THE WOMAN IN THE CASE

WERE SHE LESS WORTHY AND POPULAR, THE VEXED QUESTION OF THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN SUCCESSION WOULD NOT BE SO DIFFICULT

Emperor Francis Joseph

Sophie Chotek

Archduke Carl Francis

Latest Picture of Francis Ferdinand and His Wife

Heir Apparent as Colonel of Royal Guards

Archduke Otto

THERE is a belief of long standing among the Hungarian lower classes that the dismemberment of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy will be brought about by a woman. Since the establishment of the dual government it has happened more than once that the prediction—for it seems to have been that originally—has appeared to be on the point of immediate fulfillment. The present state of affairs in the empire revives the consideration of a similar possibility.

The critical condition of the old emperor's health points inevitably to the near approach of the moment which has long been dreaded by all friends of peaceful union in both kingdoms. It is true that arrangements have been made to secure a harmonious transmission of the succession, and the representatives of both kingdoms have ratified them and have bound themselves by solemn oaths to see that they are carried out to the letter. All the chancelleries in Europe are wondering whether or not those empire makers will be able to "deliver the goods."

An Uncertain Game.

It is really one of the most uncertain political situations of modern times, and a woman—a good woman, too—is the innocent cause of it. Had the man who afterward became heir apparent to the Austrian throne walked discreetly in the path marked out for royal Austrian archdukes all might have been well. Had he selected for his life companion the daughter of the most unimportant royalty in the Almanach de Gotha all might have gone on as merry as a marriage bell.

This heir to one of the most ancient thrones on earth had no taste for conducting himself in a manner befitting the magnitude of his coming greatness. He seems to have had still less for the society of maidens endowed with the heaven born right to wear a crown. To the infinite dismay of his family and to the intense disgust and disappointment of those who had been hoping that the vexatious question of the succession would not come up again for at least a century he proceeded, in full daylight and with his eyes wide open, to fall in love with Sophie Chotek, a pretty Bohemian girl of good enough family, but with no rank worth mentioning.

The Unpardonable Sin.

Worst of all—in the opinion of his class—he married her. At the time it was regarded as a most unfortunate complication, but when by the tragic death of his cousin Rudolph this matrimonially reckless Francis Ferdinand became heir apparent it expanded to the magnitude of a catastrophe. Something had to be done. The ecclesiastical magnates of the realm stood ready to divorce him, but he declined their kind offices and declared that he had not the slightest idea of making a change in his domestic arrangements.

Now this same Francis Ferdinand seems to have been thoroughly disliked by pretty nearly everybody in both kingdoms since his early boyhood. His uncle, the emperor, has always found him uncongenial and has seen as little as possible of him. The court magnates have always held themselves aloof, and his name inspires no enthusiasm in the general public. The Austrians have never forgiven him for his marriage, and the Hungarians detest him for his lack of sympathy with their interests. He has carried his anti-Magyar prejudices so far as actually to refuse to learn the language, although the old emperor speaks it like a native.

Francis Ferdinand is not a man of marked intellectual force. The emperor is proficient in the Romance languages and in English, but the heir apparent converses only in German and Bohemian, which he has learned from his accomplished wife. He seems to have no especial aptitude of any kind, no interest in science and very indifferent taste in most matters.

Nevertheless his obstinate refusal to divorce his Bohemian wife must be set down to his everlasting credit. Rather than relinquish her he made a formal and solemn renunciation of her rights as queen and of the claims of her children to the succession. According to the present arrangement, when he becomes emperor she cannot sit on the throne beside him at government or church functions. She will have no accredited place at court. She cannot take part in ceremonial or social functions, nor can her children. She has no better position than that of morganatic wife. To make her social position a little less trying the good natured emperor bestowed on her the title of Princess Hohenberg, and her children will bear that name instead of that of their father.

A Woman Sans Reproche.

This estimable woman is entirely worthy of all the sacrifices her high-born husband has made for her. She has always carried herself with admirable dignity under the embarrassments which her peculiar relations have entailed, and she is universally respected for her character and her graces. Anomalous as it may seem, she does not share her husband's unpopularity. The old emperor is fond of her and her children, and she is far more welcome at the palace than her husband. In the Austrian capital she is more popular than any of the royal archduchesses, and in Budapest she has many influential friends. In Bohemia, her native country, she is idolized. In deference to her wishes Francis Ferdinand has purchased large estates in Bohemia, and the family spends much time on them.

