EDITORIAL TRICKS IN THE FATHERLAND

How German Scribes Evade the Lese Majest Law.

JANITORS.

An Exceedingly Interesting Chapter Upon the Possibilities of Journalism Even in a Land Where Freedom of the Press Is a Feature Unknown.

George W. Hinman in the Sun.

Three years ago the editor of one of the countless Volkszeitungs in Germany sat in court, answering the familier charge of insulting a Prince, "You are the responsible editor of the Volkszeitung?" asked the presiding

"I am. "And as such you are named in every issue of the Volkszeitung?"

"I am. "Did you write the article which gave

rise to this action?" "I did not." "What class of article do you write?"

"I do not write any articles." "What, then, are your duties? "I sweep the office and receive the

cards of persons who wish to see the editors."

What else?" "Well, in winter I build the fires and

"Is that all?" "No, I dust the desks and see that each gentleman has his paper and link ready for work, and scoor the windows and sometimes help distribute the pa-

"Anything else?"

"Why, your Henor, what do you expect for 60 marks (\$15) a month." The Kocinische Zeitung, which reported the trial, cut short at this point acount of the examination of the Volkszeitung's responsible editor, and fell to moralizing on the decentions and tricks which laws regarding insult of majesty, otherwise known as majestaetsbelledigung, or lese majeste, had forced upon the German press. Of course, the editor on trial was no editor at all except in name. He received his \$15 a month merely as janitor. Though he was announced, to satisfy the law, in every issue of the Volkszeitung, as the responsible editor, he never had fact of his betrothal is pushed into nopenned a line for its columns. For this very reason he had been sellected to bear the legal responsibility for the men who wrote the newspaper. If arrested, tried, and imprisoned, he never would be missed. The Volkszeitung would take on another janitor from its waiting list, for even in over-educated Germany janitors are much more abundant than editors.

THE JAIL EDITOR.

Such is the institution of the jail editor in Germany. It is calculated solely to thwart by a trick the oppressive provisions of the press law and to fortify the newspaper business against the periodical onslaughts of crown prosecutors. Without it only the dyed-in-thewool monarchist would be able to publish continuously a daily newspaper, for the law is unbending, the crown lawyers are fanatically zealous, and complaints from Berlin flutter down like the leaves of autumn.

But the fiction of the responsible editrecent times is "Caligula, written by that his mind was of the same calibre and his impulses of the same nature, that he was passing through the same course of development and that he promised to bring up in the same sink of iniquity, cruelty and madness. The early promise that Callgula gave of better things, the dismisal of tried statesmen, the growing love of display that distinguished his reign and his waxing eccentricity and final madness were depicted by Quidde with a painstaking use of modern political phrases and curernt German idioms. Where Roman history threatened to mar the parallel between the monstrous Caesar and the reigning Hohenzollern, Quidde bent it forcibly into line. So, without once mentioning an event of the last thousand years and without once hinting at nineteenth century man, he accused William II, of about every enormity that a human being can con-

Quidde's position was absolutely impregnable, although his onslaught on the throne was as vicious and direct as it could be made, and his pamphlet was sold up to the twelfth edition. There was no sentence on which a crown prosecutor could hang a complaint. The whole Empire rang with the scandal of the insult, and dire wrath reigned supreme in Berlin's old castle and Postdam's new palace, yet Quidde was safe from the clutches of the law as if he had been in Timbuctoo or Chicago. "Caligula" was a delicate and poisonous piece of work. It has probably only one superior in the literary products of the lese majeste paragraph, and that one is another class.

AIRING SCANDAL.

notably youthful misdeeds in money are laid in the present usually, but the paper articles regarding the Kotze young man, who in short time was in

scandal belonged in this class. For instance, in "The Secret of the Master of Ceremonies" (Zurich, 1896), in which Emperor William is brought to book for some of his love affairs under the name of King Victor, Baron Kotze is mentioned as Baron Spelers, Countess Hohenau appears as Countess Hohenhorst, and the chief of the political police, Major von Pausch, who then was in difficulties and therefore a safe subect, was disguised but thinly as Herr von Rausch. All this may seem rather clumsy, but it was in this class of trickery, nevertheless, that the lese majeste paragraph and other provisions of this kind have been cheated

