A DIPLOMATIC WOMAN.

Saints defend us!" I pettishly ex-lainted. "Is there no one in the world with an atom of brains? I don't want to go as Night or Morning, nor as Mar-guerite or Pierrette, or Madame de Pompadour. I want something ori-ginal!"

amagement, I want something off-ginal?"
And I stamped my foot to give emphasis to the remark.

'Shall it be as Carmen, Madame?"
I sank into a chair in dismay. Carmeni This was the creature s like of originality. It was too indicrous for auger. I laughed, and then, as I raised my eyes to Madame Virot's indignantly bewildered countenance, my glance fell upon a dress in a wardrobe behind her, and I pointed to it in a flutter of excitement.

recied. "What does that dress repr

i ice palace, wadame."

"An ice palace, wadame."

'At is superh."

'At it is superh."

'Oertainly, madame, it is superh; it
is a m' nele." and then, earned away
with enthusiasm, she brought it forth
and dilated upon it. A pale green
covered with a shimmening, sparking
network that looked like frost twelf.

"You see. madame, the head-trees
forms the snowy pinnache of the tower
forms the snowy pinnache of the tower
and the 'eau de Nil' embroddered whirt
follows the frosted outlines of the
building, which is a face-imile of the
toe palace raised last winter upon the
Nova. Ar. emerald sath mask, with
tiny crystal ledes hanging from the
sige in place of the usual fringe of
lace, completes the costume."

'I must have it," I ried, it is in
comparable."

"It is sold, madame.

"It would willingly give it to madame,
"I would willingly give it to madame,

me!"
ish!" I impateintly exclaimed;
e a duplicate."
is impossible, madame, for the
is for the same bal masque that
'll attend."

"The is impossible madame, for the drees is for the same bal masque that you will attend."

"And for I was bestie myself with reversition "Some nobody who has severation "Some nobody who has severation "Some nobody who has severation "Some nobody who has severated to the property of th

rew peerlsh as I nursed my discomlives in the property of th

nd therefore I repeat, the gods love
"These whom the gods love, monsieur
and I smiled, for I would have give
worlds to quarrel with some one,
i preferably my best of Irlende,
i danger for me is past." And then,
imly stepped into the carriage and
thout waiting for an invitation, he
teed himself beside me,
fere was, indeed, candor too wonderfor words, and I gazed reprovingly
whim.

nim.

1 must help me, ma chere," he rearely. "It is no pleasantry, serious matter—one that touches utation nearly."

1 know our relationship with

isla?"
The pretty girl with inviting toes to a gallant who hesitates."
Precisely," he answered, in a tone appreciation at my smile, "but the tty girl's love-letters are being ned."

y gires with the cried impeture than that!" he cried impeture than that!" he cried impeture than that in the past month has the most to cipher of the Government been ged, because side by side with the pt of our message by Russia its ret has become public property in apitals of Europe." he most because of the count o

"Then metremain; of singless wired.
"Utteely, I have just left Count Zarne, the Russian Ambassador, and he as dared to imply, in almost undiplonatic language, that his Government uspects us of trifling. "Mon Dieu'!" onesieur Roche cried in awe-stricken
lote, "strifling with Russia!"
"Myself and Count Zarfine. When it

is changed the new cipher is sent direct to Petarsburg by him direct to the Minister and documents by me, through diplomatic departments. We have varied the cipher three times, we have sent different messages each time, not the result has always been the same. The world fearned the message at once and we are fast becoming the laughing stock of Europe, for the pretty gril is ready to offer so much for alliance. "And the Count could not help you, mon and?" He was bruyque, almost to rudeuess,

and we are not becoming the laughing stock of Europe, for the pretty girl is ready to offer so much for alliance."
"And the Count could not help you, mon and?"
"He was brusque, almost to rudeness, but his wife."
"An monslear, his wife, what of her?" I asked with a smile, for I well knew the fine interest of the counters?

