

EMPEROR FRANCIS JOSEPH

Austria Has Secretly Married an Actress.

Years But Young in Heart the Head of a Government Seeks Comfort.

Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria, 71 years but young in heart, has secretly married the actress Frau Schratz. She was the woman who made his wife's heart.

She has added one more romance to the romances that have lately been attributed to the House of Hapsburg. There is more romance in the recent history of that family than in a novel by old Dumas.

The emperor's fondness for this talent, actress of the Burg theatre has long been an open secret in Vienna. A while ago it came to be generally known that Frau Schratz contemplated retiring from the scenes of her histrionic triumphs. This came in the wake of a surprise to the loyal subjects of Vienna. It was reported that the emperor was journeying from Bavaria on a very important mission.

She was accompanied on her travels by the Countess de Tiani, sister of the emperor.

The habitual success followed her to Vienna. Her marriage to Baron Kirsch, whom he has a son was nullified.

This done, nothing stood in the way of marriage, as far as Frau Schratz was concerned.

The emperor must do his part. It would be most unequal for the monarch of the great Austrian realm to wed a common actress. He must make her like himself.

The venerable old emperor, never a brevet more willingly than the one which created his inamorata, Frau Schratz, the Countess Hochstetter.

The Emperor Francis Joseph at 71 is straight and sprightly as a boy of Madame Katti Schratz, whom he married, is a buxom, dark-haired beauty of the Viennese type. In Austria, which is a cheerful country, the emperor encourages the dramatic art, and Madame Schratz holds the rank of court entertainer.

The emperor was inconsolable after the death of his beautiful wife, but he could not obtain what little consolation he could.

He has had more sorrows than any man alive, but he must do his best to keep under them for the sake of his subjects.

Most of the members of his family are afflicted with chronic conditions. That is the chronic condition. They are all becoming infatuated at some marriage which some one of them has committed.

Everybody knows what the emperor does. No one is allowed to publish anything about such things there. That makes the free circulation of news from tongue to tongue all the more interesting.

The Archduchess Marie Valerie, the youngest daughter of the emperor, who has been the head of his household, made a tremendous scene when she took the final step. She has been accustomed to upbraid him with devotion to Frau Schratz.

The archduchess is a brilliant and charming young woman. She declares she will remove herself, her husband and her children from the castle of Schottbrunn if Madame Schratz comes out her expressed intention of raising the exquisite gardens of the castle to the late empress, the empress's summer relaxations.

For nearly 15 years Madame Schratz has been the constant and favorite companion of the emperor. He admired her perfection of her art, while she found the few moments he could spare from state and family cares.

She is an ideal player of those light comedies which please the Viennese. She dances, sings and talks with equal vivacity.

The emperor was always a very generous man, according to his lights. He was of chivalry, it must be said, in striking similarity in certain respects to those of Francis I, Henry and Louis XIV. Their sins have been forgiven them to many who love kings.

The emperor never forgets whom he has at one time met, presentations very rarely necessary, as for example the occasion of large receptions. The representative body at great festivals and exhibitions. Those are as fortunate as to converse with him on such occasions are honored by his great personal affability.

His patience and perseverance are as remarkable as his faculty of saying something to each individual. Thoroughly conscious of the dignity and position of his office, Francis Joseph is fully aware that it must be maintained, and the court by its traditional etiquette, pomp and ceremony in which the emperor performs his part with conscious punctuality.

serves him to the end. Otherwise he is most retired and unassuming.

Satisfied with the simplest of food and clothing, appearing invariably in uniform, he leads a regular temperate life, his healthy organization thus retaining its robust strength.

His recreations, when the stress of affairs is not too great, are hunting and a hard ride in the morning air.

In former days he was wont to find pleasure in the society of Bookbinder Grover, from whose freedom of speech he secured a reflection of popular sentiment. He was always fond of theatre going, especially the Burg theatre, where Frau Schratz was to be seen.

The emperor is extraordinarily generous to the poor. Many careers have been saved by his quick and liberal beneficence; unknown to the public, enormous sums find their way to the poor from his personal income.

