### DESERET EVENING NEWS: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1901.

# øTHE PHIL SHERIDAN OF THE TRANSVAAL.ø

I first met Christian Dewet on the march to Sanna's Post. We had started away back, about Winburg-midway 'twixt north and south of the Free State-and were pushing rapidly, purposefully south. What reason there was in the movement no man among us knew. Lord Roberts occupied Bloemfontein in front, and all around us were active columns of his army.

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With the little knot of foreign attaches I had received an invitation to accompany Gen. Dewet on an important expedition. With such bald instructions we perforce rested content, and for three days and nights rode steadily forward.

Such breathing spaces as we had were punctuated with queries:

"Which of the 1,500 men around us was Dewet?" "Whither was he bound?" "Was he going to cut the railway line?" "Was the Boer mad dream of an attack upon Bloemfontein to be put to the test?"

We asked and marveled, but found no answer. With difficulty we singled out Dewet, the man whose name will live longest in the history of the Boer war. With us were two Dewets-Hoofd Commandant Piet Dewet and plain Commandant Dewet. The hoofd commandant was tall and young and commanding, and to us in our ignor-

ance the leader of the expedition. The other Dewet was a taciturn man of middle height, of middle age, with a sparse, scrubby beard and a thick mus-tache. His high, square forehead rose tache. His high, square forenear lose steeply from a pair of bushy eyebrows, beneath which a pair of restless eagle eyes gazed out to the distance. In the eyes there was no laughter, but the gleam of a steady purpose, the cold resourcefulness of a man hunted by his follows fellows.

Dressed in a seedy black coat and a pair of striped trousers, nothing in his titie or bearing suggested the general. He was a common Boer peasant, speaking the patois of his race and concerning himself with nothing be-yond the immediate concern of the moment. But in his face there was the stamp of invincible determination; his mouth, slightly drooping at the corners. was carried tightly closed, and the strong, square jaw was sent firm be-hind the straggling russet beard,

As the third sun set on our forced march the attaches became restive, and United States Attache Reichmann rode forward to ask the object of our exertions

"I do not know," was the only reply and we jerked at our bridles as we rode on into the gathering night.

A simple Boer, ignorant of maps, save the wide landscape spread out before him, possessed or no strategy, except his hunter's instinct, and utterly incapable of intelligently explaining his purpose, Dewet took refuge 'in silence. No man of his command knew more than we did, but they understood their leader and cantered unquestionably, unapprehensively onward.

IN THE PRESENCE OF THE ENEMY.

Suddenly the long, straggling line was called to a halt. A dispatch rider

ant Piet Dewet. With him went some eleven hundred men, six guns, one Maxim-Nordenfelt and one small Max-

The remaining four hundred with those of us who accompanied the head. quarters staff, rode on to Marais' farm, at Oosprut, and offsaddled there. About 4 o'clock in the morning old Christian Dewet moved us down into the Koorn Spruit and disposed of us along the further bank near the Bloemfontein watervorks, where the big road dives down

to cross the drift. In front of us the British bivouac fires glowed dully not a quarter of a mile away. Away over, a mile and a half to the eastward, where the sky was already beginning to lighten, Piet Dewet, with his six guns and 1,100 men. vas safely stowed within 300 yards of the British lines.

Between us were Gen. Broadwood, a force of fully 2,000 men and a rich convoy. And yet had we encountered no outpost, discovered no picket. We had ridden the ten miles since the dispatch rider arrested us unchallenged, and now the old hunter lay expectantly awaiting daylight and the British.

As the dawn broke, Plet Dewet's guns sounded the reveille. In an instant Broadwood and his camp were awake and bustling. Soon, out of the morning half light, loomed the first Cape cart rattling downward toward us and Bloemfontein. The word went round, "No shot to be fired till Gen, Dewet's rifle gives the signal." Without advance guard or cavalry

screen, scouts or flankers, the rich convoy rolled downward into the waiting arms of Dewet. First came the Cape carts, then the light baggage wagons, and after them the long string of lumbering mule wagons-two Tommies front, two Tommies behind-jangling their way toward Bloemfontein.

On the verge of the spruit stood Christian Dewet, silent, cool, and as the lead mules crossed the lip he placed a restraining hand on the lines and murmured invitingly, 'Come in!"