nost eleverly in recent times. One instance is worth telling in some detail, not only because of the light it throws on the straits of German newspapers, but also because of the view it aftords of the emperor's brother-inlaw, Duke Ernst Gunther of Schleswig-Holstein. This flamboyant gentleman has been the subject of much anonymous and semi-anonymous literature. for when not engaged in some abandoned spree, he has been set up by the emperor under the balo of divine right to lecture the nobility on its duties to mankind. As a first-class capacity at the wine that is red, at the table that is green, and at the chastity that is stained. Ernst Gunther has been a sight for kings and noblemen during his periodical appearances in the role of moral preceptor. In fact, his lectures on moderation and duty have been resented by the notility, and not a few of the newspaper attacks on him have been inspired by the counts and barons whom he has offended. Thus it came that when the royal rake's betrothal to the young Princess Doro-then of Coburg-Cohary was announced early last summer, the masked batter-

es were opened on him.

The most cunning and at the same lime most daring attack came from a Perlin journal, Die Velt am Montag (the World on Monday), whose name, in view of the proverbial blueness of Monday, may be intended to explain its periodical publication of very "blue stories. The writer took estensibly as his subject a man who was persecuted by the political police, told his story in an easy, careless manner, and brought in, as if but incidentally, the details of the last disagreeable affair in which the imperial brother-in-law had been involved. Ernst Cunther appears in the narrative as Duke 8- (Schles wig), which would be indefinite enough of itself were it not for the care with which the scene of his crime is laid in (Koenniggraetzer) street, tice, and the police are led to Prenglau to arrest his partner in crime. details and a few less striking ones give unmistakable evidence that he is the man behind a notorious Berlin scandal of the previous year, although when the scandal was in court the name of the principal was withheld. Yet, while pointing thus directly to the emperor's brother-in-law, the writer threw up around him a hundred safeguards, which made his impunity sure.

FICTION WITH A PURPOSE. The story was published as pure fictien. It was entitled "Der Spitzel" (The Spy) and was signed "Simplicissimus." It opened with a reference to the case of Major von Pausch, chief of the political police, so as to attract the attention of everybody interested in high politics and political scandals. It drifted along in a gossipy vein, touching upon a company of good fellows who met daily at noon in a certain restaurant for luncheon, beer and converor is only one of several means by sation, were drawn into a daily discussion the law for the protection of sion of Pausch's rights and wrongs royal reputations is thwarted. It be- and eventually were divided into two longs to the dally and weekly press. hostile groups by the question of The pamphleteers, who appeal to a Pausch's guilt. The secession of the class of higher average intelligence, Pausch group is described, the migrahave a better trick. It is that of the tion of his friends from the old restauhistorical parallel. The most celebrated | rant to a new one is related with full example of this style of literature in circumstance and the peculiarities of every one of the good fellows are the South German," Prof. Quidde, sketched eleverly and divertingly. All "Callgula" was aimed directly at the this requires about 1,500 words. Havthrone. It was intended to tell the ing put up his defences and masked his German people that their Emperor was guns in this fashion, Simplicissimus of the type of the old Roman monster, warily makes ready for the attack. It is a delight to observe how he works himself up to the critical moment of

action. "Outside wind and snow whirled through the restaurant's tiny garden. Within, however, we sat at our spotess white table and drank the reddish brown punch which the doctor had brewed according to his own secret recipe. He knows how to prepare such elixirs of life, the old fex. Quiside of our party there was not a soul in the restaurant, and that was just to our liking, as on such occasions we enjoyed giving full rein to our mood. But noa lone man-a young fellow of 20 or face and long blonde hair led us to surmise that he was a musician or an artist. He was the only other person in town. the place and, remarkably enough, he had come in at the same time with us. But he was a harmless fellow: he sat there with his back half turned to us disturbed by his presence. In fact, when he seemed to catch our jolly mood and turned his smilling face tocourse one does such a thing only when

he is a little exhibarated. "Well, there was no doubt that in this case we had to do with an educated man. That was evident in the manner of the young fellow as hthe punch, came over and bumped glasses with the doctor. He gave his name-Feldmann, or something of the In general the other class is lower in taking a chair between two vacant ones tone than the Quidde pamphlet. It in- as if to mark politely his isolated posicludes revelations of royal scandals, tion in our group. Then, as he listened, he laughed softly and drank his punch and love. The scenes of these scandals | in little nippy sips. The counsellor had assumed the duties of master of cerenames of the actors are omitted or monies and did not weary of filling our given only in distorted form. Most of guest's gless again and again. Nor did the books, pamphlets, and daily news- he fail in his efforts to exhilarate the

A HEALTHY WIFE Is a Husband's Inspiration.

