

## Europe's Greatest Court Scandal.

### The Unhappiest Woman in Germany.

Fourteen years ago. A city ablaze with flags, flowers and triumphal arches. A tumultuous cheering crowd, and a bride whose dark eyes beamed with a delight, pride, and happiness, as an Emperor and Empress, their glittering Court and a hundred maids of honor, greeted her.

Such was my first impression of Cecilie Auguste Maria, Duchess of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, as I saw her arrive in Berlin, in accordance with the Hohenzollern tradition, at the Brandenburg Gate, to meet her betrothed, and drive along the Unter den Linden, the Piccadilly of the German capital.

Never did a prospect seem more fair to an eighteen-year-old bride than on that day when Berlin was en fête to celebrate the nuptials and Cecilie became the wife of the heir to the throne and one of the world's most powerful and prosperous countries.

What a contrast to-day! I have lately seen the woman who was the envy of her sex on that wonderful day—a sorrowing, unhappy figure, living in obscurity, ignored by the populace, and deserted by the husband she has grown to hate. To-day the ex-Crown Princess is the most miserable woman in Germany; not because of the fate which has befallen the Hohenzollerns through their despotic arrogance and greed, but because marriage has proved such a tragic disillusionment.

#### A Hushed-Up Scandal.

Wives forgive much, but the most self-sacrificing superwoman could not forgive the cruelty, profligacy, indifference and desertion which the ex-Crown Princess has suffered at the hands of the man whose scandalous conduct has made his name a byword in Europe.

Many fictitious stories have been told about his conduct towards his wife. The truth is worse, and some of us behind the scenes in Berlin knew of the intense sufferings of the girl who to-day is determined to seek freedom in the courts from one who has proved utterly unworthy of her love. Time after time she has threatened to leave Germany and divorce him, and time after time matters were patched up by the intervention of the Kaiser, who feared the consequences of the scandal. For the people had a genuine liking and admiration for Cecilie, and only the iron heel of Kaiserism and militarism prevented them from showing open contempt for the ex-Crown Prince.

Scandal succeeded scandal, however. He seemed determined to pursue his flirtations and liaisons at all costs. Before his marriage Berlin had begun to murmur at his shameful escapades. Callous, brutal, and cynical to a degree, he treated women as mere toys, and it required all the efforts of the Court to hush up the tragedy of one girl, a lieutenant's sister, who, on account of his conduct, committed suicide.

He could not resist a pretty face. Dancers, actresses, daughters, sisters, and wives of army officers, all were treated without the slightest honour or chivalry.

The ex-Crown Prince's extravagance, dissipation, and the demands of his many mistresses made the Kaiser hold the purse-strings tightly, causing his son to rebel against such parental restrictions; for his income was derived directly from the Kaiser and was only paid subject to his father's goodwill.

"Get him married," said his adviser.

ers, when the Kaiser expressed his worry and perplexity.

"What is she worth?" the Crown Prince asked, with his characteristic brutal cynicism and frankness, when Cecilie, daughter of the Grand Duchess Anastasia of Russia, was mentioned to him as a possible bride.

"Her dowry will be £1,000,000," was the reply.

And thus it came about that the ex-Crown Prince wooed and wedded Cecilie, not for love of this innocent and charming girl, but merely because her dowry placed him for the first time in a position of independence and enabled him to snap his fingers at his father, with whom he quarrelled almost every week.

Within a few weeks of his wedding he began to ignore his wedding vows. Shocked and horrified, Cecilie tried to leave her husband. She almost succeeded in reaching Switzerland. Orders, however, had been sent from Berlin to intercept her, and she was captured at the German frontier like any common criminal and taken back to Berlin under arrest.

#### For Her Children's Sake.

The Grand Duchess Anastasia, who has made repeated efforts to separate her beloved daughter from a man who has violated every principle and promise of the marriage tie, has told me of this disgraceful episode and of occasions when the ex-Crown Prince used actual violence towards his wife, disfiguring her face with his blows.

I am convinced that long ago Cecilie would have divorced her husband had it not been for the sake of her children, the birth of which, however, made no difference to their father's immoral life. Because of her babies, Cecilie had to recognize that she must tolerate the conduct of her husband if she was to do her duty to them. So matters drifted on for several years, the ex-Crown Prince continued his life of dissipation, while his wife sorrowfully made up her mind to carry out her duties as a mother by remaining in Berlin for the sake of her children.

