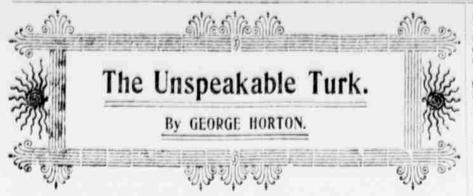
THE OMAHA DAILY BEE: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1900.



16

"Pity! Pity!" whined the lepers, exposing their hideourness with all the skill of subtle and experienced merchants. They were all there by the roadside leading into Canca and had commenced business for the day. Curtis stared at them, unable to remove his eyes from the dreadful spectacle.

Lindbohm fumbled nervously in his pock ets with averted face and, producing two or three coppers, tossed them to the afflicted group.

"Come away." he said, pulling Curtis along, "I cannot bear to look at them." The Turk had been telling them of the

leper colony and they were not totally unprepared for this sight, yet the reality far exceeded the description.

"But you should see those who are not able to come down here and beg." exclaimed the major; "these are comparatively well yet, you know." "I hope I may never see them." said

The Swede bore the Turk no ill-will for

the enforced detainment. It had not lasted third morning, when they were greeted by Lindbohm laughed, for long and the major had showed his guests every attention and had explained again and again that he had carried Lindbohm off to save his life.

"But those who are no longer able to beg," asked the lieutenant, "do they starve?"

"Oh, no, indeed! They are living monuments to the tender-heartedness of my

Curtis took no part in the conversation. a did not even hear what the others wer

A cart stood near and an awestruck, silent Curtis could not take his even from the "She was the daughter of some friends two or three lotters from home were suffi- from his body, the back of his neck looking A carr, stood hear and an avertices, store throng ingered by ready to identify the re-mains of possible relatives of friends. The store is the upot where he should As long as he are was full of powdered lime and smoke and had a queer, pungent smell. "Come on " said Lindbohm, "before they to all the first area of was inclusion of was inclusion to be avered with a score of was inclusion to be avered and I stepped on some sort to be avered by ready to identify the re-bong as he to be avered with a score of was inclusion of a d-d thing, a kind of sea pincushion warped pockethook a Lis note, badly failed to be avered by ready to identify the re-bond form one were such to be avered with a score of the start a rea of was inclusions. Curris conduction before from the receives row none were such to be avered to be avered with a score of the shipwrecked and I stepped on some sort to all to book warped pockethook a Lis note, badly failed to be avered by the badk for money. I have the start of the faile avere of the shipwrecked and I stepped on some sort to all to book warped pockethook a Lis note, badly failed to be avered by the badk and the list in midair.

find a body. I don't like to see such things he shown in the Eden Meete at New York, stuck full of pins, and it poisoned me, and stained. It came in two at one of the the Swede's boatman singing:

IN THE PUNCH AND JUDY BOOTH.

"Well, however that may be, they all bay-

"Why, the Greek, it seems, had some Athens."

upted Lindbohm, with dignity.

don't want to go to the commandant. See here, old man, there's something I want to tell you. Something I must tell you. I can't stand this may longer." They had passed the growd and were alone now. The Swede storped and looked steadily at his companion. Curtis glanced up furtively. There was no hing but inquiry in these brave, honest blue eves, "I say, old man." he stammered, "don't you think we ought to go and get some hats and things before we go to the com-mandant? I don't want to offend you, but you-but we look like the very devil?"

CHAPTER NL.

The Beutenant found no difficulty in buy-WHEN HE HAD REACHED LINDBOHM'S SIDE THE SWEDE GRUPPED HIM BY the town were all open again, and another

"The first thing is to find Panayota." Well, there they all stood, the two houris "Tickets, genilement" said the Swede. "We must not wait a mo-wringing their hands and howling and the The waiting employe glanced at the two

Lindbohm raised his hand in military "You go," said Curits, "Ill wait for you head of Curits he dragged him away. They be emigrate from here that feel so dis-salue to the red bandana and passed under there." He shrank from the ingenuous ex-

rugust master, the sultan. Each of the red jacket of another. "Never'n me loife, watched Lindbohm forcing his way through Two sentinels stood at the gate. Indbohm friends in Athens. She has had enough of "Is she in Trieste? Why are you fooling

"When does the next boat go to Athens?" and see her and bid her goodby. And I lat the two callers.