A sickly, half-dead-and-alive woman, especially when she is the mother of a family, is a damper to all joyousness

in the home, I sometimes marvelat the patience of some husbands. Ifawoman finds that her energies are flagging and that

everything tires her. her sleep is disturbed by horrible dreams. and that she often wakes suddenly in the night with a feeling of suffocation and alarm, she

must at once regain her strength. It matters not where she lives, she can write a letter. Mrs. Pinkham, of Lynn, Mass., will reply promptly and without charge. The following shows the power of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, accom-

panied with a letter of advice: "Dear Mrs. Pinkham:-I have suffered for over two years with falling, enlargement and ulceration of the womb, and this spring, being in such a weakened condition, caused me to flow for nearly six months. Some time ago, urged by friends, I wrote to you for advice. After using the treatment

which you advised for a short time, that terrible flow topped. I am now gaining strength and flesh and have better health

than I have past ten years. had for the to all distressed I wish to say suffering women, do not suffer longer, when there is one so kind and willing to ald you."-MRS. F. S. BENNETT, West-

the proper birthday mood. Ordinarily counsellor was so taciturn that we had almost to draw the words from his tengue with pincers, but in this case was so talkative that we could

hardly believe our ears.
The doctor had brewed his punch for the third time. The conversation grew quicker. Stories and jokes of all kinds were told. Now and then, however, serious questions intruded, and eventually we came back to the great juestion of the day, the political po-

COMING TO THE POINT

With this introduction Simplicismus has masked his batteries. What ould be more conventionial, according to German standards, than this local for of punch, beer, landlord, birthday carousal? It is as harmless and unsuspicious as the country ball or cricket match with which the English writer of short stories delights to veil his plot. But the English short story has its background of corrowing love and "Der Spitzel" has its substance of sorrowful politics. Simplicissimus swung away gradually from punch and gayety and approached thus the s work in hand:

"Each of us gave his opinion of this institution and its importance in State affairs. Nearly every one had an instance of its activity to relate from his own experience.

"'Now counsellor, what have you to say? remarked the army surgeon, turning to our man of silence. "After this gentleman," said the

lawyer with a motion towards our "The stranger cleared his throat and with the venturesome spirit which the wine had given him, began his story,

'As you wish ' he remarked by way of introduction. 'Of course I could tell you many stories, for I have a friend in the secret police from whom I have learned much of that body's varied activity. There is, for instance, a neat there at a little table by the pillar sat | little story-an anecdote, I might sayregarding an affair of recent date. It thereabout, I should say, whose smooth is authoritative, for my friend was one of the principals in it. You know of Duke S-, of course, the man-about

"He let his voice sink suddenly and

put his hand to his mouth.
"'Well, this young gentleman had become letrothed to the Princess O----. and with his face deep in the sheets of It was up affair of European importthe morning newspaper. We were not lance, gentlemen, as you doubtless understand. One day a small tinted note was delivered to the duke. was from an old friend, a woman who vard of group, we sent him by the lived in K- street. She had been landlord a full glass and ask him to the sole guardian of many ticklish empty it to the health of the man ducal secrets, and she had an idea of chose birthday we were celebrating. Of turning them to account. The duke had a liking for young women-very young women-and she had aided him in making their acquaintance, Paragraph so and so, criminal statutes, you understand. Well, her plan was, now the period of her usefulness to him appeared to be at an end, that she should stir his fears a little and open his pocket. The duke, in keen distress, went at once to Paul Girardi-you know the detective agency in H-