The heir presumptive, according to the present arrangement, is Carl Francis, son of the Archduke Otto, another nephew of the old emperor, who died recently. The young archduke is eighteen years of age and is reputed to be a level headed youngster, with a good understanding of what is expected of him and a laudable determination of living up to it.

A Peculiar Complication.

Were it not for Sophie Chotek and her four bright children the Archduke Carl Francis might look forward to the prospect of becoming ruler of the empire without any more disquieting possibility than the ordinary uncertainty of human events. There seems to be a grave complication in the Hungarian succession on account of the heir apparent's marriage. The compact between the two nations provides that the successor of the emperor shall also be king of Hungary, but no mention is made of the queen.

Although the heir to the throne of Austria may not marry a woman who is not of royal blood, the king of Hungary may marry whomsoever he wishes, even a peasant maiden if he chooses, and she will be his legitimate queen. It is not at all certain that the people of Hungary will be influenced by their Austrian neighbors to deny Sophie Chotek's right to the throne or to debar her children from the Hungarian succession. It is believed that the astute Magyar politicians will seize on this lack of correspondence in the laws of the two countries to exact favorable terms from the heir when he is proclaimed emperor and that in return his wife will be declared queen of Hungary.

On the other hand, the Archduke Francis Ferdinand is so unpopular in Hungary that it is doubtful whether either the parliament or the people will ever accept him as sovereign. He has never made any attempt to know them, and they do not know him. He has never cultivated Hungarian popularity and, incredible as it may seem, has never even visited the country. Such an oversight on his part is difficult to explain save on the ground that the antipathy between the two nations has influenced him to that extent.

Unbeloved at Home.

It is true, indeed, that he has been almost equally unsuccessful in securing the affection of his own countrymen. He is cold, unlovable and bitter in his prejudices. He spends most of his time on his stock farms in Bohemia, hunting in remote mountain regions and in performing the routine military duties prescribed for him. He has never had any intimates and has always found the society of his wife and children quite sufficient for his reserved and rather suspicious nature. Perhaps there is no other man in Austrian public life of whom so little is known by the general public.

The relations between Austria and Hungary are very much strained. The bond that holds them together is 39 years old, but it is only the personal influence of the old emperor that has prevented serious trouble. He is held in such respect and reverence that he has always been able to postpone the inevitable collision, but it is greatly to be feared that it will come early in the reign of his unpopular nephew.

A Man of Sorrows.

With the aged king of Sweden Francis Joseph remains as the last of a generation of rulers which included Christian of Denmark, Victoria of England, Victor Emmanuel of Italy, Louis Napoleon of France and William I. of Germany. With the exception of Queen Victoria he has reigned longer than any sovereign of modern times, this being the fifty-ninth year of his rule and the seventy-sixth anniversary of his birth.

He has been a man of many sorrows. Few men have survived so many tragedies. His wife, the beautiful Elizabeth, was killed by an anarchist at Geneva in 1898. His favorite son, Archduke Rudolph, committed suicide in a most tragic manner. Maximilian, his beloved brother, was shot by the Mexican republicans at Queretaro. Ferdinand, his cousin, better known as John Orth, disappeared mysteriously and nothing has ever been heard of him. Ludwig Victor, his only surviving brother, because involved in a sickening scandal and was dragged into a police court like a common malefactor.

Yet it is known throughout all the extent of the great empire that the crowning grief of this kindly old aristocrat is that Sophie Chotek is without a drop of royal blood in her veins.

GEORGE H. PICARD.

General O. O. Howard, Veteran of the Civil War

AMONG the numerous titles to distinction worn by Major General Oliver Otis Howard, retired, who will celebrate his seventy-seventh birthday this month, not the least is that of surviving commander of an independent Union army in the civil war. For years General Howard shared the honor with Lieutenant General John M. Schofield, and the death of the latter in March of last year removed the only man who could divide with General Howard the right to first place among the Union veterans of the great war.

No trace of senility marks the soldier who is nearing the completion of his eighth decade, despite his forty years of hard toil in the army, from his graduation from the Military academy in 1854 until his retirement from the service in 1894. His face, framed in its silver beard, looks confidently and cheerfully at the hereafter in which he so firmly believes, and his step is as firm as it was when he directed the movements of his men on the battlefields of Bull Run, Fair Oaks, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and elsewhere. In one respect General Howard shows how much he has given to his country. His empty right sleeve, looped up to his shoulder by a silken cord, tells eloquently of the arm left at Fair Oaks in the second year of the war.

