated queen used to feast, and the grand salons that attracted the elite of gamblers before the revolution were brilliantly lit up, and carriages arrived as late as 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning.

An hour after midnight the lieutenant let himself and twelve policemen into the palace by means of skeleton keys. The vestibule was pitch dark, but sounds of voices and clatter of glasses and porcelain indicated that there was high revelry on the floor above. Following the sounds, the cops reached a double door, and without ado entered, revolver in hand. They saw an opulently set table, lit up by ancient silver candelabra, empty champagne bottles in plenty, and around the festive board men and women in evening dress, who were at once recognized as persons who had occasionally had their pictures taken by the police. The other male guests wore a workman's blouse and shabby hat, while on the back of his chair hung a discarded false beard. There were also two ladies, dressed in a style fit for a 100-francs box at the grand opera, only more decocted. While each of the police agents covered his man, the officer stepped up to the woman at the head of the table and, with a polite bow, asked: "The Baroness de Godeau, I believe?"

"Correct"—this in a loud voice, and in an undertone: "Send away your men and everything will be satisfactorily explained and arranged."

Arrested the Baroness. Instead of answer the lieutenant put his hand on madam's naked shoulder and pronounced her under arrest, but at that moment a man, carrying a revolver, broke from a closet: "Your life if you hurt madam." The slinger was quickly overpowered and soon the whole gang writhed on the floor, bound hand and foot and properly gagged.

Next the men of the law inspected the palace: A sumptuous house, priceless gobelins, pictures and statuary of great living and classic artists on the walls. There were three salons, a card-room with a complete outfit of gamblers' paraphernalia, and a dozen or more bedrooms. The floor, walls and ceiling of one of the latter were mirror-lined and a royal crown with the legend: "Here slept my queen" surmounted its bed of gilded cedar wood.

In the rear of the third floor the police came across a complete hospital, operating table, iron beds, stretchers, bath, etc., and a stock of medicines, disinfectants, surgical instruments and bandages, linens and plasters for dressing wounds. There were two patients, a young woman with a stiletto wound in her breast and a noted crook suffering from a shot in the leg. The rest of the floor and the attic above were used for storage purposes. Here was the most complete "fence" imaginable; silks, curios, articles of precious metals, among the latter a gold altar service, but recently stolen from one of the oldest churches in Paris.

Kept Record of Her Crimes.

The lieutenant was indiscreet enough to search the golden bed for the secret lookers and found one containing the baroness' memorandum book with a long record of past burglaries and murders, also a few affairs of that sort planned for the near future.

They have a third degree examination in Paris as well as in the United States, and the French authorities deny it less indignantly than their colleagues in New York and Chicago. At any rate, the lieutenant succeeded in obtaining from madame the baroness the following admissions:

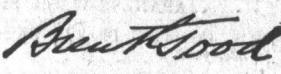
Age 21, real name Marie Therese Godeau, nobility of her own creation; began her career as maid to a famous actress, became a woman of pleasure and fell in with some of the great rogues of the day, swindlers, gamblers, later on with burglars and murderers. Attained great away over these men by reason of her beauty and resourceful mind, whereupon a number of them proposed, of their own accord, that she establish her

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self as leader of the elite of the Paris criminal classes.

Well Equipped for Crimes.

With money gained in burglarizing a banking house on the Champs Elysees, the ancient palace in a secluded street was leased for a term of years and fitted up with business paraphernalia; telegraph—an expert crackman tended to the wires—lazar, depot of arms, poisons, explosives, trap doors, secret vaults, storeroom, accommodation for dozens of persons.

At the same time madame established connection with highly respectable banking and business houses where she visited in her carriage daily, depositing, selling, and exchanging the moneys, bonds, and other articles brought in by her associates.

She likewise kept track of events in society by seeking the acquaintance of people of culture and occasionally received these friends in her suite of rooms at a fashionable hotel, while the hotel-keepers were given to understand that she was an aristocrat, living somewhere in the suburbs.

The baroness boasted—and the criminals arrested in her house corroborated the fact—that she kept her associates well in leash, directing their movements and exacting a commission of 25 per cent from the gross proceeds of any burglary, theft, swindling operation, or murder planned, advocated, or merely countenanced by her, for no crook durst operate of his own account. No free lancing!

Ruler of 200 Criminals.

The police found in a secret drawer a list of over 200 professional and occasional criminals, with their addresses and special qualifications, as "not averse to blood," "the ladies' pet," "good for purposes of revenge," etc.