#### DEWET'S FIRST COUP.

They came, and after them came fuly fourscore others-draggled Tommies, dumbfounded Tommles, devil-may-care Tommles-but no single Tommy had the presence of mind to wave back his successors in the miserable proces-And there was no escort, sion. With time and the packing of the

baggage train in the spruit something of doubt arose in the mind of the British commander. He dispatched a squadron of mounted infantry to reconnoiter the position. The troopers came crisply trotting up, deployed and ad-vanced to within eighty yards of us, Every face in the long, straight line stood out distinctly as Oom Christian once more arose and invited the cav-

alrymen's commander to come over. Through his interpreter, Ricketts, Dewet told the officer he and his troop must surrender or fall where they stood. The commander heard and rode stood. The commander heard and rode back to his men, covered all the dis-tance by Dewet's rigid rifle. Then the command rang out, "Files about gal-lop!" Dewet's rifle cracked, the mount-ed infantryman pitched forward out of bis saddle, and thethe the of the topon

his saddle, and thirty-two of his troopers lay wounded or dead beside him. Away out across the two thousand Dashing Dewet, the Most Extraordinary Raider of Modern History, Who Makes His Only Headquarters in the Saddle.

March, last year, and little mistakes were quickly added to the first great

error of choice of position and lack of flicient vigilance. Startled by the crackle of Mauser fire

In a wholly unexpected direction, the Q and U batteries of Horse artillery wheeled right under the Boer rifles. In thirty seconds the horses of five guns of U battery and two guns of Q bat-tery were killed and their drivers out of action. The remaining five 9-pounders staggered across the plain and opened fire from the station buildings, 1,500 yards away. Their stinging shrapnel dampened the Boer fire, but when the order to retire came, only ten men, several of them wounded, could leave the field with their guns. Behind, in the spruit, Com Christian work here, which the research is their

was busy, with his peasant's thrift, superintending the mending of the damaged wagons, straightening the bent axletrees and splicing the strained dissel booms. At one swoop he had captured seven guns, 110 wagons, with captured seven guns, 110 wagons, with nearly 2,000 mules, 400 prisoners, and had driven from the field with heavy loss a force of 2,000 men under one of the smartest of British cavalry gen-

#### THE TYPICAL GUERILLA CHIEF.

It was Christian Dewet's first raid on the British and the omens were favorable. On that 31st day of May, 1900, De-wet began his career as a guerilla chief. For him the style of warfare is ideal, A born hunter, he carries with him a force of native born Free Staters. He has as his field of operations a state of about the size of Kentucky, every foot if which is known to him and every man under his command. Every resident is a sympathizer ready with food and with information. He needs no commissariat! He has no headquarters save his saddle. His authority is the old state president, whom he carries with him, and his object is the harassing of the British troops spread all With slight exception he around him. has confined his raiding to the 350 miles of prairie between the Orange river and the Vaal. He raids north or south of that district have been few and shortlived, forced upon him by stress of circumstances

Unencumbered by baggage or by commiss riat, Dewet moves with nothing heavier than a two-wheeled buggy. His guns he burles when he desires to increase his speed, only to resurrect them on a less pressing morrow. Ammunition is passed in some mysterious way to centers in the mountains and every farm has its little bundle of cartridges awaiting him.

If only he can maintain his supply of horsemen. Dewet can operate for years yet in the Free State capturing isolated convoys, surprising solitary columns, swooping down on unprotected towns. In a straight line the British have 1,200 miles of communications to guard, over which every ton of supplies must be Every yard of that is a tar-

seven guns. THE NET SPREAD TO CAPTURE HIM.

At Wepener, away out on the Basulo border, he found another isolated Brit--seventeen hundred colonists ish force under Col. Dalgety-and settled down to besiege it. For seventeen days he be-set the Britishers, but this time unsuccessfully, although he killed nearly all their horses and disabled three hun dred of the troopers.

The engagement at Wepener had its chief interest in the fact that it gave Lord Roberts time to complete his arrangements for meeting De Wet and all French, Ian Hamilton, Pole-Carew and Smith, Dorrien, Brabant, Hart and Chirmside, Stephenson, Broadway and Bruce Hamilton drew rapidly around him-thirty thousand men disposed in two nets to capture De Wet. But Oom Christiaan had further need of his liberty. He successfully hindered French and Rundle until his Wepener force was disengaged, and they skipped gayly past lan Hamilton at Thaban-chu. On May 1st he was safely back at Winburg, and Lord Roberts had commenced his main advance on Pretoria.