Saw Service on Many Fields.

It is believed that no other Union officer of high rank save General Sheridan saw so many stricken fields as General Howard. From the time of his enlistment for active service as colonel of the Third Maine infantry until the very close of active operations in North Carolina in April, 1865, General Howard participated in most of the great battles of the war and in many of the minor engagements. His fight for the Union was only interrupted by the months of convalescence from the illness caused by the loss of his arm.

Not alone against the valiant men in gray and butternut have the fighting forces of General Howard been directed. When the civil war had settled for all time the one vital question in the reunited states, the nation was confronted with the problem of economical and educational provision for the millions of emancipated negroes. In the postbellum attempts at solutions of these problems few men bore a more prominent part than the one armed ex-commander of the Army of the Tennessee. As commissioner of the bureau of refugees, freedmen and abandoned lands, better known as the freedmen's bureau, he fought strenuously from 1865 until 1874 for the rights and interests of the colored man as he understood them. The feuds and animosities of that unhappy time of reconstruction must be permitted to rest, and the wisdom of the federal government's course, acting through General Howard and its other agents, is a matter for the historians. It may be said, however, that the personal integrity and good intentions of General Howard have not been called into question. Atlanta university, Fisk university and Howard university, the last being named after the general, are among the living memorials to his work at the head of the bureau. Howard university, in Washington, is the highest institution of learning for colored people in the world.

Fought the Indians.

For twelve years after the close of his work for the freedmen in Washington General Howard used his military knowledge against the savage Indian tribes of the west. To no other living man in all likelihood is so much credit due for the bringing about of peaceful relations with the tribesmen. Over thousands of miles of western territory General Howard pursued them when they were "ugly," fought them when they rebelled openly against white authority and negotiated with them when they evinced a disposition to make terms. About the most strenuous time he had was when he chased Chief Joseph of the Nez Perces, the ablest general the Indians ever had, for 1,400 miles before he captured him. This was in 1877. In the following year the Piutes and Bannocks kept the crippled veteran on the move for many hundreds of miles before they were finally rounded up, and a year later he captured the Sheep Eaters and brought to a close a series of Indian uprisings that had terrified the western settlers for decades.

The Indian war exploit which General Howard considers the most notable event of his career on the plains was the negotiations of a treaty of peace with Cochise, the famous Chiricahua Apache chief. Efforts to induce the Indian and his band to lay down their arms having been all in vain, the savage killing the messengers sent to him, General Howard determined to go himself, attended only by an aid and an interpreter, to treat with the chief. "When I was brought into the presence of the chief," said General Howard, "his first question was, 'What brought you here?' I told him that I had come to arrange a treaty of peace, and he replied that he was willing. We began work, and it required thirteen days to come to an agreement. He never violated the treaty, and we had no more war with the Indians until the days of old Geronimo."