Police St. Clot hospital sometimes had as many as six or seven beds going, though only members to madame's band were admitted to its privileges. To "her" criminals, wounded in fights or otherwise in the course of their professional labors, the services of a graduated surgeon-physician were extended. This latter gentleman was a member of madame's household and was caught with the rest. A promising member of the medical profession, he had been ruined by his passion for gambling and women, and several years ago established a secret practice among criminals, whom he tended in cases of illness and injury, who they might have been arrested going to an ordinary physician. Madame hired the doctor by the year, forbade him to practice outside, and practically set no limit to his usefulness, allowing him to purchase the latest surgical instruments and practice the most expensive cures. The police suspect that the doctor also may have rendered advice in poisoning cases and means for committing murder by poison, which, as a physician, he would have no trouble in procuring.

The man who is willing to meet trouble half way seldom has to go that far to meet it.

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You can smother a cough with your hand but you can't cure it that way. Some medicines only smother coughs.

Scott's Emulsion cures them. Old coughs and deep-rooted coughs can't be cured until the inflammation which causes them has been replaced by healthy tissue.

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OF THE RICHEST MAN

J. D. ROCKEFELLER'S INCOME AGGREGATES \$75,000,000 YEARLY.

His Wealth Accumulating So Fast That the Increase Alone Will Reach a Billion in Ten Years—Owns Standard Oil Stock With Market Value of Nearly \$300,000,000, Which Pays Him Dividends of Almost \$1,000,000 a Week.

Those who are fond of computing the number in which the wealth of rich men expands after the first million has been obtained are estimating that in the course of five years at the rate of increase noted for the past five years J. Pierpont Morgan will stand in the list at the head of which is John D. Rockefeller and in which are to be found the names of the Vanderbilts, Russell Sage, the Lewisohns, the Astors, the Goetschs and a few others, says Holland, the New York correspondent of The Philadelphia Press.

If it is a race for a supremacy in the field of individual possessions, neither Mr. Morgan nor any other one will be able to cover that vast space between which are the boundaries which separate John D. Rockefeller from every man of enormous wealth. Not even Andrew Carnegie, who appears to be bestowing his income in philanthropies rather than his principal, can reach out his hand and bridge the space that separates him from Mr. Rockefeller. All sorts of estimates as to Mr. Rockefeller's wealth have been made, some placing him first in the list of the world's rich men, others assigning him to a place second to that of the Rothschilds or to the South African diamond prince.

It is possible now to report, on the authority of one whose relations are almost as intimate to Mr. Rockefeller as those of any other one except his brother and son, that Mr. Rockefeller is beyond any doubt the richest individual in the world, at least in the world of civilization and commerce, and also to report his wealth is reckoned.

This friend in the course of a conversation of unexpected frankness and without the imposition of any confidence said with emphasis that Mr. Rockefeller's wealth is double that of any other citizen of the United States, that his yearly income is the equivalent of the vast wealth of William H. Vanderbilt, bequeathed to his two elder sons, that he can put his hand on more cash in a day than Russell Sage can in a month, and that his wealth is increasing so rapidly that the increase alone within ten years will reach \$1,000,000,000.

This friend reports Mr. Rockefeller as possessing \$60,000,000 par value of Standard Oil stock or out of it. On a 4 per cent basis that stock today is worth nearly \$500,000,000. Mr. Rockefeller's income from that alone has for some years averaged \$4,000,000, a little less than \$1,000,000 a week. His aggregate income for some years has been approximately \$75,000,000. His investments in railroads, mines and industries yield him in the neighborhood of \$20,000,000 a year, and while he is not a large owner of real estate from which rentals are obtained, but chiefly of real estate necessary for railroads and mines, yet his income from those properties must be considerably in excess of \$1,000,000 a year, though this estimate was confessedly guesstimate.

This richest citizen of the world, even his most intimate friends look upon as sphinxlike or masked. Every other one great in affairs, even Mr. Morgan, abides the questions that are asked concerning his personality, his intellect, his methods and his temperament.

The western college professor who likened Mr. Rockefeller to Shakespeare in carrying the human intellect and achievement further along toward chaos than any other had done since Shakespeare's day may have exaggerated in that comparison, but if he had said Mr. Rockefeller resembled that profound intellect in the mystery which surrounds his personality, his methods of thought, in his ability to remain dumb while one inquires, in his capacity for self schooling, self scanning and self contentment, the comparison might not have been far fetched.

The very men, themselves of many millions, who speak admiringly and wonderingly of wealth approximately \$1,000,000,000 which has been accumulated since 1860, also say that they do not understand Mr. Rockefeller. He is a mystery, and in the character of the originality of his achievements, in the originality of his conception and operation, he cannot be judged by the standards that are applied to other men.

Plant a Tree.

A man should never grow too old to take pleasure in planting a tree. A noble tree or, better, a grove of them is a more enduring monument to his memory than any granite shaft in a cemetery, which will ever see and which does the world no good. The cattle which shall find a shelter from the wintry wind and the heat of the summer sun under the trees of your planting would, if they could, bless your memory; the birds which shall nest in the branches will sing your praises all the summer long, while little children shall say mass for the repose of your soul as they gather the red checked apples, the fruit of your patriotism.

