JENNIE BAXTER: JOURNALIS'

BY ROBERT BARR.

VI.—The Explosion In the Treasury

"He is working at the analysis now, I'll warrant," whispered the princess to her companion. In a short time Herr Feltz himself appeared. He greeted the princess with most deferential respect, but seemed astonished to find in her company the young woman who had called upon him a few hours previously with the director of police.

"I wanted to ask you," said Jennie, "to finish your analysis somewhat earlier than 4 o'clock tomorrow. I suppose it can be done?"

The man of science smiled and look ed at her for a moment, but did not re-

"You will oblige my friend, I hope?" said the princess

"I should be delighted to oblige any friend of your highness," replied the chemist slowly, "but, unfortunately, in this instance I bave orders from an authority not to be disputed.

"What orders?" demanded the prin-

"I promised the analysis at 4 o'clock tomorrow, and at that hour it will be ready for the young lady. I am ordered not to show the analysis to any one before that time.

"Those orders came from the director of police, I suppose?"

The chemist bowed low, but did not

epeak. "I understand how it is, Jennie. He came here immediately after seeing you home. I suppose he visited you again within the hour after he left you with | tant?" this young lady. Is that the case, Herr Feltz?"

"Your highness distresses me by asking questions that I am under pledge not to answer."

"Is the analysis completed?" "That is another question which I eincerely hope your highness will not

"Very well, Herr Feltz. I shall ask you a question or two that you will not be frightened at. I have told my friend here that you would do anything for me, but I see I have been mistaken."

The chemist made a deprecatory motion of his hands, spreading them out and bowing. It was plainly apparent that his seeming discourtesy caused him deep regret. He seemed about to speak, but the princess went impetu-

"Is the director of police a friend of yours, Herr Feltz? I don't mean merely an official friend, but a personal friend ?"

"I am under many obligations to him, your highness, and, besides that, like any other citizen in Vienna, I am compelled to obey him when he com-

"What I want to learn," continued the princess, her anger visibly rising at this unexpected opposition, "is whether you wish the man well or not?' "I certainly wish him well, your

highness.

"In that case know that if my friend leaves this shop without seeing the analysis of the material she brought to you the director of police will be dismissed from his office tomorrow. If you doubt my influence with my husband to have that done, just try the experiment of sending us away unsatisfied." The old man bowed his white head.

"Your highness," he said, "I shall take the responsibility of refusing to obey the orders of the director of police. Excuse me for a moment." He retired into his den and presently emerged with a sheet of paper in his hand.

"It must be understood," he said, addressing Jennie, "that the analysis in but roughly made. I intended to devote the night to a more minute scru-

"All I want tonight," said Jennie, "is a rough analysis.

"There it is," said the chemist, handing her the paper.

She read :

Calcium 29 Iron 4

Jennie's eyes sparkled as she looked at the figures before her. She handed the paper to the princess, saying:

"You see, I was right in my surmise. More than one-third of that heap is

pure gold. "I should explain." interrupted the chemist, "that I have grouped the

quartz, feldspar and mica together without giving the respective portions of each, because it is evident that the combination represents granite.' "I understand," said Jennie, "the walls and roof were of granite.

"I would further add," continued the chemist, "that I have never seen gold so finely divided as this is."

"Have you the gold and other ingredients separated ?" "Yes, madame.

"I shall take them with me, if you please. The chemist shortly after brought her the components in little glass vials.

"Have you any idea, Herr Feltz, what explosive would reduce gold to

such fine powder as this?" "I have only a theoretical knowledge of explosives; and I know of nothing that would produce such results as we

have here. Perhaps Professor Carl Seigfried could give you some information on that point. The science of detonastands head and shoulders above his fellows in that department.

"Can you give me his address?" The chemist wrote the address on a sheet of paper and handed it to the

have been called in during this investi-

"What investigation, madame?" "The investigation of the recent terrible explosion.

"I have heard of no explosion," replied the chemist, evidently bewildered. Then Jennie remembered that while the particulars of the disaster in the treasnry were known to the rest of the world no knowledge of the catastrophe had got abroad in Vienna. "The professor," continued the chem-

ist, noticing Jennie's hesitation, "is not a very practical man. He is deeply learned and has made some great discoveries in pure science, but he has done little toward applying his knowledge to any everyday, useful purpose. If you meet him, you will find him a dreamer and a theorist. But if you once succeed in interesting him in any matter he will prosecute it to the very end, quite regardless of the time he spends or the calls of duty elsewhere.

"He is just the man I wish to see," said Jennie decisively and with that they took leave of the chemist, and once more entered the carriage.

"I want to drive to one more place." said Jennie, "before it gets too late." "Good gracious!" cried the princess.

'You surely do not intend to call on Professor Seigfried tonight?" "No, but I want to drive to the office of the director of police."

"Oh, that won't take us long!" said the princess, giving the necessary order. The coachman took them to the night entrance of the central police station by the Hohenstaufengasse, and, leaving the princess in the carriage, Jennie went alone to speak with the officer in charge. "I wish to see the director of the police," she said.