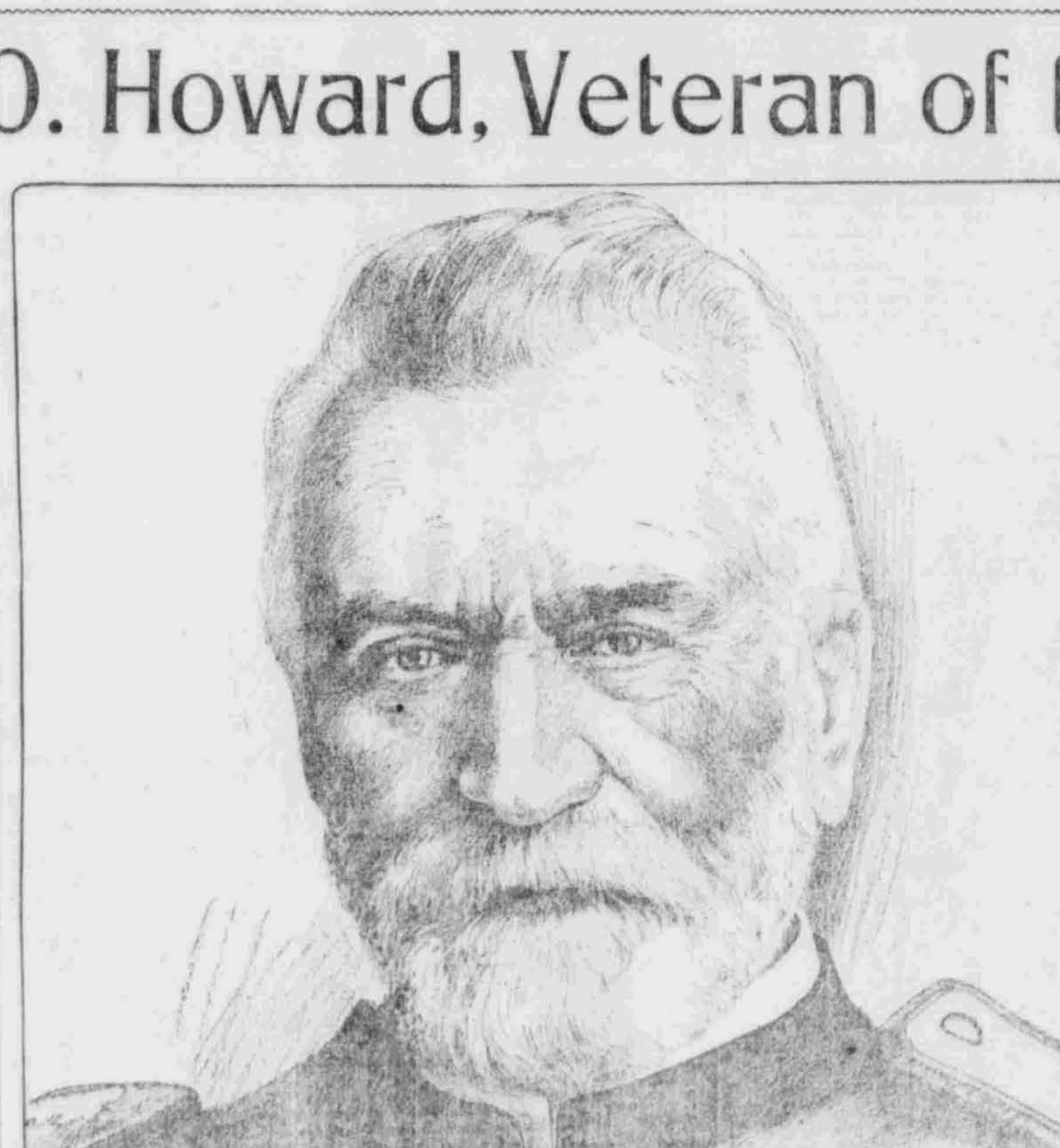
His Interest In Education.

After the settling of the disputes with the Indians General Howard was assigned to the command of army departments in various sections of the country. His last active command was the department of the east, from which he retired in November, 1894. Since then his time has been devoted to writing, lecturing and the advancement of educational and religious projects in which he is deeply interested. He has been president of the American Tract society and of the National Temperance union. His favorite work is the upbuilding of the Lincoln Memorial university at Cumberland Gap, Tenn., which he was instrumental in founding in 1895. "Of all my life's work that of which I am proudest is what I have done for the mountain youth at Cumberland Gap," he said not long ago. "The school is known as the Lincoln Memorial institute, in honor of the lamented president, while the largest hall on the grounds is known as Grant-Lee hall, in honor of the two distinguished generals who commanded the opposing forces during the civil war. We have an excellent institution there, which is doing good work."

Exponent of "Muscular Christianity."

Even before his entrance into army life as a cadet at West Point young Howard was known as an active exponent of "muscular Christianity." It is, in fact, as a "Christian soldier" that he is best known to the public. He shared with General Stonewall Jackson the honor of being known in the civil war as a "praying general," and, like that southern leader, he possessed the confidence of his men in high degree, despite the somewhat widespread belief that men who could pray could not fight. He never showed his fighting qualities to better advantage than on the field of Chancellorsville, when Stonewall Jackson turned the Union right and scattered Howard's command, with others, in confusion over the field. When the rout of the men in blue was at its height, General Howard could be seen mounted in the middle of the road, with the stump of his arm encircling a flag abandoned or lost by a color bearer, imploring the demoralized fugitives to reform and face the enemy. "Maimed in his person and sublime in his patriotism, he seemed worthy to stand by," says one chronicle. A few men heeded his entreaties and formed a line behind him. It was in vain, however, and the general, together with the few officers and men who had stood valiantly by his side, was swept away by the tide of fugitives that fled from the terrible onslaught of the Confederate forces.

CHARLES N. LURIE.



ONLY SURVIVING COMMANDER OF UNION ARMY.

