

The Unhappy Grand Duchess of Luxemburg



The Grand Duchess Marie as She Appeared at the Time of Her Last Birthday—Her Twenty-first.

THE Grand Duchess Marie Adelaide of Luxemburg is one of the most pathetic figures in the world.

This pretty young girl, barely twenty-one years old, was adored by her prosperous little country before the war broke out. To-day she is practically a prisoner in her own palace, unable to go out without a military escort and forced to look from her prison windows upon a people starving, terrified and forced to live upon charity.

For over a year the little Grand Duchess has striven bravely to assert her rights and that of her people, in face of the overwhelming power of the German Empire, but the struggle is naturally a hopeless one. Luxemburg is reported to be occupied by 300,000 German soldiers, more than the entire population of the country.

To complete her misery, the grand Duchess has been informed that she must marry a German prince, the object of course, being to insure future control of Luxemburg. Before the war it was proposed that she should marry Prince Henry of Bavaria, nephew of the King of Bavaria, but she refused to accept him.

Some of the most eligible young princes of Europe then sought her hand but she was most exacting. What an amazing change in her position today!

Surrounded by a vast army of enemy soldiers, pressed to marry against her will, this little princess is as unhappy as a Carthaginian

maiden of old chosen to be a victim of Moloch.

According to the last reports the Grand Duchess has become a physical wreck from the hopeless struggle and the sight of the misery around her. She has expressed her intention of abdicating her throne and retiring to a convent to find relief from her sorrows. She wishes to leave her throne to a younger sister, who, being more of a child than herself, has not been so much affected by the tragedy that has overtaken Luxemburg.

This little neutral state, only 998 square miles in area, had the misfortune to lie on the direct path from Berlin to Paris when the war broke out. Three railway lines from the principal North German centres of population come together in the little town of Luxemburg, which, situated in a mountainous country itself, commands the flat and comparatively unprotected area of Northern France.

Two hundred thousand German soldiers were rushed through Luxemburg as fast as they could be hurled. The young Grand Duchess bravely stationed herself in the centre of the main road leading into Luxemburg and declared that they had no right to pass. German officers seized her horses and led her out of the way.

Considerable mystery has been maintained concerning conditions in Luxemburg, for it is an important strategic centre and has been the Kaiser's headquarters for a time. Some interesting news of

*Only 21 Years Old,
a Prisoner in Her
Own Palace,
Forced to Watch
Her Once Prosperous
People Starve
and Die,
She Wishes to
Abdicate and Bury
Her Sorrows in a Convent*

the beleaguered Duchy has just been brought to New York by Joseph Lenoir, a native of Luxemburg. "Conditions in Luxemburg are worse than in Belgium," said Mr. Lenoir. "The identity of the people has been obliterated and every clause of the treaty of 1867 has been violated by the invaders."

"A few days before I left it was announced that Grand Duchess Marie was to enter a convent and that she had renounced her title in favor of her younger sister. Announcement of the Duchess's intention was not allowed to be made public in the press.

"The people are starving, because the Germans have requisitioned all the food and materials of all kinds. Meat and bread and cannot be bought gone up 800 per cent by poor people.

"The daily wage paid to Luxemburg people is about twenty cents, a sum too small to keep body and soul together.

"Leading editors and politicians have been sentenced to death or secretly imprisoned in Germany. M. Fournelle, manager of a railroad, was sentenced to death on a charge of giving aid to the French, but on the plea of the Grand Duchess this was commuted to twenty years' imprisonment.

"Many houses where French women and children took refuge were burned down, and women and children shot down by the troops. In Hussigny two German officers attacked a charming young woman and her brother shot and killed one of the officers. The young man was shot down, his father hanged and the young woman turned over to the troops, so that she died within a few days."

It is not surprising that the sight and knowledge of such things happening all about her should make a sensitive young woman desire to

leave the world and go into a convent.

