

Incognita

By F. A. MITCHEL

It happened that King Caspar of Walkaria and Queen Bertha of Zingerland inherited their kingdoms when very young. Their domains joined, but they had never met, for during their childhood their fathers had been at continual warfare. When these two kings died—about the same time—the cabinets of both countries decided to make a match between the young king and the young queen.

Queen Bertha would not consent to the match without some acquaintance with the man she was to marry. She therefore insisted on their meeting in one of her palaces near the border line between the two kingdoms, the king to be attended by three men and the queen by three women. To this the king gladly assented.

Before leaving for the rendezvous the queen said to a maid of honor, who was also her bosom friend: "I wish you to exchange places with me at this meeting, you to personate me, I to personate you. This will be easy, for I have purposely limited the number of my attendants so that there are only two besides ourselves to be in the secret."

When the king met the substitute queen, whose name was Catherine, he was well pleased with her, for not only the queen herself, but her attendants, were beautiful women. Bertha had charged Catherine to treat her with some severity lest by her accustomed deference she betray the secret. During the first interview Catherine spoke to Bertha somewhat sharply, and the king's notice was turned from the spurious to the real queen, who bore the reproach with becoming meekness. Indeed, King Caspar was charmed that the maid showed no temper whatever, while the reproach, which seemed to be uncalled for, prejudiced him against her supposed mistress.

Queen Bertha had gone to the meeting with no other object than to overlook her future husband incognita. But from the moment she saw him she was much smitten with him and resolved to show her severity while in the king's presence. Catherine, who was an excellent actress, played her part remarkably well. Did she order the queen to do her any service, no matter how speedily the duty was performed, the spurious queen would reprimand her. At such times the real queen would cast down her eyes, bearing the injustice with angelic sweetness.

One morning Catherine sent Bertha to the royal garden for some flowers and when she returned scolded her for not getting the kind she wished. Nevertheless she handed several of the choicest to King Caspar, whose brows were knit at the harsh treatment of the maid of honor. Taking the gift, he selected the most beautiful flower, a rose, and handed it to Bertha.

As might have been expected had the play been a reality, Catherine after this, with the queen's concurrence, redoubled her harshness to Bertha, who availed herself of the opportunity to show herself an angel of patience. This excited the king's sympathy and admiration for the poor maid to such an extent that he resolved to break off the negotiations.

When Bertha considered the fruit ripe for plucking she contrived to meet the king in a corridor in the palace as if by chance. He stopped her and, despite her pretended efforts to get by him, forced her to chat with him. This she did with her eyes bent upon the floor in well affected modesty. While they were together a door opened and Catherine came out into the corridor. With fire in her eye she ordered Bertha to her room, then said to the king:

"If this is a sample of your majesty's constancy I think we had better go no further in this matter."

"As your majesty pleases," replied the king with a formal bow. Thus was the king turned from one woman to another. Queen Bertha and her maids of honor returned to Zingerland and King Caspar to Walkaria. But the king did not remain there long before he took a step which he must take with great care, since his failure to marry the queen of Zingerland had made him unpopular in both kingdoms. He sent a confidential friend to Zingerland to learn if he could marry one whom he supposed to be the queen's maid of honor.

King Caspar had no hope that he would be permitted the woman of his choice. The queen had shown herself insanely jealous of her maid of honor and would doubtless refuse his request with some harsh accompanying message. During his messenger's absence he walked the floor impatiently and with anxiety, waiting for his answer.

His emissary returned with a surprise, announcing that the maid was the queen and the queen was the maid. Without losing a moment the king mounted his horse and, summoning his escort, rode night and day to the capital of Zingerland and, appearing before Queen Bertha bespattered with mud from his quick ride, knelt before her and kissed her hand. When he looked up he saw her face bent down upon him filled with merriment.

Turning his eyes to a maid of honor standing by the queen, she saw Catherine looking at him with the same amused expression.

And so it was that the two kingdoms were united and there were no more wars.