RELIGIOUS FANATICISM IN EGYPT

Discoveries of remarkable interest have recently been made in Egypt, and one of the most recent is attributed to Theodore Davis, who during excavations at Thebes brought to light the tomb of Queen Tele, numbered with the famous personages of ancient Egyptian history, since she was the mother of Amenhotep IV., the heretic king of the eighteenth dynasty. The tomb of this royal personage was found to bear the marks of the religious zealots who carefully removed therefrom every trace of the peculiar pantheistic monotheism she endeavored to introduce into the country.

When excavated traces of the zeal of the religionists became very frequent, these having been doubtless effected during the period in which the country was in the throes of a religious revolution long before the time of Moses.

The excavators found the tomb virtually lined with gold leaf, and fragments of gold were found on all sides. The coffin, reposing upon a bier incrusted with gold, was supported by four lions' paws, which were of the same stuff as metal. The wood of the coffin is entirely covered with a frame of gold inlaid with lapis lazuli, carnelian and green glass.

There is a hieroglyphic inscription upon the metal plate to the effect that the coffin was prepared for Queen Tele by her son.

The mummy itself was unwrapped from head to foot in sheets of gold, with bracelets on the arms and a necklace of gold beads and other ornaments executed in the same metal round the neck, while the head was encircled by a priceless object—the imperial crown of the queens of ancient Egypt.

The crown, though of simple design, is of magnificent workmanship, depicting the royal vulture holding a signet ring in either talon, while its wings surround the head, and by means of a pin are fastened at the tips, the whole article being fashioned in solid gold without any additional embellishment.

HERE AND THERE.

A sea trip is said to be so good for certain people that they will gain many ounces in weight each day, even if they eat scarcely anything.

Dr. Stratton, the bishop of Sodor and Man, who has been appointed bishop of Newcastle, once went to stay at the country house of a north of England peer. Arriving at the station, the bishop jumped into the carriage which had been sent to meet him and closed the door. But the conveyance did not move from the station, and after a short wait the bishop asked the cause of the delay. "They sent me to meet the bishop of Sodor and Man," replied the coachman. "You've arrived, my lord, but I'm waiting for the man."

Dr. Stubbs, bishop of Truro, relates that when he was living in Liverpool (1884-?) he went to a wealthy merchant for a subscription. "They tell me you are a socialist," the merchant said. "What is the meaning of that?" Dr. Stubbs replied by saying there was political socialism and there was Christian socialism. The one said "What is yours is mine," and the other said "What is mine is yours." "I have met a good many of the first sort," said the merchant, "but never any of the second. Here is £100 for you." Until recently Dr. Stubbs held the position of dean of Ely.

Wrestling is the national sport of Persia, and the tournaments held to decide championships rival our football matches in popularity.

During the last ten years as many people have lost their lives through the plague in India as have perished in all the wars since the time of Napoleon.

There are no grapes to equal those produced at Hoeilaert, in Belgium. They are grown under glass, and the vineries are one of the sights of the place.

In Rio de Janeiro you may see women carrying on their heads pitchers of water full to the brim, and, though they travel rough roads, they do not spill a drop.

The Duke of Argyll takes particular pride in an avenue of trees which adorns his grounds. Every tree has been planted by some distinguished person and bears an inscription.

A Frenchman has at last discovered a reliable method of proving death. He injects a solution of fluorescine into the body. If the blood is circulating, however feebly, the skin soon turns yellow.

Rome has recently adopted the "cocktail," and it is now almost as popular with Italians as with Americans.

In certain towns in Germany householders are compelled by law to sort out their house dust. They have to provide three receptacles—one for ashes and sweepings, one for cooking refuse and one for rags and paper. The rubbish is utilized by the town authorities.

Eaton square is the largest square in London, being 601,327 square feet in area. Cadogan square comes next, with 575,500 square feet.

There are some countries which produce one crop and practically nothing else. Burma grows rice, Hawaii sugar and the Philippines hemp.

It is very dangerous to have stuffed tigers' heads on the floor of your house. Queen Alexandra's uncle, Prince Hans of Denmark, recently tripped over one and hurt himself badly.

Lord Alverstone has the distinction of having made the longest speech of any living lawyer. When he addressed the Venezuelan arbitration commission he spoke for sixteen consecutive days.

Free passage and an allowance of £250 a year have been granted by the Indian government to two native girl graduates who are to study for two years in England.

Bring just enough system into business to save time—no more.