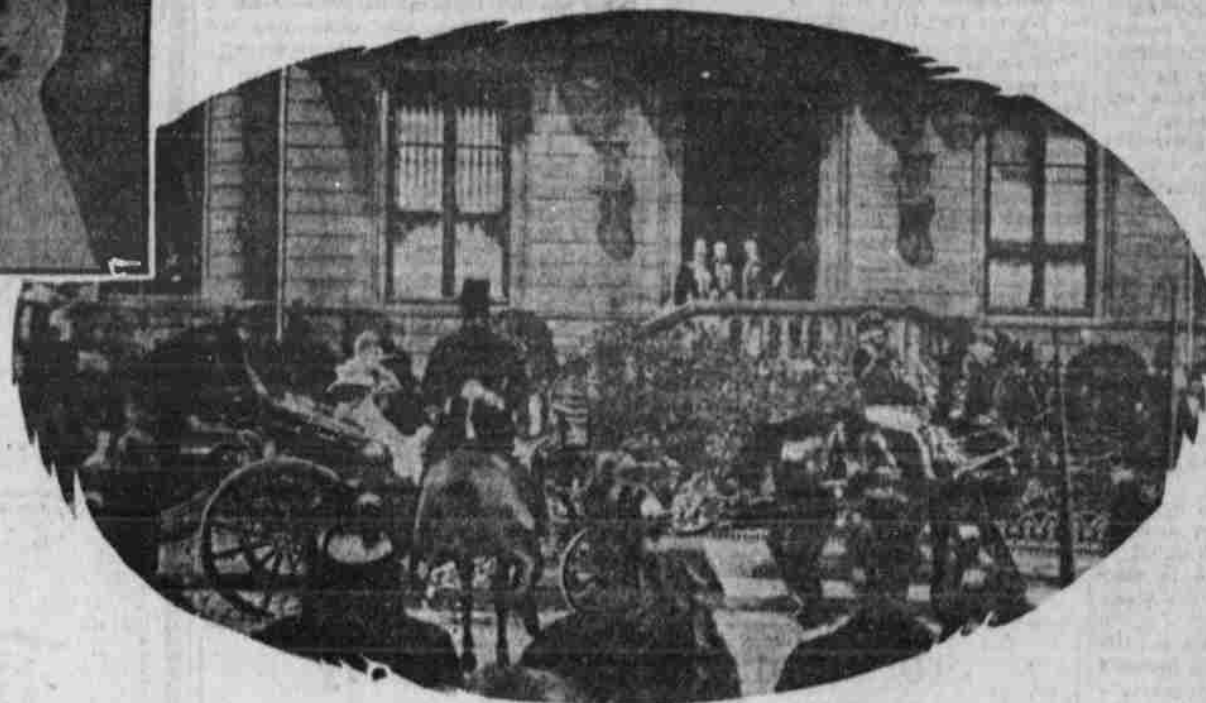
A death-like silence, broken only occasionally, has fallen over Luxemburg. It is rarely that anyone familiar with the place like Mr. Lenoir is allowed to reach the outside world. The inhabitants are not permitted to leave the country except in extraordinary cases. Most of them, moreover, are without means to travel. It is inevitable that there should be many inconsistencies in reports coming from a country in such a position. Many reports reaching neutral countries have represented the Grand Duchess as suffering the extremes of indignity and hardships, while some of the German papers, on the other



The Little Grand Duchess of Luxemburg at the Time of Her Accession to the Throne



The Picturesque City of Luxemburg, with the Palace Where the Grand Duchess Is Held Virtually a Prisoner.



The Grand Duchess Paying Her Last Visit to the Parliament of the Duchy, Which Has Been Suppressed by the Invaders.

hand, have declared that she sympathizes with the German cause and is grateful for the compensation allowed for the injury done by the German army in Luxemburg.

A former governess of the Grand Duchess, now in Switzerland, has described how she paid to visit her former pupil. When the visitor reached the doorway of the grand ducal palace in Luxemburg she was faced by two stern sentries, who presented their bayonets at her. An officer then stepped forward and told her she could not enter the palace without explaining her business.

"At this moment," says the visitor, "the Grand Duchess herself rushed out into the doorway and threw her arms about me."

"My dear old teacher! Do not allow these soldiers to frighten you."

"Saying this, she took my arm and between the two bayonets we passed on into the palace, where in previous years I had the honor of teaching her little Highness her first French lessons."

"I had scarcely seated myself beside her when she began weeping bitterly."

The former governess then relates what the Grand Duchess said to her:

"Not satisfied with destroying our beautiful scenery, the Germans have also stolen our public buildings, our local government, our post, our educational establishments, and they have forcibly taken charge of our railroad, for which we have spent more than 15,000,000 francs."

"They seized our telegraph system, and whenever my people pro-

tested too strongly they arrested them and sent them to remote Prussian military prisons. More than two hundred of my leading citizens have been sent out of their country to Germany."

"My people, my once happy and prosperous people, are to-day poor and at the verge of starvation!"

"Even I have to receive a permit from a Prussian officer before I can drive my own car on my own roads in my own land. I must even get a permit from a Prussian officer before I can use the telephone, which was established by our own funds."

"The people of Belgium have reason to be proud of their great achievements in fighting the arrogant conqueror, but we feel we were robbed in the small hours of the night."