very broad and rod. The straw hat leaper

From the hones of the Greeks upspringing, Who died that we might be free. And the strength of thy strong youth







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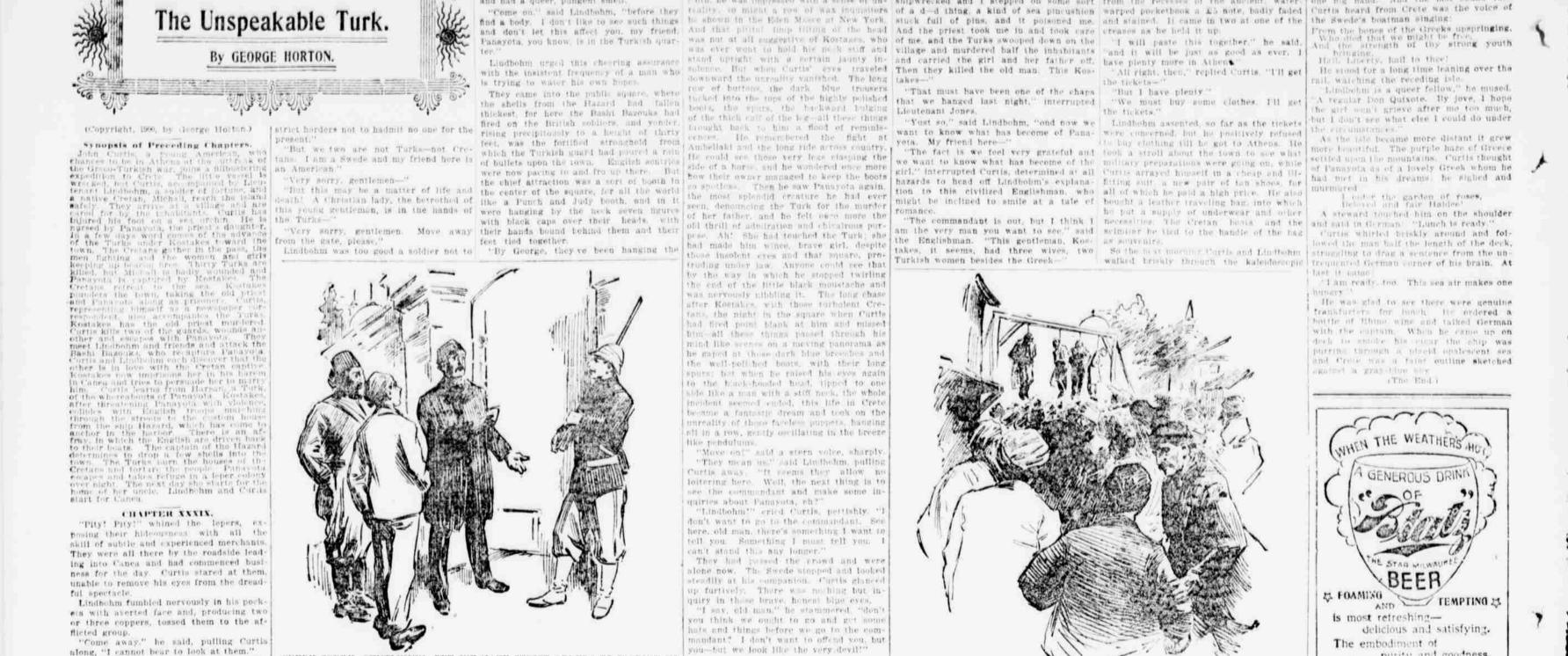
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ONE FOR THE PRESENT."

a house near by, belonging to a friend of Haman!" cried Lindbohm.

several places. He also wore Cretan boots

and his costume was completed by a Turk-

sh fez provided by the hospitable major,

who had managed, in addition, to afford his

two guests a bath, an opportunity to shave

"Bear up, my friend," he said," we shall

urely find her. Remember that she was

n a Turkish house, the very safest place

Curtia continued to be silent and pre-

ecupied, a condition which the Swede at-

happened to Panayota and that their long

search would be rendered vain at the very

American's scening listlessness, mingled

"He acts like a man who has been hit

on the head with a musket butt," thought

the Swede, glancing shrewdly at his com-

"We must go straight to the military nu-

thorities, to the English. We will tell them

all about Panayota, and if Kostakes has her

yet they will yust make him give her right

"Ye-es," replied Curtis, "Yes, O yes;