Zarfine.
"She knows as I know," monslear answered, "that as in France, so in Russia, there are powerful influences against this alliance."
He lowered by sobe and continued impressively, "Influences so powerful, that it might be possible for them to obtain our secret papers, open them, read them, and then reseal them and pass them on to their destination."
"But that would be used as without the key to the eigher."
"That is stolen in Farls."
"That is stolen in Farls."
"The fount himself and distracted at comment, with world of salire. The counters is a wonderful woman," he admitted, and then continued. "You see how easy it is. These pools can gain access to the documents passing between France and Russia, but not to the key of the cipher "and, of course, the third is stolen here."
"And of course, the third is known already," I cried disdanfully.
"Almost," he replied with the first flash of enthusiasm he had manifest, "almost." he replied with the first flash of enthusiasm he had manifest," and the rectain. He moves in diplomatic circles, and knows that our final proposal will be made to Russia by the end of the week. On Wednesday we shall catch him in the very act. One thing we are certain. He moves in diplomatic circles, and knows that our final proposal will be made to Russia by the end of the week. On Wednesday morning I hand then see helper to the Countar final proposal will be made to Russia by the end of the week. On Wednesday morning I hand then see helper to the Countar final proposal will be made to Russia by the end of the week. On Wednesday morning I hand the new elipher to the Countar final proposal will be made to Russia by the end of the week. On Wednesday morning in the research o

"What can there be until then?" she asked. "On the night of the day chosen I shall know. At the ball masque I will tell you his rame."
Monsieur Roche looked the picture of despair, and then, with a gesture as though the whole world had been lost to him, spoke in an undertone to the Countess, said something that I judged, from her dainty frown, and did not favor, but in an instant the cloud had passed, and she smiled again and answered. "As you will."
"Yet to me it still seemed that she was being forced into some action she would not have elected of her own considered forced into some action she would not have elected of her own in the was being forced into some action she would not have elected of her own in the was being forced into some action she would not have elected of her own in the was being forced into some action she would not have elected of her own in the was being forced into some action she would not have elected of her own in the was being forced into some action she would not have elected of her own in the was being forced into some action she would not have elected of her own in the was being forced into some action she would not have elected of her own in the was being forced into some action she would not have elected of her own in the was elected of her own in the was confused—"will your receive it for me?"

"And take it at once to Le Qual d'Orany," the Countess interjected.

"Bring its myself?" I cried in situated surprise.

"Yes," monsieur replied, and tactuly continued, "I am shamed at the greatness of the favor I ask, but it is ital."

"Very well." I relucantly consented.

"It his be so I will do it," and he murmited the was allowed to the was allowed

"Ma chere," he marmared, "men liplomats by elication, women by button. It is civinzation against

"Ma chere," he marmared, "men are diplomate by a heathes, women by in tunton. It is civina-tion against Nature." The dresses we have mentioned." I continued, "will be work be out mentioned." I continued, "will be work be, our madels, leading the Counters / arfaire at liberty leading the Counters / arfaire at liberty to the counter of the counter of

much."
Monsleur smiled again, complaisant-ly,
"Then, too, if I fail, it is not ruin,"
I said, "for the documents will not be
dispatched until you have heard from
uve. If I succeed the eddence against
have will be strong enough to give you
all the proofs you need."
"You're the eleverest woman in Parie," he said, with a glance of warm
admiration, as he slighted, and stood
by my arriage.
"And yea, for one who has left youth
behind, are the most gallant man in
France." I answered, with a glow of
meriment, for I already counted my
lacely youth behind, he murmured
expondingly.
"You said so."
"It was in an mulpiomatic moment."
"Therefore true, and your tongue at
least, is still youthful. Au revoir, monsleur."
Therefore true, and your tongue at
least, is still youthful. Au revoir, monsleur."

needs, is seen yoursen. An irrect, and the second of the control of the second of the control of

cognized my voice.