For some weeks the Boers were too busy in retreat ) give De Wet a chance of attack, but he carefully dis-entangled himself from the main flight of the Free State with his president and a handful of followers. Past him rolled Lord Roberts' giant army to

Pretoria and the north. On May 27th, De Wet swooped down on a convoy at Lindley, to the eastward of Kroonstad, in the northern part of July 12 it began to close in on the guerthe Free State, and after three day's fighting captured it and the escort of 500 yeomanry. With him were five through the British lines, and with five

ighting captured it and the escort of 500 yeomanry. With him were five guns, fifteen hundred men and the best of the Free State horses. On June 4th he held up a baggage train of fifty-five wagons near Hell-bron, fifty miles north of Lindley, and took prisoners its escort of 180 men. With the supplies secured from these wagons he set off down the railway line to Roodeval, where he found the fourth Derbyshires, a raw militia regiment. The militiamen had gone quickly to camp in the kopjes north Roodeval and expected nothing 1 1688 than the hall of bullets that woke them in the night time. De Wet's five guns completely commanded the camp, and, after losing their colonel and 140 men, the regiment on June 7 surrendered.

#### HIS RESTLESS ACTIVITY.

Two miles to the south was Roodeval station, and thither, after the noise of the Derbyshires' death struggle had silenced, came a mail train with some hundred men of various regiments as To them went De Wet and de. escort. manded immediate surrender, but the postmen fought in defense of their bags and the motley details assisted as best they could. It was useless, About

aln's star was clouded that 31st day of 1,200 British soldiers and had taken 1 and De Wet rode away with his captives. Before doing so, however, he wrecked

the railway the for miles on either side of Roodeval station, destroyed the Rhenoster bridge and the Roodeval bridge, and for ten miles twisted the telegraph poles into shapeless metal. In a country which the 1,200 miles from Capetown to Pretoria has not one sin-gle tree of timber for the 1,200 miles from Capetown to Pretoria, bridge destruction and railroad wrecking is a more effective military operation than ever it was in the American Civil war. In haste upon him came Lord Klitchener from Pretoria and Lord Metheun from Hellbron. But Dewet moved off to the eastward, returned a week later, and on June 14 narrowly escaped capturing Lord Kitchener himself at Rhoenosier. On June 21 he re-appeared at Honing Spruit station, mid-way between Kroonstad and Rocdeval, ripped up the rails to the north and the south of a waiting train, and set to work with his guns on the former 300 Pretoria prisoners who guarded it. For seven hours the medley company of tattered, ill-armed prisoners fought off Dewet, and in the evening relief came with the C. I. V.'s and yeomanry, Four men killed and nineteen wounded was the whole result of that raid of Dewet,

#### DEWET AT BAY.

sity of stopping him, and great prepar

ations were made for the capture

ty on the Vaal river.

Rustenburg.

tion of his followers. For some weeks nothing was heard of him, and war correspondents cabled home fanciful reports of his death. On Oct. 5 the guerilla chief suddenly appeared at Vredefort with a force of 1,000 men and his favorite battery of five guns. The Australian leader of irregulars, De Lisle, was, however, ready for him, and Dewet was driven once more north of the Vaal into the sister republic. Four days later he was snapping at the heels of a British ford picking up its strayed horses, cattle and pickets, all the way from Lindley to Kroonstad. On Oct. 14 he captured a detachment of Cheshires. For the rest of the month Dewel

dally descents on the railway made line and the telegraph posts, rendering communication between north and south almost impossible. Gen, Knox started off in determined pursuit, and on Oct. 27 cornered his quarry. Dewet as usual, broke through, but not without paying toll to the tune of three wagons and two of his precious guns. No sooner was he free than he dashed down on the railway line at Geneva, captured the Cape mall and took nine-ty men prisoners.

ported in the neighborhood of Johan-

nesburg, but the heavy masses of troops quartered there and his own 1g-

norance of the district sent him rapid-ly south again. On Sept, 15 he ventured too near "Fighting Mac" at Vet river, and had to leave thirty-one wagons and

