

**THE BOGUS NOBLEMEN.**

A SIMPLE METHOD OF UNMASKING THE PRETENDERS.

Counts That Are of No Account—Barons Who Are Barren of All Honor—Marquises Without a Mark of Distinction—Americans Easily Taken In.

On any fine day you can see a dozen fraudulent noblemen airing themselves on upper Broadway.

A bogus baron, a counterfeit count, a miscalled marquis, should never impose on anybody.

How can they be detected? Easily enough. Suppose you have a nobleman presented to you; the introducer should be able to vouch for him if the matter of title is a point in question.

But your bogus nobleman nearly always presents himself. Then go to the consulate of his country.

A SURE DETECTOR. There it is easy to satisfy yourself of his identity. Generally speaking, although not always, real noblemen register at the consulate on their arrival in New York, but every consulate, even if the gentleman has not recorded there, is more or less able to give information as to noblemen belonging to their country. Thanks to the English Peerage (Burke's and Debrett's) and the German Gothaische, Grafen and Freiherrn Calendar, as well as to the army lists of both countries, it is pretty easy to get at the facts. And there are so many real noblemen and officers of the German and English armies here in this city that the bogus article could easily be detected by being confronted with the real one.

The impostor is generally good looking and distingue and has a dangerous knowledge of what he is talking about, depending on his good looks and his cheek to carry him through. And our rich girls, blinded by what they believe to be the honor of being courted by a real live lord or count, fall an easy victim to the unscrupulous fortune hunter.

Counterfeit noblemen and real noblemen, who have so far forgotten what is due to their name that they closely resemble the bad article, abound and always will abound in a great cosmopolitan city like New York. As long as the present inordinate love for titles exists in this enlightened republic, people must not be astonished if they are the dupes of such as have a smattering of education and the cheek to call themselves by a high sounding title.

All these counterfeit noblemen have one characteristic—that is, on all possible occasions they will brag of their noble descent and will tell the most wonderful stories of their doings at home and of the doings of their ancestors generations before them.

The latest specimen who has been annoying various families, particularly that of Mr. William Edwinway, represented himself as a nephew of the latter, called himself at various times Count Bonin, Count von Armin, Baron Fedwitz and various other names. What his real intentions were have not been found out as yet. Inspector Byrnes of the metropolitan police has nipped his career in the bud.

SPECIMENS OF THE SPURIOUS. A peculiar and rather amusing case once came under the notice of the writer, himself for long years an officer in the Prussian service. He used to lunch regularly at a down town restaurant, when one day he was told by the proprietor that he had an ex-officer, who was down on his luck, as waiter.

The said waiter claimed to be a Count X—, and said that he was a first lieutenant in a crack cavalry regiment of the Guards. The writer was rather curious to see the waiter, as he had personally known Count X—. He was rather skeptical as to the waiter's identity, seeing that he told wonderful stories of his prowess during the Franco-German war, the count in reality having entered the army only after the close of the campaign.

At last the waiter made his appearance, and after having been taken to task he acknowledged that he was not the count, but was once the count's servant. The latter fact accounted for his intimate knowledge of the count's family affairs.

Many are the cases where American wives have married bogus noblemen and suffered bitterly for it afterward, simply because they did not take the trouble to make inquiries, but believed everything the smooth tongued rascals said.

The writer was talking on Fifth avenue with a gentleman, when the name of a marquis well known in New York was mentioned. On asking what nationality the marquis was, he received as answer:

"Oh, he is not really a marquis, only we all call him so."

The most dangerous are the Italian, Spanish and French marquises and other noblemen, as titles of nobility exist in those countries to such an extent that they are really difficult to classify.

All this makes it very hard for such noblemen who come here to gain a footing in good society, as people have been so often duped by the spurious article that when an authentic man comes he is apt to be looked on with a dubious eye.

If the consulates here are not able to give information, it is easy enough to write to the American consuls in London, Berlin, or whatever country the claimant of the title comes from, to receive authentic information.

But as long as the inordinate craving of Americans exists for titles, so long will the American store keeper and tailor, as well as the American heiress, fall an easy victim to the foreign adventurer who comes with a big sounding title. The more names and the longer the title the better.—New York Journal.

Mrs. Siddons' Shoes.

"People think that I actually wear Mrs. Siddons' shoes," said Mrs. Ellen Terry, "but of course I don't. I cherish them much too dearly for that, and only to think they were on the dear, dead lady's feet. A present from one actress to another. Here are the shoes, which are made of silver satin, bound and trimmed with red silk, adorned with gilt spangles and gold embroidery."

<p><b>MARCH 19th.</b></p> <p><b>Dress Goods</b></p> <p>Selling out first-class Dress Goods at nominal prices.</p> <p>Full Line 54 inch all-wool extra heavy fine-finish Tricot, regular prices \$1.25, closing prices 75 cts.</p> <p>40 inch fine finish Tricot in popular shades, cheap at 48 cents.</p> <p>Silk Warp Henrietta in black and colors, regular prices \$1.50, closing prices \$1.</p> <p><b>EXTRA SPECIAL!</b></p> <p>40 inch Wool Checks, Plaids, Fancy Stripes, Select Colors, cheap at 40 cents, present prices 25 cts.</p> <p>Double-folded, All-wool Tricots, in all popular shades, at 25 cents.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AT</p> <p><b>Weckbach's.</b></p>	<p><b>AT WECKBACH'S.</b></p> <p><b>Wash Goods, Domestic, Flannels,</b></p> <p>Canton Flannels were 8½ cents, closing price 5 cents.</p> <p>White Shaker Flannels were 15 cents per yard, now sold at 9 cts.</p> <p>Heavy Grey Mixed Flannels were 40 cents a yard, closing prices 29 cents.</p> <p>Scarlet and Navy Flannels, former price 40 cents, closing price 31 cents.</p> <p>Red Flannels as low as 19 cents.</p> <p>Best Quality Domestic Sateens were 20 cents, now at 12½c.</p> <p>Good Quality of Gingham at 5 cents.</p> <p>Dress Styles were 10 cents, now only 7 cents per yard; please remember 14 yards for \$1.00.</p> <p>Best Quality Fancy and Indigo Blue Plaids, select colors, were 10 cents, closing prices 7 cents.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AT</p> <p><b>WECKBACH'S.</b></p>	<p><b>MARCH 19th.</b></p> <p><b>Domestics.</b></p> <p>Odd Lengths of Sheetings, Cambrics and Muslins very Cheap.</p> <p>Our Own, 6½ cents.</p> <p>Hope 7½ cents.</p> <p>Gold Medal 7½ cents.</p> <p>Massasoit 8 cents.</p> <p>Lonsdale 8½ cents.</p> <p>Fruit of the Loom 9 cents.</p> <p>42 and 46 Muslens, Bleached and Unbleached, 8, 9, and 10 quarters, sold ½ cents per yard less than the three past weeks.</p> <p>When we say we can</p> <p><b>SAVE YOU MONEY</b></p> <p>on our Goods we mean it.</p> <p>We have said all we can for this time, but invite you to call and be Convinced.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AT</p> <p><b>Weckbach's.</b></p>
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