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(Continued from Page 1.)
The jury in the case of Howard R. Lucas versus the Townsend Coal Co., an action in trespass, returned a verdict in favor of the defendant.
The grand jury have returned the following true bills: Eugene Ciconi and Adaline Ciconi, selling liquor without a license; Wasil Schrenko, murder; Chas. M. Quiggle, aggravated assault and battery; Joseph B. Lydiek, adultery; Francis Serpessi, selling liquor without a license, and Louis Trunzo, aggravated assault and battery; Max Byer, f. and b.; Alex Schrenki, malicious mischief; Joe

Mistaken For a Spy

By SARAH BAXTER

When the great European war broke out I was in Berlin. Being a woman and not brave, I concluded that I had better remain where I was than try to get back to America. So I stuck to my quarters in the capital, though I displayed an American flag at my window and visited the embassy to make sure my passport was all right.
By October the lines of traffic over the Atlantic had become safe, and hearing that I could get passage at Rotterdam for New York I concluded to venture upon a trip home. The only danger in my personality lay in the fact of my accent. We Bostonians use the broad "a" like the English, and on this account I was liable to be taken for an Englishwoman.

At the time I started the allies in the west were engaged in repulsing the attacks of the Germans in France and a part of Belgium which was still occupied by the Belgians. Having crossed the Meuse I fell in with the German army in the rear of the line of trenches which was being held as a reserve. I was conducted to the headquarters of the general commanding, and my passport was examined by an officer of his staff who spoke English, but with the usual accent of a German. After a few questions he left me, but soon returned.

"There is fighting on the route you must take, and it would not be safe to proceed just now. The general desires that you join him at dinner, and we will see that you have a comfortable place to sleep."

I was sorry for the delay, but exercised patience, especially since I was to be well treated. Some British prisoners were brought in during the day, and I went among them, chatting with them. I noticed that they all supposed me to be English, several of them asking from what part of England I hailed. This troubled me, for there were German officers and soldiers present, and I was quite sure that at least one of the officers was listening to our conversation.

I dined with the general and several members of his staff. There was also another woman present besides myself, who spoke English fluently. In deed, not every one would know whether she was English or German though to me she betrayed her nationality in certain words that a German can never pronounce. For the "w" she used a "v." For a "g" she used "sh." But it seemed to me that she must have learned English while young, for these peculiarities of German pronunciation were very slight.

After dinner the men arose and said that they would smoke outside, giving us two ladies an opportunity to enjoy each other's society for a short time. They had scarcely left us alone together when my companion's manner changed completely. She drew her seat very near me and whispered:

"I am not German. I am English. I have very important information of the German forces which I wish to carry to England. But there are officers between me and the coast who know me, and if I proceed I will be arrested for a spy. If you will carry a bit of paper through the lines to General French's headquarters you will save the lives of hundreds, thousands, of our countrymen."

This speech frightened me dreadfully. I arose and attempted to leave the woman, convinced that she was really working upon me for some purpose which I did not know. She caught me by the skirt and held me, looking up at me with an expression which was intended for terror, but which I believed was feigned.

"Do not betray me!" she cried in a smothered voice. "It will mean death to me!"

"Let me go," I retorted. "I am not English. I am American."

The woman held me, imploring me not to betray her. I told her that I had no interest in her whatever. I was neither German nor English, but a native and a citizen of a neutral country. She played her part admirably, and for a moment such was the agony she assumed that I almost believed her. But I remembered how she had betrayed herself in her speech and refused to credit her.

I pulled myself away from her and fled. Outside the general and the other officers who had retired from the dinner table were seated on camp chairs smoking. They arose as I appeared and turned toward me.

"General," I said, "I wish to proceed on my journey at once. You have set this woman upon me to see if I am what I pretend or a spy. She is not English, which you know as well as I. She is German, though she speaks English better than any German I ever met. But when she tells me she is not a German I know better. I am an American bearing an American passport, and I demand to be allowed to proceed on my journey to Rotterdam, where I hope to find passage to my home in America."

The general broke into a laugh in which the other officers joined. The man who had examined my passport said to me:

"Why, if you are an American, do you use the broad 'a' like the English?"

"Because I am a Bostonian."
I was not only permitted to proceed at once, but was furnished with transportation and an escort. I reached Rotterdam a few days before the sailing of a steamer for America and secured a passage in her.

