

A PRINCESS IN LOVE

A pretty love story comes from the Austrian court. Princess Elizabeth of Bavaria has refused to share the Austrian throne by rejecting her second cousin, Archduke Karl Ludwig.

Suddenly the officer was transferred to a regiment in Alsace, but in the summer, when Princess Elizabeth visited Emperor Franz Josef, her grandfather at Iech, she is supposed to have used her time so well that the emperor promised to make Otto a prince, give him landed property and allow the couple to marry if their love was proof against time.

A New York paper has received from a Berlin correspondent extracts from a diary of the princess, which was privately printed in Munich on December 28. Her memoranda referring to her love story date back in the year 1888, when she was scarcely 14 years old.

Here follow the most interesting extracts:

"We were very happy today; very! I could not sleep last night, and lay awake thinking if, in the morning, I would not be quite a different person. It is rather comical to reflect that yesterday I was but 13, a mere child, while today I am a lady, 14 years old, and becoming older every day. It all came about so suddenly.

"What pleased me most was the letter which his majesty, my dear grandpapa sent me from Vienna. He is such a dear old man. Sister Augusta is right when she says, 'The Hapsburgers are all perfect gallants.'

"You are now a little lady," my grandfather wrote. So I am. I put on my first long dress today. Yes, a dress with a long train to it. I never guessed that such a thing could make one so happy. Augusta was very jealous of me. She will have to wait for such good luck for an entire year.

"I am now to enter the dancing school, where I will meet real gentlemen, though they are only pages and cadets. The grand mistress of ceremony tells me that I must treat them in a haughty manner; 'full of superiority,' she styled it. This morning when they came to congratulate me I tried to follow her advice. Only once did I lose my composure, when young Seefried made his bow to me. Ah, such eyes as he possesses! If I had had my will I would have fallen upon his neck. They say that can never be. Well, I must content myself with embracing my dear grandfather in my dreams. Ah, I wish he were here."

"I have been dancing last night with real gentlemen, though none of them had a mustache. They were all young men, ordered to come to the castle by the master of the pages. 'Ordered,' that doesn't sound nicely. I can't imagine that anybody likes to do a thing when he is 'ordered' to do so. I would be too proud.

"They are all talking about me and young Seefried. They are making fun of us—of me, at least. It is annoying, especially when I may truthfully say—but rather, I will not say it. I really would like to know why Augusta thinks that Otto—but I shouldn't call him by his first name. It makes me angry that I give way so often. They must stop their chaffing.

"I know what I will do. I will tell papa."

"February 15, 1888. 'I thought better of it. No, I will not complain on Otto's account. Poor young fellow, he would become the victim of my intrigues. They would send him away to another cadet school, where he would never have an opportunity to appear at court, and that would be too bad. He is indeed the only one of the young men with whom I like to talk. It is much better that I suffer by my sister's chaffing than he. No, I won't think of complaining to papa."

"March 19, 1888. 'I wonder what his majesty, my dear grandfather at Vienna, would say if he knew there was somebody in the world whom I love as much as myself. If anybody could tell me such a thing could happen a year ago I would have laughed at the very thought. But nobody shall know it, not even guess it, and I will not tell Augusta, either, before whom I have no secrets whatever.'

"Ah, this is infamous, this valentine, picturing me sitting in an open barrel, which is being carried up the moun-

tains. It is a pasquille on Otto's second name—Buttenheim (translation, Barrel-home). I have cried a good deal over this cruel joke, as they call it. Ah, why am I a princess? I am forbidden even to look at a man.

"But, really, if they knew how much I love him, they would not be so cruel."

"Munich, February 12, 1893. 'It is now five years that I have not seen Otto, but did I forget him? No, no. And he has become a man meanwhile. It struck me as very comical when I had to give orders that he be formally introduced to me. Yes I am a royal highness, and I must 'order' people about. It is my duty as well as my prerogative. And while all this ceremony was being enacted I trembled inwardly. I felt as if I was going to cry.

"A wondrous feeling overcame me when I saw him appear before me—him whom I thought lost. God is good to me."

"March 10. 'How it frightened me when we met, without announcement whatever! He looked at me long and with much emotion. And when I read in his true eyes that which I had expected to find there I felt so happy. And as I smiled upon him his face assumed an earnest look. He seemed to be madder than, more perfect, almost as if I had offended him.

"Offended? 'Who told him to fall in love with a princess? Ah, I wish I were entirely sure that he is in love with me!

"The fact that he is living opposite the palace and that his windows look into those of my boudoir is almost too good to believe. It reminds one of the stories in the children's picture books. But in the books it would be written that the poor lieutenant, who dared to live opposite a princess and dared to correspond with her by way of his eyes across the street, must die. Fin de siècle love affairs are much nicer.

"If I had ever remembered how he had squeezed my hand, how he looked at me, he asked. He had worn the ribbon which he stole from my breast during the dance on his heart ever since. But then we were children.

"What a conversation to enter into for a princess! Should a royal highness act in such manner? I dare only ask one human being that question, my dear grandpapa—majesty."

"(After the court ball), June, 1893. 'Long live dame etiquette! I am much pleased with her. How astonished the master of ceremony looked when I ordered him to 'order Lieutenant Otto von Seefried to dance with me.' And then I ordered Otto again, and again did I order him to attend me. And all around us I felt that they were eyeing us and talking about us. Some of them probably remembered that her royal highness, Princess Elizabeth, five years ago was desperately in love with a little page, Otto von Seefried. But we were talking and laughing, and as we walked through the room I myself, and I believe, he, too, forgot momentarily the difference in our rank and station. I ordered him again to attend me, but I did not order him to love me. There was no necessity for that.