"Whew, 30,000 marks," exclaimed Girardi as he read her demand. "That is pretty steep. She wouldn't stick to that if we should try to settile it. However, what we must do is to turn the tables on her. We have the choice of we criminal charges, attempted blacknail and gross immorality. Let's take gross immorality. Then your serene Highness will not be bothered in any

way by the proceedings." The duke breathed a long sigh of relief. On the same day Girardi reported the case in full detail, and within twenty-four hours my friend and another official were in pursuit of the duke's female friend. Now how long, gentlemen, do you suppose it was before they had their game in the trap? Eight weeks. Eight anxious, disagree able weeks. They were out after her night and day, in all possible and impossible disguises, lounging in the streets, loafing in restaurants, and standing about street corners. At last they found her in a little nest of a place near Prenzlaw. They made her acquaintance and, after displaying large rolls of bills, obtained invitations to visit her in her city house. On the next day they all met in the - street home of the duke's friend. The two detectives were received with considerable splendor, but no sooner had the second cork popped than the old woman disappeared. She returned presently with a pretty 15-year-old

for the purpose of learning a new kind of embroidery."

STABBED ARTISTICALLY, Thus the story is spun along in the rather free style of Die Weltam Montag until the moral turpitude of the Duke and his friend is fully established. It is not polite literature, but as it is intended to nail the Duke publicly to his iniquity and expose him to the scorne of the world, it may be forgiven. When the Duke's habits have been exposed in adequate detail, the "guest" is allowed to conclude his narrative

" 'And this horrible creature received her deserts-four years in prison, gentlemen. "But the young Duke?" put in one

listener. 'The Duke,' interposed the counsellor, 'Ah, gentlemen, do we put Dukes in prison for their crimes?" Having stabbed the Duke back and front, and declared that the Emperor's brother-in-law is better fitted for the prison cell than for the marriage altar, Die Welt am Montag returns placidly to the narrative in which the anecdote of the Duke is supposed to be merely an incident. Its innocent manner in doing this is calculated to deceive even the elect of Berlin society. Here is the conclusion, following immediately the Counsellor's remarks about Dukes and prison cells:

''And now,' resumed the Counsellor 'as I promised to tell my story after our guest should finish his, I will proceed to do so by completing the interesting narrative with which he has entertained us. The lawyers who defended the Duke's female friend in this case urged without ceasing that the Duke himself should be called as witness at the trial. Thereby he brought down on himself in court a sharp call to order and a fine, which, of course, he richly deserved. But that apparently was not enough. Since the trial the Crown officials apparently have regarded that lawyer as a dangerous man. He takes hardly a step without being shadowed and spied on.

'The carefully watched lawyer whom I have described, gentlemen, is your humble servant. My own particular spy and shadow is the agr. eable individual who has entertained us so capably with the story of the Duke. He is the man who pursued and arrested the Duke's old accomplice in crime. See, here is his picture, taken in Prenzlau during the chase."

The counsellor handed out a cabinet photograph of a group, and we eagerly put our heads together over it. He was right. There was the man, line for When we looked up from the picture to compare it with the orginal the spy was gone. Only the heel of his boot was visible to us as the door creaked to between us and his retreating form."

IMMUNE FROM THE LAW. That is "The Spy," as written for Die

Welt am Montag by Simplicissimus. It displays the acme of that German newspaper art which has been produced by the laws for the protection of royal families from disagreeable publicity. If any proof of this assertion is desired, let the doubter consider the fact that "The Spy" was published in the German capital at the most inopportune moment imaginable in the career of the emperor's brother-in-law, yet publisher and editor went unscathed and not a copy of Die Welt am Montag

was seized by the police. Bismarck has said that German editors are men who have failed in other professions. Be that as it may, it is reasonably clear that they have not failed in the art of editing without lese maleste.

