



CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

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AN IMPERIAL MYSTERY

Prince Rudolph of Austria Found Dead in His Bed - Romance of His Marriage With Princess Stephanie.

The Archduke Rudolph Francis Charles Joseph, Prince Imperial of Austria and Prince Royal of Hungary and Bohemia, died suddenly at Mierbach, near Baden, on Wednesday, Feb. 18, 1889, being the son of Emperor Francis Joseph I., Emperor of Austria and of Francis Joseph II., Emperor of Hungary and King of Bohemia.

The Prince was passionately addicted to the chase—particularly to the chamois eagle and bear—and (Hungarian) was a dashing rider. He had been a good deal of Europe in his travels, spending some weeks in England nine years ago, and studying the condition of the manufactures and agriculture of that country.

He was also a major-general in the Prussian service and commander of a Russian regiment. The Prince was tall and well built. He had the features of a nobleman, though they were not so pronounced as in the case of his father, with the handsome dark eyes of the Emperor.

In May, 1881, Rudolph was married in great state at Vienna to the Princess Stephanie, daughter of King Leopold of Belgium, and his daughter of King Leopold of Belgium, and his daughter of King Leopold of Belgium.

The betrothal had been practically arranged when the lovely young girl, and Rudolph then seemed willing to accept any matrimonial fate assigned for him by the Austrian Court.

The Princess embraced her mother and immediately after the Imperial marriage was announced to the Emperor and the company.

It was a grand fête day in Vienna when the royal pair were married. Princess Stephanie, accompanied by King Leopold and Queen Henriette of Belgium, her sister, Princess Clementine, and the Belgian dignitaries, left Brussels on May 5, arriving at Salzburg on the 6th, where the Crown Prince welcomed the party, returning to Vienna the same day.

At noon on Tuesday, the 10th, the wedding took place in the Court Chapel at St. Augustin. The procession to the church took its way through the inner apartments, along the "Angustinegang," by the small salons and corridors over the staircase leading to the entrance of the chapel opposite the pulpit.

After the ceremony the young couple returned by the same way to the Hofburg, where the Austrian lords, the high officers of the army and the members of the nobility were received.

A touching story is told of the wedding. The young princess grew suddenly hysterical at the altar and wept violently for some minutes. It was later explained by the fact her eyes fell upon a young American with whom she had fallen in love while visiting Paris in connection with her father.

THE LIFE AND CHARACTER OF THE LATE HEIR TO THE THRONE.

LONDON, Jan. 31.—The news of the death of the Crown Prince Rudolf of Austria, had a very quiet effect upon the rulers at Pesth.

The Prince of Wales is said to be very much affected by the death of Rudolf, between whom and the heir to the British throne there existed a warm friendship.

VIENNA, Jan. 31.—The Crown Prince had suffered during the last few years from rheumatism of the joints. Yesterday evening he had a severe shivering fit. The Vienna papers do not refer to the sensational report regarding the cause of the Crown Prince's death.

LONDON, Jan. 31.—It is stated that official private telegrams from Vienna affirm that the death of the Crown Prince was due to a wound inflicted with a rifle.

NEW YORK, Jan. 31.—The death of Prince Rudolf created a painful impression at Pesth and at Rome. The news caused a decline of prices on the exchanges in London, Paris and Berlin.

NEW YORK, Jan. 31.—The Times' London special says:—It is still a matter of uncertainty as to whether or not Prince Rudolf died. The first story from Vienna was that he had met with a fatal accident in the hunting field, and I hear now that an Italian official here has a telegram in cipher from Rome saying it is understood there that he was shot by a forester whom he had wronged.

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PRINCE RUDOLF'S DEATH. MYSTERIOUS WHISPERS CONCERNING THE CAUSE OF DEATH OF THE CROWN PRINCE OF AUSTRIA.