The Turks whom they met looked

ullen. The foreign troops were every-

topped to talk together an English red-

"G'an now, move on!" or a burly Mon-

enegrin policeman with words to the same

ffect. Not much damage had been done

o the part of the town through which they

were now passing. There was a sprightly

gossiping of bugies, hailing and replying

from distant points, and the frequent clatter

of shod hoofs as some orderly galloped

noise and bustle was threaded by a con-

tinual tune, not sung loudly, but insistently

The Cretans whom they met, whether ju-

bilant or sad of face, seemed to be hum-

ming it-some joyously, others revenge

"Do you hear that?" cried Lindbohm

Panayota will be singing the hymn of

liberty herself today. We must make her

sing it all through for us. I wish I could

And he beat time with his cane as a tall

'retan strode by, humming very distinctly

We can tell you by the lightening Of your terrible swift brand. And we know you by the brightening When your proud eyes sweep the land!

"Panayota will be singing that at thi

very moment, ch?" cried Lindbohm, laying

ils hand upon Curtis' shoulder, but the

latter made no reply. Occasionally two-

wheeled mule carts, laden with supplies,

From the narrow street they passed into

a place of smoldering ruins and roofless.

ragged walls. Here a party of marines

were at work, assisted by townspeople.

throwing water on fires that were still burn

stormed by over the cobblestones.

ike the motif of an opera.

understand the words."

out was sure to step up to them with:

Yet he could not understand the

and negligee shirts. .

end.

Then aloud:

up-eb, my friend?"

Lindbohm was quite voluble.

with absorption and perplexity.

he has a presentiment of evil?"

Now, had two men attired as were Cur- him, if I can't do any better, Good God, evident surprise and then gazed curiously The other two go on to Constantinople." tis and Lindbohm at that moment entered what an escape I've had!"

the major, and waited two whole days. Curtis could not realize that those were showstring was easily obtainable, by which during the most of which time the Swede, the bodies of human beings, there was no tethered it to his buitonhole, and the American had the place to them- something so theatrical about their aps An enterprising few produced a stock selves, for the major and his friend were pearance; they hung so neatly in a row, and or readymade clothing from Vienna and arrested and carried off before the end of the heads all lolled one way, like heads of Curva endescored to pressure Lindhohm came back to the runs of his house-it "There will be no difficulty in finding her Lindbohm. "I hope I may never see these the first day. They went repeatedly to the Brownies in an advertisement. the first day. They went repeatedly to the Brownies in an advertisement. to join him in the purchase of a complete state, demanding admittance, and were re- "Maybe they have hanged them in effigy." fused as often by the sentinels, until the he suggested.

a smile and a "Hit's hall right, now, gen-tlemen, you may henter- im givin' hup 's "But let us ask the guard where we will girl! She will be so giad to see you that dazed. I was out with a squad and came Curris and one to Lindbohm sword, which will be restored to 'im at find the commandant. Tuch we shall learn she will not bolk at your children' cadquarters." across them myself. Well, to make a long "Here," shid the latter, "he made a mis-

"VERY SORRY, GENTLEMEN, BUT WE HAVE STRICT ORDERS TO H'ADMIT NO

know what that meant. So they went to ringleaders, hanging them higher than ine another straw bat, as the booths of

august marter, the stream and the s

the ancient archway. Curtis handed over the scimitar and followed. "D'gever see two such guys?" asked one "I can't tell him," he muttered, as he is a control of the second state of the s

saying, but walked on beside them with his eyes fixed upon the ground, like a man in a trance. Every now and then he ejacu lated "Good God!" with the accent on the "good "

At last he stopped so abruptly that the Turk, who was directly behind, nearly knocked him over.

"I say!" said Curtis, whirling around and choking a stream of fluent apologies with a vehement question.

"Do people who are not lepers ever go into that village? To see their friends, you know, or to stop over night, or anything of that sort?"

"But monsieur is talking English, which unfortunately, I do not understand."

"Oh, damn!" and he repeated the question in Harvard French.

The Turk smiled.

'Imposible. You have seen the disease Do you think anyone would run the risk of catching it?"