"If I was the poorest woman in Bavaria I could not be more unhappy than now, when I am confronted with unlimited happiness, when I feel thy love, Otto. Oh, Otto, why am I not allowed to love thee?

"I cannot sleep, for I see no way to save us. Why is it a crime for a royal princess to love a poor nobleman? Why should we not be allowed to marry?"

"My dear grandfather, I ask thee for advice. Thou hast seen many sorrows in late years, and thy heart is good. I will throw myself at thy feet, and I am sure thou wilt help me."

"As already announced by cable, the princess cut the Gordian knot by running away and marrying her lover. The emperor, Franz Josef, accepted the inevitable, and has given the young lovers the necessary wherewithal to live on.

"95 will purchase a first-class ticket, round trip via the Missouri Pacific route to the Mid-Winter fair at San Francisco, Cal., tickets good until July 15, 1894. Can take the southern route going and return by the northern route. For further particulars call on city ticket agent 1201 O street, Lincoln, Nebraska.

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LITERARY TOPICS

The complete novel in the February number of Lippincott's is "The Picture of Las Cruces," by Christian Reid. The scene is laid in Mexico, and chiefly in the ancient house of a noble family, where an American house undergoes a curious experience. Gilbert Parker's serial story, "The Trespasser," reaches its sixth chapter. "Dr. Pennington's Country Practice," by Butler Munroe, is a lively and amusing story. "Dick," by George Grantham Bain, tells of an office boy whose unobtrusive virtues wrought a reform among editors and reporters. "A House that Jack Built," by Philo Andrews Tucker, is a quaint sketch with a moral. Champion Bissell contributes a careful and interesting "Study of Pawnbrokers." Alice Wellington Rollins writes on "The Science and the Art of Dramatic Expression." Hjalmar Hjorth Boyesen tells us about "Norwegian Hospitality," and Charles Robinson about "Freaks." In "Talks with the Trade," the question, "Have Young Writers a Chance?" is discussed. The poetry of the number is by Martha T. Tyler, Mary McNeil Scott, Mary B. Dodge, Lillian Corbett Barnes and Frank Dempster Sherman.

Southern readers of Blue and Gray for January (Philadelphia) will find special interest in a contribution from Mrs. M. E. Henry-Ruffin, of Alabama, entitled "How Fred and Bob and Mazie Ran the Blockade." The scene is laid in a southern seaport, presumably Mobile, and the time is the closing year of the Civil War. The story is well told and has the additional merit of being a tale of real life.

The methods of an actress is always interesting, and they are particularly so when an actress of such renown as Adelaide Ristori consents to tell them as she does in the February Ladies' Home Journal. The "Aberdeen Waltzes," by Mrs. Francis J. Moore, to which was awarded the first prize in "The Journal's Musical Series," of last year for the best waltzes, are given in the full piano score and are as melodious as they are "danceable." A most interesting article on "My Tabooed Playmate Adeline Patti," is contributed by her one-time child-playmate, Katherine B. Foot. The concluding paper of Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett's series of "How Fautourley Really Occurred" will be read with mingled pleasure and regret. The quaint "Pomona" continues her European travels and writes in her characteristic manner with Frank Stockton's assistance. William Dean Howells continues his literary biography under the title of "My Literary Passions. This valentine month is celebrated by a description of "A Dainty Valentine Dinner" by Mrs. Burt n Kingsland, and the "Social Side of Life" is represented by suggestions for feasts and modest home entertainments. Palmer Cox gives a page of his inimitable "Brownies," as they shoot the Lachine Rapids and otherwise enjoy themselves in Canada. Sketches, with portraits are given of the daughter of Sir Garnet Wolseley, General Grant's eldest grand daughter, the daughter of "Mrs. Alexander" and Dr. Talmage's eldest daughter. Mrs. Mallon's pages, "Black Costumes of Today" and "The Art of Dressing for Business," are charmingly illustrated.

The name of Oliver Wendell Holmes in the list of contributors to the February Atlantic Monthly is a reminder of the Autocrat's unbroken connection with the magazine. Francis Parkman is the subject of this latest poem by Dr. Holmes. Two more significant names in American letters could hardly be brought together. A valuable portion of the same number is devoted to H. C. Merwin's article on Tammany Hall. Mrs. Olive Thorne Miller provides a study of nature, "In a Pasture by the Great Salt Lake." Two papers of American biography—not the result of research, but of the intimate sort that is related at first hand—are Senator Dawes' "Recollections of Stanton under Lincoln," and J. C. Bancroft Davis' reminiscences and estimate of Hamilton Fish. In fiction Mrs. Deland's "Phillip and His Wife" proceeds with increased interest; Grace McGowan Cook contributes a very fresh study of character, "For Falstaff He is Dead;" and the Rev. Walter Mitchell begins an amusing two-part story of clerical life. "The Educational Law of Reading and Writing," by H. E. Scudder, carries out the Atlantic's purpose of giving its readers from time to time papers of especial interest to teachers in schools and colleges.

On February 13, 1894, the old reliable Missouri Pacific Route will give every one who desires to take a look at the south an opportunity by selling them round trip tickets at half rates to all points in Texas, Southwestern Missouri and other southern points. Improve this opportunity and go with the crowd. City ticket office 1201 O street, Lincoln, Nebraska.

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