LONDON, January 31.—A private message from Vienna indicates that a conspiracy is excited over the telegrams relating to the cause of Crown Prince Rudolf's death, and that nothing further can or will be telegraphed, it says, however, that the Prince's door had to be burst open by order of the court.

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FATHER DAMIEN'S FRIEND.

A Christmas Gift of Five Thousand Dollars from a Protestant Minister.

Rev. Hugo B. Chapman, Protestant Vicar of St. Luke's Church, Camberwell, England, is entitled to the prayers of all Catholics that God may lead him to the light of True Faith, for the aid he has extended toward Father Damien in his labors among the lepers of Molokai.

Dear Father.—I herewith enclose you a draft on Bishop & Co., of Honolulu, for \$1,000 which has been subscribed by many who are grateful to God for the example of your heroic self-devotion.

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UPHOLD PARNELL'S HANDS.

Appeal from the Irish Parliamentary Fund Association.

To the Liberty-Loving people of Free America: From across the Atlantic comes to us again, in the name of human liberty and common justice, a call for help from a people closely allied to us in blood, interest and sympathy.

The dark movement of the Tory party in England on the Irish forces in the British Parliament, prosecuted through the instrumentality of its venal ally, the London Times, proves to be as serious in attempt and import as diabolical in purpose.

The scheme to destroy the great Irish leader and apostle of human liberty, Charles Stewart Parnell, calls for prompt and potent action to insure his protection against the infamous plots to crush the cause of a gallant people by striking down its chief.

For ten years Mr. Parnell and the faithful men around him have waged a contest for human rights against the organized power of the mighty empire of Great Britain, which has spared neither money nor honor in its efforts to defeat and crush them and the people by any plausible pretext, either by the subordination of its own interests or by the use of its own power.

By this unscrupulous action it is sought to involve Mr. Parnell and the duly constituted authorities of the National movement in the infamous crimes committed by desperate men, Ireland's enemies, often prompted by British gold, and inspired by the Secret Service agents of the British Government.

Mr. Parnell is forced to meet his issue and defend himself. All who are familiar with the application, under Tory rule, of British law to Irishmen, know that no means will be left untried which will contribute to his conviction. Conviction of the chief means the collapse of the movement, in the opinion of blind Tory statesmanship, the aim of the foul conspiracy; and while hope and effort for man's inalienable right to self-government will never cease while a drop of Irish blood flows in human veins, though ages more should intervene ere fulfillment, Tory success in this would demoralize and delay perhaps for years the day of Ireland's deliverance.

In Parnell's defense, every lover of liberty and fair play is interested. It is a great principle at which tyranny strikes.

The plot against him is deeply and craftily laid, and only superior legal ability will uphold and defeat it.

Behind the Times stands an unscrupulous Tory Government with unlimited resources, aided by the treachery of those who would defeat and remove the peaceful constitutional plan Parnell represents, that wild and desperate vergeral means might be employed—means destructive of every hope of that people.

Behind Parnell stand only our faith, our hearts, and pockets. Which shall win, virtue, honor, and patriotism, or malice and treason? It is for us to determine. The character of all those who have advocated and maintained the cause of Ireland, as championed by Parnell, is involved in this attack upon him.

In adding to this special crafty Times conspiracy against a cause all true men love, there is present in Ireland today a spectacle that should bring the blush of shame to the Carthagenian civilization of the century—apostate and revolting to Americans, who love liberty for liberty's sake—the brutal rule of Bullfinch.

MONEY IN LITTLE THINGS.

The rubber tip at the end of lead pencils has yielded \$20,000.

Upward of \$2,000,000 a year was made by the inventor of the common needle threader.

The inventor of the roller skates made over \$200,000, notwithstanding the fact that his patent had nearly expired before its value was ascertained.

A large fortune has been reaped by a minor who invented a metal rivet or eyelet at each end of the mouth of coat and trousers pockets to resist the strain caused by the carrying of pieces of ore and heavy tools.