For the next few weeks he ranged up His three weeks of raiding had, how. and down the railway line, leaving hi mark nightly on broken culverts and up-rooted rails. On Nov. 23 Dewet dashed through the British lines bever, wakened the British to the necestween Alexandria and Warringham's Dewet. On July 2 Gen. Hunter had 10,000 men under his command for store, attacked a strong British post, was beaten off, and headed for his fathe purpose, Slowly, purposefully, the vorite hunting ground around Dewets-dorp. On the 23rd he attacked the town, and after a stiff fight captured it, along with two guns of the Sixty-eighth field battery and 450 men of the fill-fated Gloucesters and Irish rifles. This insult was more them Lord Robnet was drawn around Dewet, and on rilla chief. Four days later Dewet dashed down on the railroad at Honing Spruit, captured a train and a hundred Welsh fusileers, wriggfed his way

This insult was more than Lord Roberts could stand, and Gen. Knox was guns and 1,500 men got clear away to the northwest. He was forced to abansent in pursuit of the freebooter. and down the northern bank of the Orange river the two forces chased, and at last Knox got in front and headed Dewet from Cape Colony. This don his wagons and a few badly horsed men to Broadwood's tender mercles, but on July 22 was in comparative safetime his capture seemed certain. He was in a space between the flooded Caledon and the unfordable Orange, knox had his force drawn across the In the early part of August Lord Kitchener and Lord Methuen began the third attempt to corral Dewet. On Aug. base of the triangle, and another strong party of cavalry awaited him at the apex. But Dewet laughed at cordons and on Dec. 5 crossed the swollen Cale-7 Dewet dashed through Dewet's drift to the north side of the Vaal, with Kitchener and Methuen snapping up his guns, his wagons and his provisions at his heels. Every available man joined don at Kareepont Drift and returned northward to Reddersburg. On the 10th in the chase and extraordinary efforts were made by the infantry in pursuit. he snapped up 120 of Brabant's Horse, and on the 12th found himself once

An August 11th he crossed the rallway at Welverdiend, and on the 12th he was ten miles east of Vendersdorp and on the 15th he was THE FINEST THING OF THE WAR.

more cornered.

well out in the Western Transvaal at Gen. Knox was within an hour of Dewet at a point among the hills some fifteen miles east of Thabanchu. The On the 17th he passed through the ring of his pursuers and appeared on the Crocodile river well to the north British were in overwhelming num-bers, the only possible escape was past ered the guerrillas. It was the finest chance the British had had in the war, and theoretically, Dewet was "hands of Pretoria. On the 19th he tried to cross over to the eastward, north of Pretoria, but could not. On the 22nd he had tacked back to the Free State

de grace when across the flat, full tilt at the British lines the twenty-five hundred Boers came thundering. In hundred Boers came thundering. In open order, straight for the pass be-tween the fortified posts, the guerflias led by President Steyn and Command ant Fourie, charged.

and had to leave thiry-one wagons and 65,000 rounds of rifle ammunition as a trophy with the hero of Omdurman. Four days later Lord Roberts an-nounced to the war office that there no longer was an organized force in the Taking advantage of a spur of the Taking advantage of a spur of the kopje, the Boers received the fire of only one fort, and past that they streamed in a long, stragging line Christian Dewet the last man to pass through. Only twenty-five of the forfield against him. It seemed as though Dewet had succumbed to the exhausthrough. Only twenty-five of the for-lorn hope fell into the hands of the British, with one 15-pounder, and once more Dewet and Steyn had shaken of their pursuers. It was the finest d of the war, and marked Dewet a b er as bold in execution as he has proved

himself wily in design.

The century ended with Gan. Devel pinned in by Generals Knox. Barker Pilcher and White at Lennhop. The and again the guerilla chief tried to burst through the close British cordin. but could not force his way so While his attempts at an adw southward were regularly frustra southward were regularly frustrate the British were, however, unable make any impression upon him or i force. Whenever Gen, Knox endeav ed to follow up his advantage agine a retreating foe he was met by a situation of Dewet's lightest and her horsed men. For half a day these in held the British at bay, protected the nature of the ground and by small less powder. When the chief had gine twenty or thirty miles on his pursues the rear guard took to their saddes and, making a long detour, joined the main retreat.