German Submarine Fleet Tied Up In Kiel

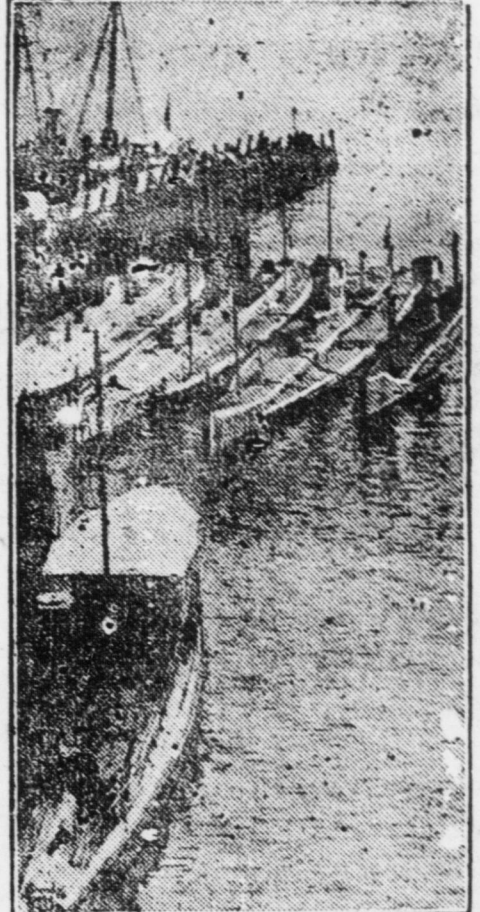


Photo by American Press Association.

A GENERAL SURVEY OF THE WAR

The great combined fleets of Great Britain and France continued their bombardment of the forts lining the shores of the Dardanelles on the approaches to Kum Kalessi, where the channel narrows to only one mile.

It is reported from Athens that the sultan has decided to surrender Constantinople rather than permit the city to be destroyed by bombardment. The sovereign and his entourage are understood to be ready for flight to Scutari.

The British and French flags are now flying from six forts in the Dardanelles, according to an Exchange dispatch from Athens.

Three warships of the allies were damaged in the bombardment of the Dardanelles forts Feb. 25, according to an announcement given out in Constantinople.

Fourteen ships of British and neutral nationality have been sunk or damaged by mines or torpedoes in the submarine warfare in English waters.

The latest victims are the steamer Depford and the Western Coast, both British craft. The Depford was sunk off Scarborough in the North sea and the Western Coast went down in the dangerous zone off Beachy Head in the English channel. In neither case has the agency of the destruction been established, although the indications are that submarines were responsible.

Two American steamers have been sunk in German waters, but it is certain both ships were outside of their true course which placed them in the mine fields. Both were bound for Germany with cotton cargoes, and it is not likely that that country would assist in destroying goods destined for its own people. Therefore, there is no likelihood of a protest by this government.

President Wilson is conducting secret negotiations with the belligerent countries in an effort to put an end to this submarine warfare on shipping. The president is urging England to modify its policy in disallowing food cargoes for noncombatants to enter German ports. A change in England's attitude would operate automatically, for Germany has agreed to cease its activity against the merchant marine if food vessels are not stopped on their way to Germany.

Great Britain has suffered another considerable naval loss, according to an announcement by the admiralty in the armored merchant cruiser Clan MacNaughton, which has been missing since Feb. 3 and which is believed to have gone down with all on board. She carried a crew of 280 men and 20 officers.

The admiralty ascribes the disaster to bad weather which prevailed at the time, but there is a feeling in some quarters that submarines are responsible.

Following the expulsion of the Russian army from East Prussia the Germans inaugurated an assault on the fortified line in northern Poland, to which the Russians fell back. Of these battles the most violent has been in progress at Przasnysz.

Germany's claim to an overwhelming victory in East Prussia, resulting in the virtual annihilation of the Russian Tenth army, is denied categorically by the Russian general staff. The admission is made that two army corps suffered heavily during the retreat, but the remaining corps are said to have escaped from the German surrounding movement.

Efforts of the Germans to clinch their victory by striking a decisive blow in northern Poland are leading to continuous battles all along this section of the front.

The official statement of France tells of successful advances in the Champagne district, where the fighting has been heavy. Cannonading continues in Belgium, while in the Argonne successive charges by the Germans have been repulsed.

