

Four Jilted Sweethearts Send Her Their Hearts as Love Tokens

SENORA INEZ MENDOSA Y AGUILLO, a Spanish-Mexican beauty of Chihuahua, the daughter of the wealthiest coffee planter in Mexico, and heiress in her own right to an estate of more than \$7,000,000, has been banished from her home and imprisoned in a convent, almost as a prisoner, because her heartlessness and fickleness have cost the lives of four men.

Not only have four men killed themselves for her sake but each of the four, by a strange compact with close personal friends, arranged that after death his heart should be removed from his body and sent to the Señora Inez Mendosa y Aguillo as a token.

The Señora Inez gleefully accepted the hearts of the lovers who had died because of the hopelessness of their passion.

Before this little shrine the Señora Inez always kept burning, day and night, four small wax candles.

Learned the Secret of the Hearts.

Her father, of course, knew nothing of it, but one day the Señora Inez fell ill of a fever. She was ill for many weeks, so ill that her father, who spent the most of his time in his daughter's boudoir in order that he might be near her, discovered the four hearts almost by accident.

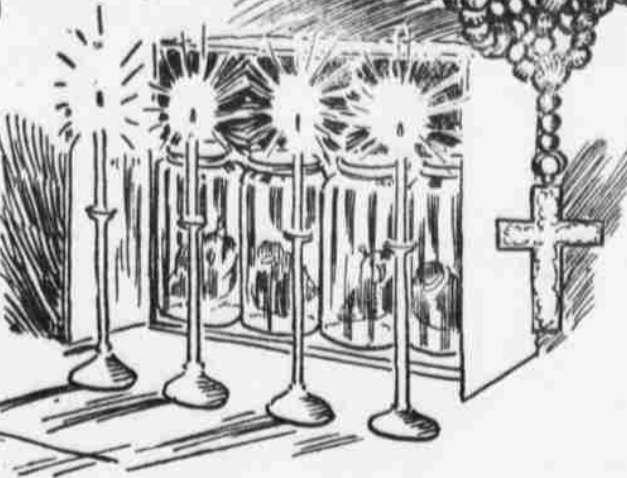
The discovery shocked the Señor Mendosa y Aguillo beyond measure. By threats and persuasion he learned, gradually, the whole story from Inez's maid—how Inez had flirted desperately with each of the four young men in turn, how



Señora INEZ MENDOSA Y AGUILLO



Taunting the Frenchman.



she encouraged each of them to declare their passion, how she led each of them to believe she would elope with them to the priest, and when each in turn in despair at her fickleness had declared his purpose to end his misery by ending his life, Inez had with sneering laughter urged each to commit suicide and send his heart to her as a token that he had kept his word.

The Señor Mendosa y Aguillo was stricken with horror. He was ever a stern parent, lenient to his daughter, but just.

When the Señora Inez recovered and was again her own self her father taxed her with her heartlessness and she confessed it all.

Plan Punishment for Heartlessness.

The Señor Mendosa y Aguillo consulted first with the priest and later with the bishop. They all agreed that the Señora Inez must be punished and punished severely. As her four admirers had committed suicide Inez could not be charged with a crime. Therefore the church must punish her.

In Chihuahua, far from the railroad, far from the towns, far from the plantation lands, there stands a convent, built

of hewn stone quarried from the mountains around it. It is a huge, gray stone building, covering with its wall inclosed yards, gardens, and compounds, several acres. It looks more like a prison than a convent.

It was in this convent that Inez Mendosa y Aguillo was taken in order that she might do penance for her sins. In this convent the Señora Inez must remain for four years. One month in each of the four years must be spent in solitary confinement. On four nights of each week of this month she must do penance—four hours on each of the four nights.

The penance is a severe one. Inez is required to put on a dress of coarse gray cloth that chafes her tender flesh. Around her neck is a rope, to which is attached a heavy cross. This cross she must carry from her cell to the chapel and then prostrate herself on the floor, face downward, with her arms outstretched. In this position she must lie from midnight until 4 o'clock in the morning. Then, exhausted, cold, weak as she is, she must carry her heavy wooden cross back to her cell.

Admits She Deserved Her Fate.

The other eleven months of the year Inez spends quietly in the convent. From the quiet, sweet faced nuns she learns sewing, embroidery, painting, music, and other accomplishments. She also is learning to nurse the sick at the request of her father. She submits to her punishment without a murmur, for since her illness, which brought her so near death, she has realized the enormity of her offense against humanity. She believes that she ought to be punished for what she has done and she has already shed many bitter tears over her folly. She was 16 years old when her father immersed her in the convent. She will come out on the day that she is 20, doubtless a lovely but chastened young woman.

The story of the four hearts garnered by Señora Mendosa y Aguillo reveals the character of a girl who beyond question was the most cruel young woman of modern times. Inez was the spoiled child of wealth. She was imperious by nature. She was a natural born flirt. In her own heart she knew naught of faith, constancy, friendship, or pity. She made love to men, lured them to confession, to frenzy, only to laugh at them.