At times the British were very close on Dewet's heels, and on the last day of the year picked up a number of his horses, five wagons with supplies and 6,000 rounds of ammunition. But these 6,000 rounds of ammunition. But these were minor losses, and Dewet moved on toward Bethlehem. Here Pilche headed him off, and he was forced to retreat toward Lindley. A few day later his presence was reported from the Basutoland border, hundreds a miles to the south, and on Jan, 5 he was said to be near his old raiding ground at Rhenoster. The probability is, how ever, that these reports referred to the movements of some subordinate band of marauders, because on Jan, 7 Dewe was again north at Heilbron, where he discovered an isolated detachment Gen. Knox's column and inflicted heavy punishment. There were 120 mes in the detached forces, and of these three officers and fifteen men were killed, and two officers and twenty men

wounded.

The effect of Dewet's constant har-assing has been to make every town in the eastern portion of Cape Colony a fortified town.

Upon Dewet's immunity from capture depends the duration of the Boer war Louis Botha, the commander-in-chis of the Transvaal forces, is an orderly soldier possessed of no rabid and British sentiments, and thoroughly con-vinced of the uselessness of further continuing the struggle and increasing the loss of life. Deserted by his pre-ident and his government, with the consoldier possessed of no rabid antiital and all of the chief towns held h the British, he would, on the slighter concesion of terms, surrender tameally, Dewet, keeps the field he is bound in honor to co-operate. With Dewet But Dewet had six months' experi-but to attain it the English must out wit the willest leader of irregulars of whom history has any record -Doug-

was called to a halt. A dispatch rider on a panting velt pony reined up beside the general and delivered to him some kind of a report. Oom Christian heard and considered, and then in the dark-ness our whole disposition was changed. The force was divided into three, and two sections rode away to the eastward under Hoofd Command-

MISTRESS OF THE ROBE.

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Emperor William Resolves to Reserve a Place of Honor for an American Woman.

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can girl who became the Baroness von Ketteler and whose husband was killed by the Boxers in Pekin, Emperor William has reserved an unsual honor, says D'Almecoort in the New York World. The kaiser has resolved to revive for her the post of mistress of the robe.

This office has long been extinct and the old nobility, which maintans that "born" ladies of title alone have claim

to it, are raising heaven and earth to prevent the slight to their dignity. A "mere American," "a woman whose father is in trade," have precedence over ancient sovereign houses! Unter-den Linden, Pariser Platz, the whole west end of Berlin is going into hyster-ics. But Kalser Wilhelm is resolved to give Baroness von Ketteler royal proof of his esteem for her and for her late husband. If the latter had lived his majesty would have made him a count-hence it is probable that he will confer that dignity on the American citil if he her girl if he has personal assurances that

it will be accepted. The position of mistress of the robe carries with it the title of "excel-lency." One of the reasons why it fell disuse was the desire to avoid friction with the empress' grand mis-tress, Countess Brockdorff, who rejoices in that appellation. As Baroness von Kettler is already styled "excellency," rivalry between the ladies on that account is not feared.

The empress is said to be delighted The empress is said to be defined with the addition to her suite, which will in the future be on the same footing as that of Queen Victoria, Queen Victoria's mistress of the robes is the duchess of Buccleuch, who combines with the office that of grand mistress

Baroness von Ketteler will be co-ordinate with Countess Brockdorff, who now decides questions of etiquette at court and as representative of the empress dictates its social policy. She will outrank all other ladies at court except those of the blood royal, Countess Buelow, wife of the imperial chancel-lor, and Mme. de Brockdorff. This will be hard on Countess Keller, upon whom her majesty conferred the title of dame du palais only a little time ago. Fraulein von Gersdorff and Countess

Armgard, von Stollberg, both styled lady in waiting, make up the rest of the em-press' titled retinue. Countess Brockdorff, nee Baroness

Loen, a woman of 55, is of distin-guished appearance. Countess Keller is 10 years younger and more noted for her agreeable character than for good her agreeable character than for sood looks. Fraulein von Gersdorff won't see 40 again and the kaiser never tires making fun of her embonpoint. Countess Armgard alone has the pretti-ness of youth-born in 1877. She is the younger hofdame ever employed in her mathetics service majesty's service. If Baroness von Ketteler takes up her

If Baroness von Ketterer takes up der residence in Germany an apartment of four parlors, besides bedrooms, ward-robe room and servants' quarters, will be set aside for her in Berlin, Potsdam, Cassel and Wiesbaden, or wherever the court may be for any length of time.