After the examples already given, it eems hardly worth while to mention how writers of fewer talents surmount obstacles set up by the lase majeste paragraph and others calculated to save the reputations of royalty. Some German editors who do not know how to edit according to the high requirements of the present regime, publish only the obscurest paragraphs concern ing objectionable doings by emperoand royal princes. The offender is business men, pleasure seckers and visitors terred to merely as a "high gentleman," and the details of his offence are given "without any assumption of responsibility on the editor's part for the truth of the statement." This style of work was the rule when the Archduchess Stefanie widow of the Crown Prince Rudolf of Austria, was involved in a questionable affair three or four years ago. The paragraph which then went the rounds of the German dailies was merely to the effect that 'a distinguished lady and a gentleman, evidently an officer in civile, alighted from a handsome private cariage on the Prater a few days ago and approached a distinguished gentleman. also in civile, whom the distinguished indy's escort struck several times with a whip, after which cards were exchanged and the distinguished lady and her escent drove rapidly away." Of course, the German editor who publishes such third-rate matter as this OLD DOMINION STEAMSHIP CO. does not rank among the artists of the Quidde and Simplicissimus class. As



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girl whom she had induced to visit her | Bismarck would say, he has simply misred his calling again.

> A PATRIOT'S SACRIFICE. He Didn't Want an Office, His Only Ambition Was of a Modest Nature. From the Washington Star.

The entrance of the man from rura remoteness did not arouse much enthusiasm in the eminent politician There was a certain gloom about his bearing which the visitor's best attempts at sociability could not dispel "Of course, Mr. Geehaw," said the great man, "I am glad to hear all about your family and our friends at home and especially about how much you did to secure my election. But we may as well get down to business. I sun ose you're no exception to the rule. What you want is an office.

Would it come jest as handy as not gimme one?"

"To be very candid with you, it would inconvenience me a great deal. "Oh, well then ye needen't bother yourself."

'Do you mean that?" "Certainly, I don't want no office." His host opened his eyes wide and xtended both hands in welcome.

"My friend and fellow-citizen," he said, "I am glad to meet a genuine patriot, face to face. The trouble with this country is that there are not more men like you. I had begun to fear we had reached an era when no action and no declaration of principle was untinged by a hope of reward. I'm glad boast of the acquaintance of such a man.

Thank ye; thank ye, kindly. I was kind o' gittin' skeered fur fear ye had some notion o' goin' back on yer old friends. As I was sayin', I don't especially want no office. Of course, I'd kind o' like ter hey a place weth s desk into it, whur the fellers could come in an' set around an' swap stories But I'm new in the business an' I don't wanter put on too much style. Ef it'll be any convenience to you, ye kin leave the office out of the question an' do up my salary in an envellup an' have le sent around to my house

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From the Transcript, Peoria, Ill.

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Mr. Harrington is a veteran of the war,

when the people who depend upon his visits for the purchase of the necessaries, and some of the luxuries, of life.

Mr. Harrington is a veteran of the war, and from this fact is made the remarkable experience which he related at the Trans.

All Harrington is a veteran of the war, and from this fact is made the remarkable experience which he related at the Trans.

"Let me tell you a remarkable thing that was a side issue, but a valuable gain to me, or the evils of which the Civil War was but the beginning in his own, and in thousands of other cases, was as follows:

"I served three years in the 124th Illinois, enlisting at Kewanee, Ill. I was in Libby Prison, and suffered, like many another Northern soldier. Until recently I was a member of the Princeville Post, of the G.A.R.

"The strain of army life did its work in undermining my health, although the collapse did not come for years. For some time is suffered from general debility and nervous ness, so badly that I could not sleep. For fifteen years my sleep was completely broken up. Indigestion, resulted and my misery increased. My eyes began to fail, and as my body, lost vitality my mind seemed to give way also. I could scarcely remember exerts that happened but a few weeks before.

"For two years I was unfitted for business. I was just able to creep around during the greater part of this time, and there were times when I could not get up at all. My brother is a doctor, but all his efforts to help me failed to give me any relief.

I tried a number of remedies, without avail. Finally, having read articles regarding the greater part of this time, and there were times when I could not get up at all. My brother is a doctor, but all his efforts to help me failed to give me any relief.

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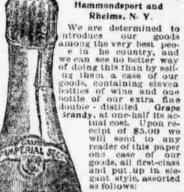
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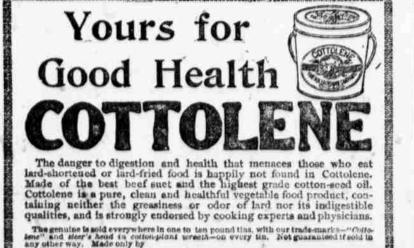
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