When the empress was assassinated by the anarchist Luecheni at Geneva the emperor was overwhelmed and prostrated with grief and horror. As he began to recover, however, he turned more and more to the consoling society of Madame Schratz.

He was always famed as an exponent of the virtue of early rising. The Viennese were interested to see him in civilian attire strolling through the park at 8 o'clock in the morning with the pretty actress. Doubtless he was expiating to her on the benefits of early rising.

She had a charming little house in the rear of the Burg palace in Vienna and it was understood that she owed it to the generosity of her sovereign. He was a frequent visitor at this house.

Last summer the emperor went to Ischl, the imperial summer resort, and there Madame Schratz went also. The attachment thickened.

Rumors of an impending marriage became rife. They were confirmed last week, and Madame Schratz assumed a position regal and enviable.

It is strange but symmetrical, that the emperor should have made the third unconventional marriage in his family.

—Examiner.

KUSKOKWIM COUNTRY

Reports From Mining Field of Which Little Is Known.

Three miners, D. J. Collins, W. B. Walton and A. L. Johnson, reached the city yesterday on the United States mail steamer Aloha from the Kuskokwim with the first detailed information regarding the Norman district placer gold diggings in that section of Alaska. They are enthusiastic over the prospects of the new discoveries which, they say, offer the greatest inducement for the "poor miner" by reason of their accessibility and the moderate richness of the ground. All three are agreed that by the primitive placer methods the individual miner can easily make from \$12 to \$15 a day, and possibly double that amount on the good creeks.

The new diggings are but 35 miles to the interior from Kuskokwim bay, and a light draft steamer can run up Cripple creek, one of the richest streams of the district, to within five or six miles of the mines.

So far the most prospected creeks are Keno, Cripple, Faro and Humble. Cripple empties into Kuskokwim bay and has been prospected for a distance of six miles or seven miles with good results. Keno is a tributary of Faro, which runs into the Quinagagmte river, the latter also flowing into Kuskokwim bay. Humble is a Quinagagmte tributary.

On these streams and their tributaries perhaps 30 men wintered and are now in the district. They are nearly all former Nome operators, having gone to the latter district during the grand rush of 1900. The discoveries were

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made in August of last year by the members of what is known as the schooner Bear expedition.

Johnson and Collins stated yesterday at the Hotel Northern that the creeks named disclosed about eight feet of gold-bearing gravel running from colors at the surface to three cents per pan at the greater depth. Owing to the lateness of the season bedrock was not reached on any of the streams. The miners on the ground, however, believe it will be encountered at a depth of about 12 feet. The country is barren of timber even for sluice box purposes. Water also prevented fall operations, but these difficulties, it is believed, can be easily overcome.

The Aloha trio came out for supplies and sluice lumber. All three will return to the district within a few weeks. Watson's home is at White Creek, Wis.; Collins is a resident of Napa county, Cal., and Johnson of St. Peter, Minn.

Watson stated that nearly half of the Kuskokwim natives died of a disease similar to pneumonia during the past winter; that they were pitiable in their sufferings and helplessness.

The Kuskokwim arrivals traveled overland from the district to Katmai, arriving early in April. There they took the Aloha for Seattle. — P. J., April 29.

A Scientist's Views.

Dr. Le Dantec publishes in the "Revue Encyclopedique" a very learned but startling treatise, in which he undertakes to prove that death, in most cases, is only an aggravated swoon. Life is the constant renewal of the inner man; then, death would be an interruption of this renewal. Sometimes the interruption is only temporary, and the renewal, indicated by the breath and by the circulation of the blood, is resumed without artificial aid. That happens in the case of a simple swoon. But sometimes the breath and the circulation of the blood do not come back—then the person is said to be dead.

But take a case where the functions mentioned have been stopped by a stroke of apoplexy. Then the chest of the dead person can be opened and the heart pressed rhythmically, so that the blood circulates again. To be sure, this second life does not last long. The person will in a few hours die a second time, in consequence of the operation. But there is room for the hope that some day this operation will be performed so delicately that death does not follow. Even today it may be

assumed that death is not the final act which it has been supposed to be. Still, it will always remain "a serious case," says Dr. Le Dantec.

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