#### Loot and Ladies.

The war brought matters to a climax. The ex-Crown Prince, miles behind the lines, still pursued his dissipated life.

"Loot and ladies," to quote the words of one of his staff, seemed to be his mania. For a time the stories of his behaviour were kept from his wife. The accidental discovery, however, of a photograph showing him with one of his charmers strained her forbearance to breaking point.

"Even if Germany had won the war," the Grand Duchess Anastasia has told me, "my daughter would have broken definitely away from her husband. To-day she is only waiting for the necessary legal formalities to commence the proceedings which will dissolve the marriage that has ruined her life's happiness."—Tit-Bits.

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS!

Correspondents are requested to accompany contributions with their real names, not necessarily for publication but as a guarantee of good faith. In future no correspondence will be considered unless this rule is adhered to.

## Men's English Trench Coats.

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## Blocking Straits of Belle Isle.

(By R. T. ELLIOTT.)

Modern ingenuity has discovered a most efficient mode of heating houses in winter—that of hot water. Furnace and caldron are sometimes, in the case of hospitals or other large buildings, placed at a distance from the apartments to be warmed. In such cases pipes conduct heated water into the radiators, and back again when cooled. Thus, cool water is continually entering the bottom of the caldron while heated water flows from the top. It is now proposed to apply the warm waters of the Gulf Stream to the eastern portions of Canada and the United States, that such regions might enjoy a more even temperature throughout the year and permit a more luxurious vegetation.

The closing of the Straits of Belle Isle, thereby shutting out the Labrador current, the harbinger of Arctic blasts and the reason why St. Lawrence ports are closed during the winter months, would divert the "Cold Wall" to the Atlantic and allow the warm waters of the Torrid zone to circulate freely around eastern shores. Such a change, it is thought, would increase the value of lands and natural resources by billions of dollars; would greatly improve living and public health conditions; would release vast quantities of fuel, now necessary for heating purposes, to be used in industry; would be the means of augmenting the population, commerce and revenues of Canada.

#### Project Feasible.

The project has been pronounced free from engineering difficulty. The cost would be great, but nothing in comparison to the results to be gained. The saving in fuel alone in the benefitted areas, it is thought, would repay the entire expenditure.

The Labrador current sends a large volume of water through the Straits of Belle Isle; thence southwesterly along the coast of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and the United States, creating a cold current, technically known as the "Cold Wall" between the Gulf Stream and the North American Coast.

The climate effect of this Labrador current on Canada covers a wide extent of territory. It brings winter earlier; makes spring later, and materially lowers the winter temperature.

In the Province of Prince Edward Island, a province of Canada, situate in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, having an area of 2,184 square miles, and a population of about 100,000. The only disadvantage this fertile island labors under is its long winter and its isolation during winter, owing to the piling up of ice in the Gulf of St. Lawrence under the low temperatures caused by the Labrador current.

The portions of the Province of Quebec having water frontage on the estuary of the River St. Lawrence and the Strait of Belle Isle, including the Laurentian Highland region, a substantial portion of the valley of the St. Lawrence and the Island of Anticosti, the Bird Islands and the Magdalen Islands. Throughout all these areas the winters are long and cold and the summers short and hot.

The Province of New Brunswick, having an area of about 28,000 square miles and a population of about 400,000. The winter conditions throughout the entire province are rendered more difficult by the influence of the Labrador current.

The Province of Nova Scotia having an area of about 22,000 square miles and a population of about 500,000. In explanation of the certainty which is stated of benefits resulting from the bringing inshore of the Gulf Stream current, one may, as a particular instance, refer to the case of Atlantic City, New Jersey, which owes its world-wide fame as a winter resort entirely to the there local effect of the Gulf Stream.

The stream may, by way of average, be stated to pass 20 miles offshore at Cape Hatteras; sixty miles off Nantucket Shoals, and 120 miles southward of Nova Scotia; the warm waters of the Gulf Stream being there shut off from the Canadian coast, by the "Cold Wall" of the Labrador current, through which no heat can pass. —Vancouver Sun.

#### Stainless Steel.

It was an accident which led to the invention of rustless steel.

A certain Sheffield expert was experimenting to find a means of preventing erosion—or wearing away—in gun tubes.