"Had we suspected the treaty-breaking intentions of the Prussians we would have rushed to arms."

"If we had had forty-eight hours' notice we would have put at least 25,000 men on our eastern frontier."

"For all practical purposes my country is annexed, and the misery of my people is deeper than that of the Belgians."

"I sincerely envy the Queen of the Belgians in her present position, for my present plight is more bitter than hers."

"My country, with its 300,000 population, has been harboring hundreds of German spies, and when the appointed hour came these men turned out to be officers in the Imperial German armies. Even my two German drivers were

disguised officers, and when that fateful first of August night had arrived they appeared in German uniforms."

"The Germans had their outposts established everywhere in my country, and my unsuspecting people had always treated these treacherous spies with the utmost consideration."

"They have published broadcast that I have received the Iron Cross from the German Emperor. It is not true. I have received a medal from the Red Cross officials."

"They have also published that the Imperial German Government has compensated me for the damage they have done to my beautiful land. That is also incorrect. They cannot compensate for the damage the 300,000 soldiers have done to

the scenery of my land with money, and, even then, they have only paid the paltry sum of \$100,000 for destroying hundreds of buildings for military reasons. They seem to think that one can commit every imaginable sin and outrage for military reasons. They never mention the fact that we have spent more than \$300,000 for our Red Cross in taking care of their wounded soldiers."

Whatever the rights or wrongs of the invasion of Luxemburg, it is certain that the Grand Duchess is the most unfortunate young princess of Europe.

The Grand Duchess is the oldest of six sisters. Her family is a branch of the House of Orange, which rules in Holland. When Wilhelmina became Queen of Holland she could not succeed to Luxemburg on account of the Salic law. A distant cousin of hers then became Grand Duke of Luxemburg. He died in 1890, leaving only girl children, and then the Luxemburg Parliament passed a new law making his daughters eligible to the throne. This was accepted by Germany because it is supposed that country was satisfied to see Holland and Luxemburg separated.

Luxemburg is a tiny country, very picturesque and mountainous, and its capital, the ancient city of Luxemburg, is the most picturesque spot of all. The people speak a mixture of French and German and use a good many English words. The country lies just between Germany, France, Belgium and Holland. It had an army of 800 men. It was one of the smallest independent states in the world, but can be called independent no longer.

Don't Try to Make Your Cigar Last Too Long

ALMOST everybody knows what happens when a man who has been accustomed to the excessive use of alcohol is suddenly deprived of it altogether, but we are less familiar with the effects of the abrupt cessation of the tobacco habit.

There are probably several reasons for this. One is that neither the public nor the medical profession has yet learned to regard the use of tobacco, even in excess, as capable of doing serious harm to the smoker. Certainly the habit is not generally looked upon as comparable to alcoholism in this respect.

Another reason is that it is rare for a devotee of tobacco to forego it entirely, even though he knows that it is doing him harm. It is true that he may cut down his customary allowance to one-half or one-third, but those are exceptions where the habit is suddenly stopped.

Such cases do occur, however, and the most distressing feature is the mental depression of the patient. This may be so great as to inter-

fere seriously with the daily routine of his life, and he may come to the conclusion that it is better for him to risk the dangers which lurk in nicotine rather than be a nuisance to his friends and relatives.

A little investigation may prevent such a state of affairs and allow the patient to resume his habit to some extent without harm. The physician should find out not only how much his patient smokes in a day, but also how he smokes.

It will be found that many men smoke a cigar or cigarette to the bitter end. The more fastidious ones use holders, while the less particular impale the butt on a toothpick or the point of a penknife and stay with it to the last gasp.

Whether such a custom is the product of thriftiness or merely represents an all-consuming affection for My Lady Nicotine is not always easy to tell, but the effect is the same in any case. The closer the burning tobacco is to the

mouth the more are its toxic effects enhanced, says a writer in the Medical Record.

Nicotine (if that is what causes the trouble) is of course present only in an infinitesimal quantity in tobacco smoke, but it seems to be more poisonous under such circumstances; and then little or none of it is lost when the distance traversed is so small.

The long pipes which we are wont to associate with phlegmatic Dutchmen are undoubtedly much less harmful than the comparatively short pipe favored by the Anglo-Saxons. Some of this latter variety, however, are made with a well or some other patent attachment, and it would seem that these should be recommended to men who suffer from smoking.

In the case of cigars and cigarettes physicians urge that they be discarded when about three-quarters smoked, no matter how much agony such a course entails to the thrifty or to the tobacco-loving soul.