The Wild Onion Salads.

Wild onions may be killed out by breaking up the land and growing hood crops for two or more successive seasons, but they are difficult to eradicate from sod lands. Something may be done in a small way by cutting out the bulb clusters with a spud and applying salt to kill out-lying offsets, but it is too expensive for clearing large areas. Wild onions lie dormant during the greater part of summer. They are only aggressive in early spring and late autumn. —Rural New Yorker.

WORKMEN'S HOUSES

THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL'S SCHEME AT TOOTING.

Now Practically Carried Out—Estimated Cost Was \$495,000—The Cottages Are of Four Different Kinds—What the Scheme Provides in the Matter of Streets—Description of Each Class of Cottage.

In a few weeks the first section of the new workmen's cottages at Tooting will be opened, and it is worth while recording, says Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper, the details of a housing experiment that will be watched with interest by local authorities throughout the country. Four years ago the committee of the London County Council engaged in viewing sites in South London had their attention directed to the Tootingdown fields estate, which is situated near the tramway terminus at Tooting, lying between High street and the road leading from Tooting Bec common to Mitcham road, known as Church lane. The estate of over 38 acres included a house known as Kinrara, and there was some difficulty in acquiring it, an agent of the owner



THE TOOTING COTTAGES.

being prosecuted under the Public Bodies Corrupt Practices Act. The purchase was eventually completed under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, at £1,150 per acre, and the task of clearing the ground and erecting workmen's dwellings was put in hand as soon as the law's delays would permit. One of the initial difficulties was to frame a scheme that would comply with all the Council's requirements as to working-class dwellings, and at the same time not put too many cottages on the not put too many cottages on the estate. Finally a scheme was fixed on, and it was now being practically carried out. The cost was estimated at £495,000.

The scheme provides for three lateral and three main streets, the latter lined with plane trees planted just inside the forecourts of the cottages. The arrangement of the roads enabling the whole estate to be divided into 1,244 plots for the erection of cottages of four different kinds. These vary in area, frontage, and depth, according as they are first, second, third, or fourth class, and are so arranged in terraces of about 18 cottages to each terrace, with a space of some 15 feet between them. It was specially ordered that none of the cottages should have back additions, a provision designed to promote the free circulation of air.

The table of accommodation is the principal feature in the scheme. First-class cottages have five rooms and scullery, and 29 of them provide for 290 people. Of the second class, 100 with four rooms and kitchen house 800 persons; and 109, with three rooms and kitchen, house 654. There are 818 third-class cottages on the list, with three rooms and scullery, accommodating altogether 4,908. The fourth-class cottages, which have three rooms and kitchen on the upper flat, and two rooms and kitchen on the lower, number 188 and provide for 1,128 tenants above and 752 below. These figures show a total of 8,532 people in 1,244 cottages. As to the rents, the average size varies from 130 to 153 square feet in the living room, and from 60 to 79 in the kitchen, while the smallest bed-room is 96 square feet. They are all comfortable-looking two-storey buildings, with garages in the rear, and the rents run from 6s. to 12s. 6d. a week.

Leftest Lighthouse in the World.

The new lighthouse just completed on the Isle Vierge, off the coast of Brittany, has the distinction of being the most lofty yet erected. The new lighthouse stands in close proximity to an older one dating from 1845, which it is intended to replace. The Isle Vierge is a rocky islet, situated a little to the east of the River Abercrach, which enters the sea on the north side of the headland off which lies Ushant Isle. The old light, which combined a fixed white light with a revolving red light, was deemed of insufficient power, both from its inadequate optical equipment and from its insufficient elevation. It was therefore, says Engineering, decided to replace it by a new light of the first order, with a focal plane 75.18 metres (246.65 feet) above ground level, or 4.18 metres (13.71 feet) higher than that of the Barleur-Gatteville light, and 14.18 metres (49.8 feet) higher than the famous light at Genoa, which, however, dates from the sixteenth century. The masonry for the new structure was begun at the end of July, 1897, and was finished in a total time of about four years and eight months. The lantern in the meantime had been finished by Messrs. Barbier, and formed a prominent exhibit at the Paris Exposition of 1900. The foundation of the new work is on a granite reef, covered in parts by a sandy bed varying from 2.50 to 6.50 metres (8.2 feet to 11.5 feet) in depth. A peculiarity of the masonry lies in the fact that it is constructed of small stones instead of the massive blocks usual in work executed by the Trinity Corporation.

Advice.

Johnson—He said I was an addled jackass. What do you advise me to do about it?
Jackson—See a good veterinary.

LOSS OF APPETITE



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