The glimst pointed screw has produced more wealth than most other inventions, and the American who first thought of putting copper tips to children's shoes is said to have left his father had left him \$400,000 in United States bonds.

As large a sum as was ever obtained for any invention was enjoyed by the inventor of the inverted glass bulb to hang over gas to protect ceilings from being blackened, and a scarcely less lucrative patent was that for a simply putting emery powder on cloth.

In a recent legal action it transpired in evidence that the inventor of the metal plate used to protect soles and heels of boots from wear sold upward of 12,000,000 plates in 1879, and in 1887 the number reached 143,000,000, producing realized profits of \$250,000.—[Baltimore Herald.]

A quaking mother—one who is always doing her child with medicine—is a nuisance to her family and a blessing to the doctors. The best remedies for many complaints are diet, rest and amusement.

THE KEY OF DEATH.

STRANGE FATAL WEAPON EMPLOYED BY A DISCARDED LOVER.

About 1600 a stranger named Tebaldo established himself as a mechanic in Venice. He became enamored of a daughter of an ancient house, and, asking her hand, was rejected, the young lady being already affianced. Enraged, he set himself to plan revenge, and, being a skillful mechanic, he invented a formidable weapon. This was a large key, the handle of which, when pressed, sent out from the other end a small steel instrument which entered the flesh and buried itself there, leaving no external trace.

With this weapon Tebaldo waited at the church door till the maiden he loved passed in to her marriage. Then, unperceived, he slipped the slender needle into the breast of the bridegroom, who, seized with a sharp pain from an unknown cause, fainted, was carried home and soon died, his strange illness baffling the skill of the physicians.

Again Tebaldo demanded the maiden's hand, and was again refused. In a few days both her parents died in a like mysterious manner. Suspicion was excited, and on examination of the bodies the small steel instrument was found in the flesh. The case was a fearful terror; no one felt that his own life was secure.

The young lady went into the convent during her mourning, and after a few months Tebaldo begged to see and speak with her, hoping now to bind her to his will. She, with an instinctive horror of this man, who had from the first been displeasing to her, returned a decisive negative; whereupon Tebaldo contrived to wound her through the grate. On returning to her room she felt a pain in her breast and disheveled a single drop of blood. Surgeons were hastily summoned. Taught by the past, they cut into the wounded part, extracted the needle and saved her life. Tebaldo was suspected, his house was searched, the key discovered and he perished on the gallows.

There is a tradition that Duke Francis of Padua had a position of key in his library. When he desired to rid himself of an obnoxious member of his household or suite he would send him to the key, a certain volume from his book case. As the key was turned in the lock out would show a poisoned needle, stabbed the hand of the holder and instantly shot back again. Examination of the hand revealed only a small dark blue mark, but in a few moments the person grew giddy, and would be found on the floor, apparently in a fit. In twenty-four hours he would be dead, and a verdict rendered—"apoplexy."—Notes and Queries.

THE "TIMES" FORGERIES There can be little doubt that the London Times paid dearly for the forgeries it published as letters of Charles Stuart Parnell. During his brief stay in Melbourne, after his return from Ireland, the Cardinal Archbishop of Sydney, Dr. Moran, accorded an interview to a representative of the Melbourne Daily Telegraph, and from the result of it, as reported in that journal, we make the following extract:—

"The general opinion in Ireland concerning the Times charges against Mr. Parnell is that Mr. Parnell's case is a very curious one. At the time of my visit attention was centered upon the letters said to have been written by Mr. Parnell to his wife and to his children. But I can tell you a fact—that those letters were offered for sale to the Archbishop of Dublin before they were sold to the Times. There is no question that they are impudent forgeries.

"That Home Rule for Ireland will come about at no very date is a fact on which I entertain not the slightest doubt." We fully share Cardinal Moran's convictions, and anxiously await the day when the Irish people will make their own laws and Ireland take her proper place in the family of nations.

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