"Yes, I." thought she who just left was "I thought she who just left was you." he said, as though anxious to explain the attention he had dovoted to Therees.

"And I, moneisur, know my friends too well to be deceived by masquerade." I answered, and of a truth I believe that there must have been a tell-taile trace of sentiment in my tones. And why not? Even a pretty widow may have sentimental moments at times when her dearest friend is near at hand. He looked straight into my eyes as though he would read my inmost

thoughts.

"Do you mean that"
"I mean this, Garryard, more ther and I want you to do me a favor Indeed, before the night is out there may be many favors I need to ask, and I want you to grant then all. "Then they must be renamed," he answered, "not invors, but picoares."
"See," I reled, that woman dressed in the frosted green gown—introdeal, I should think, to represent an lee palace?"

"Yes."

in the frosted green gown-intesded, is should think, to represent an bee pales? "Yes."
"Do you know who she is?"
"Yes."
"Do you know who she is?"
"Yo, is ho can say?" he replied, with a slight shrug of the shoulders.
'I much be near her for the rest of the might—I want to watch her.
'The Countess Zarline was walking slewly across the ball room, her hand resting upon the arm of a tall man in the dress of an exquisite of the period of Louds MV, and, quickly grasping in meaning, to spard strolled amplication of the same direction, earlying on an admarked Beneeson with me all man in the strength of the same direction, earlying on an admarked Beneeson with me all man in the same direction, earlying on an admarked Beneeson with an allowed the same direction, and we followed them, my nervey, and we followed them, in the countess would feel heaself secure, thinking that I had departed.

She was seated upon a basket chair upon the baleony overlooking the through Elysses, talking, in a voice that challenged criticism, of the new play at the Renaissance, and Gaspard skillfully led me to a seat facing them and took one by my side.

And then the elever boy entered in ozest into the Bolicumian condition of introduction, he foliand in their conversation, and in an instant we were a quartet discussing the frivolities of life, when the elever a quartet discussing the westered.

rersation, and In an instant we were a quartet discussing the frivolities of life.

Gradually an idle group grew around us—flattering gailants who protested with glowing compliments that it was too cruel of the hostess to hide all the lovely faces of Paris behind slike lovely faces of Paris behind slike hovely faces of Paris behind slike hovely for an instant the gream of her teetl; "she fears the contrast." the Countrest of the face of the parish of the face of the fac

As seemed to me that there was a falseness in this ingenuous mood that eat but ill upon one so contemptuously proud.

In an instant the blue smoke curled in the air from half a dozen eigerettes. "Carmen," she cried, reproachiully with a giance at me, "you who should have led the way still hesitates," and she extended the case and carefully lighted the eigerette for me from her own, you, mossleur," with a glance at the man who had been her companion from the ballroom."

"It was a privlege I had nover an incipated," and so came unprepared." "Then she who grants permission supplies the means of eugy ment. Take two, or three or four, or what you will; their fragrance may be ever greater in the mronling."

There was an intonation in the last words that struck me with a sense of indden irraining, and, as the man carclessly book several, and, after lighting one, slipped the remainder in his proceed, the truth burst upou me in a finsh—the key to the cipher had been passed.

On each eigarette paper was the key. I held it between my lingers half consumed, and those around were her will had three in his possession. What a thoughtiess fool I had been, I who held all I needed in my graep had my-self deservored it. The cigarette had

The pursuit of pleasure is often to be as dangerous of the the self destroyed it. The cigarette had The pursuit of pleasure is often to life as the pursuit of the pursuit

There is a feeling of languor, the appetite fails, sleep does not refresh, hid loose its interest, and nervousness or hysteria may make life miscrable.

The hooly depends chiefly on keeping the blood pure, and the stomach and other organs of digestion and autition in a condition of health, When any of the above mentioned symptoms appear the timely use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery will restore the body to a healthy equipoise. It purifies the blood, nourishe the nerves, and restores the blood, nourishe the nerves, and restores the blood, nourishe the nerves, and restores the charaged stomach and its ailled organs to a condition of sound health.