QUESTIONS THAT A GOOD CITIZEN SHOULD KNOW

- D. Have you read the Constitution of the United States?
- R. Yes.
- D. What form of Government is this?
- R. Republic.
- D. What is the Constitution of the United States?
- R. It is the fundamental law of this country.
- D. Who makes the laws of the United States?
- R. The Congress.
- D. What does Congress consist of?
- R. Senate and House of Representatives.
- D. Who is the chief executive of the United States?
- R. President.
- D. How long is the President of the United States elected?
- R. 4 years.
- D. Who takes the place of the President in case he dies?
- R. The Vice President.
- D. What is his name?
- R. Thomas R. Marshall.
- D. By whom is the President of the United States elected?
- R. By the electors.
- D. By whom are the electors elected?
- R. By the people.
- D. Who makes the laws for the state of Pennsylvania.
- R. The Legislature.
- D. What does the Legislature consist of?
- R. Senate and Assembly.
- D. How many State in the union?
- R. 48.
- D. When was the Declaration of Independence signed?
- R. July 4, 1776.
- D. By whom was it written?
- R. Thomas Jefferson.
- D. Which is the capital of the United States?
- R. Washington.
- D. Which is the capital of the state of Pennsylvania.
- R. Harrisburg.
- D. How many Senators has

- each state in the United States Senate?
- R. Two.
- D. By whom are they elected?
- R. By the people.
- D. For how long?
- R. 6 years.
- D. How many representatives are there?
- R. 435. According to the population one to every 211,000, (the ratio fixed by Congress after each decennial census.)
- D. For how long are they elected?
- R. 2 years.
- D. How many electoral votes has the state of Pennsylvania?
- R. 38.
- D. Who is the chief executive of the state of Pennsylvania?
- R. The Governor.
- D. For how long is he elected?
- R. 4 years.
- D. Who is the Governor?
- R. Brumbaugh.
- D. Do you believe in organized government?
- R. Yes.
- D. Are you opposed to organized government?
- R. No.
- D. Are you an anarchist?
- R. No.
- D. What is an anarchist?
- R. A person who does not believe in organized government.
- D. Are you a bigamist or polygamist?
- R. No.
- D. What is a bigamist or polygamist?
- R. One who believes in having more than one wife.
- D. Do you belong to any secret Society who teaches to disbelieve in organized government?
- R. No.
- D. Have you ever violated any laws of the United States?
- R. No.
- D. Who makes the ordinances for the City?
- R. The board of Aldermen.
- D. Do you intend to remain permanently in the U. S.?
- R. Yes.

Sago, first, assault with intent to kill; second, assault with intent to maim, disfigure and disable; third, aggravated assault and battery; fourth, aggravated assault and battery; fifth, assault and battery; true bill on third, fourth and fifth counts; not a true bill as to first and second count; Howard H. Clawson, f. and b.; Charles Kiddo, felony; Harry Sheffler and Celia Sheffler, larceny; Coletti Besando, alias Leonardo Piscunari, highway robbery; Harvey O'Harrar, setting fire with intent to defraud insurance company, a true bill.

A PASTORAL PLAYHOUSE.

Wonderful Open Air Theater in the Heart of the Alps.
What is probably the most perfect pastoral theater in Europe is situated in the heart of the Alps—at Interlaken, in Switzerland. This unique "playhouse" is open to all the winds that blow, and its roof is formed—in the most favorable circumstances—by the blue canopy of the sky. It is not always thus, however, and it has not infrequently happened that the hue of the canopy has been less inviting and that players and spectators alike have experienced the interlude of a heavy downpour which was not in the program.

The open air theater at Interlaken is used for performances of Schiller's great drama, "William Tell," for which it is by nature admirably adapted. The stage is a rising meadow framed on three sides by dense woods of beech and pine, with a "backcloth" of grim, gray rock towering toward the sky beyond. Away to the right stretches a huge semicircle of mountain peaks, 9,000 and 10,000 feet high, and behind the spectator tower the great peaks of the Bernese Oberland—the Jungfrau, Mönch and Elger, with their burden of eternal snows.

Nature in accommodating mood has provided the entrances and exits of this unique theater—passages in the woods through which gallop with thundering of hoofs on hard ground the mail clad troopers of the tyrannical governor. The cattle, goats and sheep which appear in the first scene—the return of the flocks and herds from the Alpine pastures—approach down the steep path in the woods on the right and are heard long before they are visible, the tinkling and clanging of their bells mingling harmoniously with the long drawn notes of the huge wooden Alpine horn, seven feet in length, and forming an appropriate overture.—Wide World Magazine.

Egotistical.
"You sometimes disagree with these scientific experts?"

"Not at all," replied the serene egotist. "Notwithstanding the fact that I have thought a matter out to a sound conclusion they frequently insist on disagreeing with me."—Washington Star.

Coming Across.
Hampton—Dinwiddow told me his family is a very old one. They were one of the first to come across Rhodes.—Not at the grocer's.—Judge.