After some experiments he noticed that certain pieces of steel had not suffered from corrosive influences under conditions which would have rusted ordinary steel. He followed up this clue, and stainless steel was thus evolved.

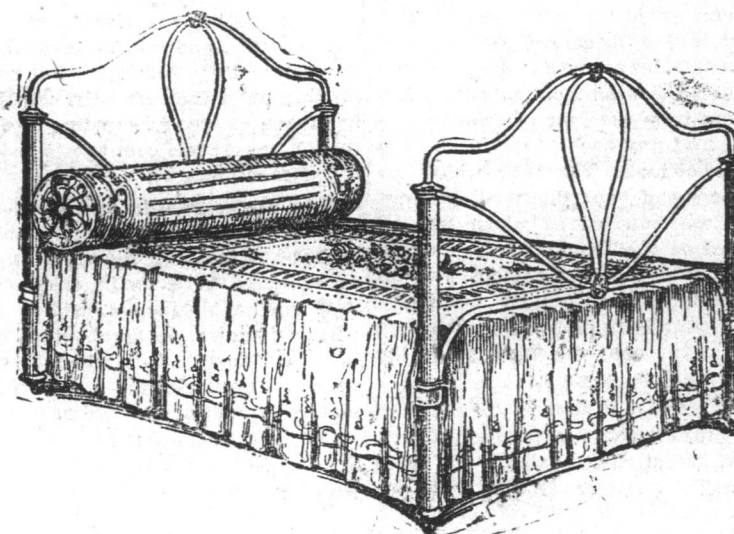
This new metal, with a bright surface, is able to resist the corroding effect of air, water, and acids without staining. It was immediately commended by the Government for use in aeroplanes construction and for purposes where strength and durability, combined with rust-resisting qualities, were invaluable.

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### The Happy Ending.

"Once more truth contrives to be stranger than fiction, and fact manages to be queerer than Father Du-mas," says the Star.

"The resurrection of Harry Hawker and Commander Grieve after everybody save the lion-hearted Mrs. Hawker had given them up as past praying for may not be quite so wildly incredible as the escape of Monte Cristo, but it is in the same vein of royally exuberant romance.

#### Truth a Happy-End.

"If a novelist had dared to invent last week with all its gyrations of hope and despair, culminating in the

happiest of all happy endings, he would have been hooted by reviewers and reviled by readers. Never again let any cynical critic venture to sneer at the happy-ender school of fiction. Truth herself is often a happy-ender.

#### The Heroism of Grieve.

"The whole affair is amazingly romantic. It bubbles over with heroism. We are not sure that the heroism of Hawker has not somewhat overshadowed the heroism of Grieve, the man who navigated the lonely aeroplane across the lonely Atlantic wastes of air and sea. The mental strain of plotting the course and keeping it dead straight may not appeal to the popular imagination so vividly as the cool courage of the man at the joy-

stick. But psychologically the one feat is as heroic as the other, and Grieve ought to be brought into the foreground of the historical picture.

#### The Waiting Wife.

"Then there is the heroism of the waiting wife who laughed at the Atlantic, and indomitably stuck to her faith in her husband till the good news made Sunday brighter for the whole wondering world. Whatever secret fears she may have felt all through last week, Mrs. Hawker throttled them down and refused to abandon hope long after most of us had relegated Hawker and Grieve to the company of Franklin, Captain Scott, Captain Oates, and all the other very

gallant gentlemen who have perished in pride of adventure, in scorn of common sense.

"The chances against the happy ending were a million to a million. On April 28—the day, a small tramp steamer—doing a line known as the New Orleans route—Denmark. She plucked across the Atlantic slowly enough to strike Hawker and Grieve after they had been in the sea for ninety minutes. What a miracle of fortuitous coincidence!

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### Native Granite Monument

On Saturday, the first native granite monument was erected in the General Protestant Cemetery, in memory of the late Lieut. John Roy Ferguson, Sergeant Steward Small Ferguson, sons of Daniel and Isa Small Ferguson, of Coupar Angus, Scotland. The stone was the gift of President D. Reid, of the Reid Mfg. Co., with whom both the deceased soldiers resided, prior to enlistment. The monument was performed by Mr. Chas. Anderson and Mr. George Dick, both employees of the Reid Mfg. Co., and the polishing and inscriptions have been