It was troubled with sever frequent healached Discovery.

I was troubled with sever frequent healaches accompanied by severe vomitting," writes the summer of San Discovery.

I was troubled with sever frequent healaches of the summer of San Discovery and the summer of San Discovery and the summer of San Discovery of of San Discovery



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burned down to my fingers. I was compelled to drop it and he tred it to dust beneath my foot.

But he still is Carnen herself is the still place in the still be content in the still be stil

rounding the Controls.

Tourishing the Controls of Inter me—I am afraid that the credit is to-iny dress." Morel, monsieur, you fineter me—I am afraid that the credit is to-iny dress." It is the sparkle of your eyes beind motion, the soul of music in your work, the poetry in every motion that Procialiny you the ideal Carmen." "Save for one thing—a cigurette—vill yous pinit, mousieur," and I extended my hand.

Slowly, even as though he realised that he was being drawn 'are a trephe took one of them from his pocket and hesitatingly handed it to me. Half suspiciously, half in a fashion drenderness, he held a match to the other of the controls of the derness, he held a match to the other happen had eaught, it dropped the hopen had eaught, it dropped the hopen had eaught, it dropped the hopen had eaught, it dropped the miseling the summured of the hopen had eaught, it dropped the work of the hopen had eaught, it dropped the hopen had eaught, it dropped the work of the hopen had eaught, it dropped the hopen had eaught, it dropped the could be caught and the head of appreciation. "Monsieur!"

"You are a clever, little dovil." he said, with aimoss a touch of appreciation with the said of the sa

tion, everything, and dropped back into the barbarous language of her ancestors.

"If I only had you in Ruesta," she gasped, her lips almost touching my acrs, "I'd have you logged for this; I'd have you logged for this; I'd have your lying tongue torn out, and those shoulders you're so proud of branded 'Spy' Heaven! If I had you in Ruesta!"

"And yes," I murmured, "methinks these charms of Ruesta must be enjoyed by you slone, and swiftly, too, for surely-life Exceliency will resign at once,
"Ah!" she cried, "if I had you in Ruesta!"

I turned away, but stole a backward glance at her as she stood, her whole body trembling, her ingers clutching the balustrade to support her quivering figure, and then her cavaller came forward and handed me my pearls. It was the shirl time he had said it, and there was a crescendo of meaning in the phrase he whilspered:

"You are a clever little devil!"—Cassell's Magasine.

APOSTOLATE OF THE PRESE.

Referring to Monsignor Nugent's sermon before the Institute of Journalists in Liverpool, the Weekly Register says his address contained much food for thought. By the Press, he pointed out, the dividing force of national individual to the dividing force of national individual to the dividing and directing the material and moral welfare of mankind. As an educator it must keep by the side of the people, and set before them the material on which copular heigenests may be formed on true and just principles. Such a duty raises it above the level of speculation or business, and places it under the dominion of moral law. If it must guide public opinion, its first duty is truth. The Press enters into the sanctuary of man's spirit. It holds the key of the mint. It can open, no king can close. It can close, no king can the first of the mint. It can open, no king can the first of the mint. The can open, no king can close. It can close of kind in the law of justice. The glorious traditions of the English Press forbid it to be unfair. There is a kind virtue of charity. Whenever the vote of saffering has been heard, the Press has echoed its appeal throughout the the world. Journalism is a sacred vocation, an aportieship proclaiming of the heart.

In the point of the control of the point of the heart man and believe in the source in derived. Religion is the highest level of man, and a perfect Press will be the reflex of those who are powerful merited of the safe who are powerful merited of the safe who are powerful in world and works for God and their leilow men. It has been said: "If St. Paul came back to the world is would be a journalist." Were he here to-day he would point to us the secret of his power—the Cross of Christ. Referring to Monsignor Nugent's ser-mon before the Institute of Journalists