Curtis strode on and became again immersed in thought, vaguely hearing the major's explanation of the fact that nearly all the lepers of Crete were Greeks.

At each side of the gate of Canea stool she could be in." an English marine in red jacket and cork helmet. A business-like "Halt!" woke Curtributed to the fear that something had the rest will be easy. Is it not so?" tis from his abstraction.

"I am Peter Lindbohm, lieutenant of cav airy in the Swedish army," said Lindbohm in English, pulling an immense portfolio from the breast pocket of his Prince Albert coat. "Here is my card."

One of the marines took the proffered pasteboard, glanced at it solemnly and sa-Juted.

"And here's mine," said Curtis, "I'm panion. "Great heavons, can it be that an American. And this gentleman is a Turkish officer. We were coming across the country on foot and he said we were in danger of being massacred, so he took us to his house and kept us there till the English landed and here-here's my passport, too, if you can manage to read it. It's been in the water."

"What do you want to do now sir?" certa'nly." "We have friends inside," replied Lindbohm, "and we wish to find out whether they are safe or not. We wish to go in. where, marching in small bodies through "Very sorry, gentlemen, but we have the streets. If two or three Mahometans



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any other town in the world their gro-"Hi!" shouted Lindbohm, so that every Lindbohm brought the heels of the yel- asked Curtis, looking up suddenly, tesque appearance would have excited at- soul in the square turned and looked at low boots together with a click and tention, not to say jeers, and a crowd of him. He was standing on tiptoe and Curing saluted. small boys would have been following at could see the ruddy face with his red ban-"Pardon our appoarance." ho explained.

their heels. The gray Prince Albert was danna halo floating on a sea of heads. "but the fact of the matter is we have wrinkled and faded and so badly shrunken "Hi!" called the Swede again, waving his been fighting with the insurgents for the that it caused Lindbohm's arms to fall a stick in air, "Come here, quick! I've found last three months, and we have not yet triffe akimbo. Altogether it was a gar- Kostakea."

had an opportunity to purchase clothing." ment very inharmonious with the tall, yel-"Now, what the devil do I want of Kos-The Englishman laughed and held out low boots into which his trousers were takes?" muttered Curtis, plunging relue, his hand cordially. tucked, and the gaudy handkerehler, which, tantly into the press. When he had reached "Come in, lieutenant." he said, "and your | ences. Good day, gentlemen." twisted about his brow, did service for a Lindbohm's side the Swede gripped him triend here. They entered the court,

hat. He had picked up a slender stick, by the arm and pointed a long finger at "Take a seat here in the shade. Shall I back, "lest there be any mistake, was this which took the place of his bamboo cane and with which he occasionally warded off Judy booth. an imginary thrust as he strode up the A board hung suspended from the neck soda." street looking eagerly about him. Curus' of each, with a name and crime inscribed

read: KOSTAKES EFFENDI. Captain of Bashi Bazouks, Murder and Arson

******************** "It is hard for a soldier to die thus,"

one of the pantomimists in the Punch and order you some coffee. Turkish style-or Greek girl very beautiful?" perhaps you'd prefer some whisky and "Ye-es, yes, I should call her a very fine woman "I'd like a Christian drink!" cried Curtis "What was the color of her hair once natty business suit had been torn in thereon in Turkish and English. Curtis with great animation. "Something to take Brown?" the taste out of my mouth." "I don't remember exactly. I believe it

"For-

"Trieste."

callers to the gate.

"Oh, yust bring me some whisky, thank was." you," said the Swede, sitting on the edge "Tall, slender, oval face, big, fine eyes? of a chair, impatient to go on with the "Well, you see, I only saw her for a business that had brought him there. moment. She certainly was tall and slen-"My name is Jones," said the English- der, and-and-a fine, handsome woman. man, "Licutenant Alfred Jones, at your Held her head back and threw her chest

out, and had a sort of independent air service." "Let me present my friend, Mr. Curtis, about her." said the Swede sadiy. "But a seldier who Mr. John Curtis. And now, licutenant, we Lindbohm had no further doubts. disgraces his calling deserves such a death, wish to Inquire about a Cretan woman, Preparations for departure on the mor-

Well, my friend," turning to Curtis, "half Pannyota Nicolaides, whom Kostakes ef- row were begun at once. Curtis had no our work has been done for us, ch? Now fends captured and carried off from her difficulty in raising some money at Cook's friends. She-" on his letter of credit. His passport and



"WHERE ARE YOU GOING, OLD MAN?" "TO FANATOTA."

couldn't do it. I just couldn't: It would "There's an Austrian Lloyd tomorrow be too painful and it wouldn't do any good." morning at 10 which stops at Athens."