Her first conquest was John Huddlesfield, an Englishman and a mining engineer, sent by a London syndicate to examine mining property in Chihuahua. He was the guest of

the Señor Mendosa y Aguillo, and fell madly in love with the Señora Inez at his first sight of her. She encouraged him, even to the limit of woman's daring, and one evening when he declared his love she laughed in his face, taunted him with his plain looks, his big hands, his long arms. Then her mood changed. She went on his shoulder, clung to him, kissed him, and declared she couldn't live without him. For weeks she alternately taunted him and loved him. Finally when John Huddlesfield became convinced that she was only amusing herself with him he told her plainly that he would take his own life.

"Do," urged the Señora Inez, "and have your heart sent to me as a token. Then I'll know you killed yourself for me."

Arrival of the First Heart.

Four days afterwards a strange post brought to the Señora Inez a package which he said was for the Señora Inez, to be opened by no one but herself when no one was by. In her own room Inez opened the mysterious package. It disclosed a glass jar containing a man's heart.

Inez placed the jar containing her lover's heart on a shelf in a closet and even forgot about it, for even before Huddlesfield had killed himself she was engaged in a most delightful flirtation with Henri Durante, a Frenchman and a factor for a great coffee importing house at Havre. She had reduced Durante to the same despairing state of mind that had sent Huddlesfield to his death.

Durante, too, threatened to kill himself. Then Inez remembered Huddlesfield's gift. She brought out the jar and showed Huddlesfield's heart to Durante.

"If you do decide to kill yourself," she said, "be sure to send me your heart."

Durante was as good as his word and Inez Mendosa y Aguillo had two hearts in her keeping. Then she longed for more and she used all her arts and smiles and tears to lure others to self-destruction. Her next victim was an American, Jack Rowland, a civil engineer, employed in the great irrigation works in western Chihuahua. When he had been taunted into taking his own life he provided in a letter that his heart should be sent to Inez. The fourth victim was a Mexican, Manuel Lopez, the son of a neighboring plantation owner. He did not really commit suicide. His desperation over the taunts and cajoleries of the Señora Inez, however, led him to a reckless indulgence in liquor, and he was thrown from his horse and injured so badly that he was told he could not live. Knowing he was to die he begged his parents to send his heart to Inez Mendosa y Aguillo and they kept their promise.

There is no knowing how many more victims Inez Mendosa y Aguillo might have lured to destruction had not her long illness let her father into the secret of her heartlessness and thus brought her to the convent, where she is now doing the most severe penance ever placed upon a girl in Mexico.

She kept the hearts, each in a jar of alcohol. In a little shrine she had built in the corner of her boudoir. Ordinarily the jars containing the four hearts were hidden behind what appeared to be a triple glass mirror, but on touching a spring the three silver framed mirrors swung back and disclosed a recess in which rested the four jars, each containing a man's heart.

FROM NEAR AND FAR.

IN FULL DRESS.



The water carrier mules of Ecuador wear breeches to keep the flies off, so that they will not get restless and spill any of their precious cargoes.

A PRINCE'S.



This mahogany inlaid shaving stand is used by the prince of Wales, who shaves himself.

IN CHARLES I.'S TIME.



These boots were worn by men during the reign of Charles I. of England.

TRAP DOOR SPIDER.



Trap door spiders construct homes in many cases by digging a cylindrical hole in the ground, smoothing its interior and adding a silken lining. A neat lid is then constructed of a mixture of earth and silk. It is smooth on its under side, but rough externally, so as to exactly match its surroundings, and is provided with a silken hinge.

POUNDING RICE.



Part of woman's daily work in Madras is to pound the rice for the family to eat. For in this land, as in others of the orient, rice is the chief article of food. The grain is not, however, the kind known in America. It is large and sweet, coarse and red.

BARBER SHOP AT ROME'S GATE.



Just outside of one of the principal gates of Rome an enterprising barber sets up shop in pleasant weather, using the niche formed by an angle of the wall for his tonorial parlour. There, in the open air, he shaves his customers, cuts their hair, or gives them a shampoo.

PROGRESS IN BORNEO.



WORTH SAVING.



A railroad is being built in Borneo, where transportation has been usually by the primitive method here illustrated.

DOLLS WEDDING.



At a bazaar in Berlin dolls appeared dressed to represent a wedding party.

ANIMAL MOUNDS.



Some of the shapes of the mounds built by the American moundbuilders.

ANGELO'S SEAL.



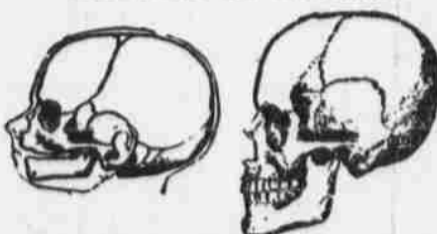
Letters of Michael Angelo, which are now in the British museum, show that the master of Italian art used this simple design for his seal.

BUTTERFLY.



This is the way the chorus girls in a musical comedy are dressed to represent butterflies.

GROWTH OF SKULL.



At the left is the skull of a new born infant and at the right that of a full grown man.

VENETIAN WASHWOMAN.



Although there is so much water in Venice, it is mostly sea water, so the washwoman does it a hard job. She catches her clothes in a net and carries them to a public washhouse. She uses a big stone slab for her washboard, and, as she has no back yard, she hangs her clothes in the street.

FOR THE NECK.



She bends back and forwards against the resistance of an elastic band.



There is a fox farm at Dover, Me., the only fox farm in the United States. Foxes, in captivity, become quite tame.