The apartments at the Berlin Schloss and Potsdam Neues Palaise intended for her use are second only to those occupied by the emperor and empress. A royal chasseur will be on watch in the first ante chamber night and day to attend to callers; messages are de-

For Maud Cass Ledyard, the Ameri- | livered to her excellency by her secre tary, who occupies the second ante chamber. These persons and other servants, namely, coachman and groom, two footmen and as many maids, are paid by the royal exchequer.

Six carriage horses are at her lady ship's disposal, besides saddle horses from the empress' stable. The mis-tress of the robe is entitled to a gala oach and four on state occasions, and her coachman and groom wear the imperial livery-leather breeches and high boots, black coat, festooned with black eagles on red and silver ground, with silver cords and tassels across the breast, and a silk hat with silver lace and cockade.

SALARY AND PERQUISITES.

The salary of the mistress is \$7,200 per year, besides perquisites. The lat-ter include, besides lodging, servants, etc., as set forth, medical attendance free of charge and board for the incumbent and her private servants. On all journeys the mistress of the robe takes her place in the imperial palace car, and when she travels alone she is paid

general field marshal's mileage. The mistress of the robe is entitled to a place at the royal table but usually takes only luncheon, dinner and sup-per with their majesties, for, the kasier per with their indjestes, for, the kinet being an early riser, breakfast is an informal affair. At table her excel-lency sits at the side of a prince, am-bassador or officer who holds at least lieutenant general's rank. She might prefer to talk to some great artist or scientific man, but that wouldn't do.

If the empress is not present at table the mistress of the robe gives the sign rise, conforming, of course, to the kalser's wishes.

Naturally the mistress of the robe sets the fashion for the other court ladies; all go to dinner and supper in grand tollet, even if the repast be set for 4 o'cluock in the afternoon. Grand toilet means a long trained allk gown, cut very low in the neck, rich jewels and elaborate headdress. An ancient, and elaborate headdress. An ancient court superstition taboes dark colors: except for mourning and half mourn-ing the ladies wear light dresses only, but in view of the fact that the mis-tress of the robe is usually an elderly woman the incumbent is permitted to wear darker shades of violet consider wear darker shades of violet occasion-

Where an American woman is concerned dress sinks into insignificance by the side of the table regulations. While the kaiser is not an excessive drinker he presses liquors on his of-ficial family and guests. Madeira port and sherry are set before them with soup: oysters and fish must be washed down with German champagne Rhine wines-Steinberger, Cabinet and Jahannisberger exclusively-go with the en-trees and batteries of Burgundy are trees and batteries of Burgundy are drawn up with the roast. Then comes the French champagne. Heldsle Royal, while with the dessert old Tokav and Muscat Launel are drunk. All this in one hour! Of course no one at table is actually compelled to drink all these wines, but no one can help making a show of doing so. The beauty and youth of Baroness

The beauty and youth of haroness von Ketteler will show best on state oc-casions, when the kaiser revives the splendor of past ages. One of the reminders of old days is the "great entry." After the guests of their majestics, sometimes from 5,000 to 6,000 in number, assemble in the bril-light hit halls, the imperial couple enliantly lit halls, the imperial couple en-

nounce the emperor and empress.

length, worn by the empress.

A CONSPICUOUS POSITION.

'If you kiss me the second time, I will

I have not kissed you the first time yet." "I know it!"

Since even kings no longer balance crowns on their locks, the kaiser has on

bearer.

great coats and a wagen of great sleigh miles to the north of where the chase shells bound northward. Train, station, commenced ten days before.

| ters, preceded by heralds, great digni- | knowing why. This indicates the power of a mistress of the robe and the great confidence imposed in her. If some of the great ladies over whom the American baroness will hold sway taries of the crown, swarms of couriers, high officers and pages.