"He will not be here until morning. He is at home. Is it anything impor-

"Yes. Where is his residence?" "If you will have the kindness to in-

form me what your business is, madame, we will have pleasure in attending to it without disturbing Herr Director. "I must communicate with the di-



The chemist shortly after brought her the components in little glass vials. Steinheimer is in her carriage outside, and I do not wish to keep her waiting.' At mention of the princess the officer bestirred himself and became effusively

"I shall call the director at once, and he will be only too happy to wait upon you.

"Oh! Have you a telephone here? And can I speak with him myself without being overheard?"

"Certainly, madame. If you will step into this room with me. I will call him up and leave you to speak with him.' This was done, and when the chief had answered Jennie introduced herself to him.

"I am Miss Baxter, whom you were kind enough to escort through the treasury building this afternoon.

"Oh. yes!" replied the chief. "I thought we were to postpone further inquiry until tomorrow.

"Yes; such was the arrangement, but I wanted to say that if my plans are interfered with, if I am kept under surveillance, I shall be compelled to withdraw from the search.'

A few moments elapsed before the chief replied, and then it was with some hesitation.

"I should be distressed to have you withdraw; but, if you wish to do so, that must be a matter entirely for your juries, pains or bodily eruptions it's the own consideration. I have my duty to perform, and I must carry it out to the best of my poor ability.

"Quite so. I am obliged to you for speaking so plainly. I rather surmised this afternoon that you looked upon my help in the light of an inter-

"I should not have used the word interference,' " continued the chief. "but I must confess that I never knew results to follow amateur efforts which could not have been reached much more speedily and effectually by the regular

force under my command. "Well, the regular force under your weeks and has apparently not accomplished very much. I have devoted part of an afternoon and evening to the matter, so before I withdraw I would like to give you some interesting information, which you may impart to the government, and I am quite willing that you should take all the credit for the discovery, as I have no wish to appear in any way as your competitor. Can you hear me distinctly ?'

"Perfectly, madame," replied the

"Then, in the first place, inform the government that there has been no rob-"No robbery! What an absurd state-

ment, if you will excuse me for speaking so abruptly! Where is the gold if there was no robbery ?' "I am coming to that Next inform

the government that its loss will be

but trifling. That heap of debris which

Professor Seigfried or his assistants you propose to cart away contains practically the whole of the missing 200,000,000 florins. More than onethird of the heap is pure gold. If you want to do a favor to a good friend of yours and at the same time confer a benefit upon the government itself, you will advise the government to secure the services of Herr Feltz, so that the gold may be extracted from the rubbish with the least possible loss. I put in a word for Herr Feltz because I am convinced he is a most competent man. Tonight his action saved you from dismissal tomorrow; therefore you should be grateful to him. And now I have the henor to wish you good night."

"Wait -wait a moment!" came in beseeching tones through the telephone. "My dear young lady, pray pardon any fault you have to find with me and rethen, caused the explosion, and what was its object?"

"That I must leave for you to find ont, Herr Director. You see, I am giving you the results of merely a few hours' inquiry, and you cannot expect me to discover everything in that time. I don't know how the explosion was caused; neither do I know who the criminals were. It would probably take me all day tomorrow to find that out, but as I am leaving the discovery in such competent hands as yours I must curb my impatience until you send me full particulars. So, once again, good night, Herr Director."

"No, no! Don't go yet. I shall come at once to the station, if you will be kind enough to stop there until I ar-

"The Princess von Steinheimer is waiting for me in her carriage outside, and I do not wish to delay her any

"Then let me implore you not to give up your researches.

"Why? Amateur efforts are so futile, you know, when compared with the efforts of the regular force."

pardon an old man for what he said in | Co. a thoughtless moment! If you knew how many uscless amateurs meddle in our very difficult business, you would excuse me. Are you quite convinced of what you have told me-that the gold is in the rubbish heap?" "Perfectly. I will leave for you at

the office here the analysis made by Herr Feltz, and if I can assist you further it must be on the distinct understanding that you are not again to inafter you had left me and commanding him not to give me any information I should hesitate to characterize by its right name. "

"My commands seem to have offered little obstruction to you. Herr Feltz doubtless gave you the information when you asked for it."

"No; he did not. He gave me the in formation only when he was assured that if he withheld it longer Princess von Steinheimer would have procured You have every reason to be grateful derstand that.

"I do understand it, and I am grateful to him. Am I to have the pleasure of seeing you tomorrow?"

"I hope not. When I have anything further to communicate, I will send for

"Thank you. I shall hold myself always at your commands.

This telephonic interview being hap pily concluded. Jennie hurried through the main office to the princess, stopping on her way to give the paper containing the analysis to the official in charge and telling him to give it to the director when he returned to his desk. This done, she passed out into the night. with the comforting consciousness that the worries of a busy day had not been without their compensations.

(To be continued next Thursday.)

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