"Lindbohm," said Curtis, laying his hand

rowheat for the steamer waiting out in the

"Why shouldn't you go and see her" And why should you hid her goodby? 1 don't understand." The Englishman accompanied his two

"You will understand when I tell you "I'd like to hear the story of your ad-She's a leper. I saw her myself, with my ventures with the insurgents," he said. own eyes, as we passed through their village. She isn't like those other horrible "You must have had some lively expericreatures yet, of course, but she will be in "By the way," cried Lindbohm, turning time. My God, Lindbohm, think of what an escape Eve had. I was so wrapped up

in the girl that I actually thought of marrying her-after a while. Suppose I had done so and it had broken out on her afterward. Why, I might have even caught the disease myself?"

THE ARM AND POINTED A LONG FINGER AT ONE OF THE PANTOMIMISTS

"The Greek was not his wifet" inter-square to the wharf and embarked in a

seems his house got in the way of one of in Athens," soid Lin bohn as the two stood

"My God-where to?" asked Lindbohm. on the Swede's arm, "Panayota isn't in

our shells and there wasn't much left of it. at last on the deck of the steamer.

The licutenant was very pale. we spoke his voice was low and unnaturally distinct and he divided his sentences into groups of two and three words, like a man

who is making a superhuman effort to ontrol himself. "And what about-this young woman-

the went to Athens?" "Oh, she's somebody else. I couldn't b nistaken in Panavota-1 teil vou I saw her. man. Why, I was as close to her as from

acre to that mast yonder." "But perhaps there's some mistake in he reason for her being there. Perhaps-"Why didn't she come out, then, when she saw me? She clapped her hands in front of her face and shrunk away. My first impulse was to go in, and then it. flashed over me in a minute. Besides, you heard what Hassan Bey said, that the lepers are nearly all Cretans."

"Do you mean to say you're just going away without going back to comfort her or say a word to her?"

"But since she showed plainly that she wanted to avoid me? I tell you, old man, I'm doing the kindest thing for both of us. It's incurable, you know, and even if it wasn't, my mother and my governor would never consent. I should have had a circua with them, anyway."

Lindbohm walked to the taffrail and ooked dreamily away toward Canea. There was an unexpected roar of a great whistle -a hoat's whistle is always unexpectedand the anchor chain began to rattle and click.

"It takes a long time to get the anchor up, don't it?" asked Cortia,

Lindbohm made no reply, but when the chain finally ceased to rattle he asked in a low tone, and without looking at his com panion:

"So you give her up, ch?"

"Why, of course, old man. Seems to me I've made that plain enough!" The ringing of a bell seemed to awaken

the sleeping ship. She shuddered as the machinery started. There was a patter of hastening feet on the deck and a great churning, as the wheel made its first revolutions in the water. Shore boats were cast off, with much shouting and gesticulating of picturesque Cretans, standing erect in their tiny craft, violently rocked by the agitated sea. As the ship moved majestically away a few boats clung to her side like whiffets to a stately stag. One by one they dropped off and drifted astern. Lindbohm turned and looked about the deck Spying his satchel, he picked it up and walked to the ladder, at the foot of which one hoat was still tied. Curils ran to him and seized him by the shoulder.

"Where are you going, old man?" "To Esnavola." "But this is madness. You can't do any

thing. I tell you the girl is a leper." The Swede, muttering "I'll yust take my 'hances." continued down the steps and

took his seat in the heat. Curtis stood watching him as he was rowed away, hoping against hope that he would turn around and wave his hand or make some sign. But no, he sat up very Sherman & McConnell Drug Co. straight, his arms hanging a little out



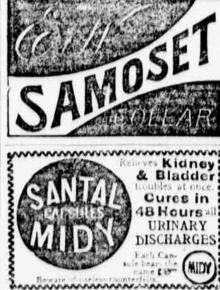
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