At the head of the procession walk heralds in medieval dress, playing on ancient silver bugles draped with cloth of gold. The court marshals, carrying should take exception to her appoint-ment, Mme. von Ketteler may point out gold knobbed ivory staffs, follow, then that her name is as good as any in the empire. The Kettelers exercised royal power for over 200 years. Gotthard III, Von Ketteler, became duke of Courland the lord guardians of the regalia, the grand chamberlain, duke of Ujest, who bears the crown on a purple cushion; the prince of Hatzfeldt with the orb of and Semigallia in 1561, and he and his successors ruled until 1737, when Em-press Anna of Russia compelled their the realm, and Prince Ploss, sword Now an interval of some half minute. subjects to elect her favorite, Biron, as their prince. Until recently the duchess and a platoon of pages, good looking boys in scarlet coats with silver lace, white silk stockings and toy swords, an-

of Courland was a leading figure at the Berlin court, but her family was recognized by Russin only in 1854, while the Kettelers figure in history since the eleventh century. Among the functions of the mistress

a modest silver helmet, topped by an eagle with outspread wings, but his of the robe, that of fastening the crown queen is resplendent with a diadem of on her majesty's head is perhaps the most envied. The crown and regalia precious stones, having the great "re-gent" in the center. And while the chancellor walks at William's side the belongs to the people and the treasury holds the mistress of the robe responmistress of the robe attends the emsible. If a diamond, pearl or other jewel is jost, it must be replaced. The That is her excellency's opportunity. regalia is examined before use and From the back of her powdered hair hangs the "manifila," mark of her of-fice. It is a black lace shawl of expleces having become loose or insecure stones are sent back by the mistress. Baroness von Ketteler will be the quisite workmanship, held by big dia-mond pins. It falls to the bottom of kaiserin's chief adviser in dress. His majesty concerns himself with every detail of his vast household and has dethe skirt, ending where the mantle be-gins. The latter is five yards long. It cided opinions on women's apparel, He is, however, not borne by pages like the more ponderous affair, eleven yards in often quarrels with Countess Brock-dorff about selections, telling her of tasteful toilets he sees worn by Ameri-can and English ladies. So the grand mistress will probably be glad of the After their majesties are seated on chance to shift this responsibility, par-ticularly as her American colleague will the throne the mistress of the robe oc-cupies a conspicuous position directly make no claim to one of the perquisites of the office, her majesty's cast-off opposite the empress, so as to introduce

to her the ladies "commanded" for predresses. As it comes from the shop entation. But whether all the noble dames on the empress wears a dress only once; for a second appearance it is altered. the list be admitted is left entirely to the discretion of the mistress of the After that the mistress of the robe robe. The lfsts are made up weeks beforehand, and in the meanwhile a the grand mistress may have it for her own use or to sell,

At the reception of delegations the mistress of the robe stands at the foot thousand things may have happened-things of the kind the mistress learns from the political police. Hence sometimes her majesty whisof the throne to conduct the exchange of courtesies. If her majesty has to pers to the mistress of the robe the make answer to some address, the misname of a lady to be summoned which tress of the robe writes her speech be-forehand, and if her majesty is unwilthat functionary can not pass on to the chamberlains, and as there is no chance ling to receive other officials or private for explanation, the empress sometimes | visitors, the mistress of the robe takes

sees her orders disregarded without her place. If she makes promises they knowing why. This indicates the power of a mistress of the robe and the great had spoken. Whether a request for audience is granted depends upon the mistress of the robe and the grand mistress.

his 10,000 pursuers were left de

Baroness von Ketteler will play leading part in charities. She will iden-tify herself with the church building movement so dear to the heart of the empress, with the German branch of the Y. M. C. A. and the Working Women's Protective league. The mistress of the robe may use the

royal boxes at the opera and theaters: she has the entry there whether her majesty be of the party or not, while the other ladies must be content with a seat in the "court box." The kalser and kalserin learned with much gratification that Mme, you Ketteler is a fina musician. She will have plenty of opportunity to be heard, particularly as Countess Bertha von Bassewitz, who used to delight the court by her excellent plano playing, got married and retired

The empress will confer upon the wife of the murdered ambassador the Order of Louise, of which she is grand mistress. This order was founded in 1814 by Frederick William III in memory of Queen Louise, his beautiful and accomplished wife, who had then been dead four years.

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