

IF I WERE KING.

If I were king—ah, love, if I were king—
What tributary nations would I bring
To stoop before your scepter and to swear
Allegiance to your lips and eyes and hair;

THE LOST LAND

David Royant was sitting out on the terrace, sitting out with a partner who had laughingly declined to dance.
The fragrant scent of hothouse flowers hung in the air, and the strains of the famous El Dorado waltz floated out from the ballroom.



HE HAD PREPARED FAME AND AMBITION.

found the land of El Dorado this man had, for Royant was a millionaire, and more than a millionaire, a man who had built up a miraculous fortune, as it were, in the twinkling of an eye.
He had stumbled on a gold mine by pure accident.

SOME ROYAL REVENUES

ENGLAND was the first to realize what the growing power of royal wealth would mean and the first to force a surrender of the monarch's capital by granting instead a fixed allowance.
Since she set the example the other European countries have negotiated similar bargains—that is, all except Russia.

The German Emperor draws a double salary. As Emperor the Hethatg votes him annually 2,000,000 marks, or \$50,000. As King of Prussia he is given nearly 10,000,000 marks, or \$14,000,000.
Besides, he inherited from his grandfather castles, forests and farms, from which he derives a large income.

In 1908 Congress passed a bill appropriating \$25,000 yearly to pay the President's traveling expenses. Before that his salary had been \$50,000.
When George Washington became President he was the richest man in the country, and when he took the office he said he wanted no salary, except enough to pay necessary expenses.

Paris Excited by Sensation Equal to Dreyfus and Humbert Affairs. Paris has a real sensation, quite the biggest since the Dreyfus case, still so fresh in mind as to need no special mention, and the Humbert affair, which involved the obtaining of millions, loaned to a shrewd adventurer having a trunk full of alleged gilt-edged securities that were afterward found to be only worthless paper.

She gave a little choking sob. "Oh, he loved me—he loved me; but he was too generous ever to press his claim upon me, even though he knew I cared for him—cared for him deeply.
He wanted me to enjoy my wonderful success, unhampered by the cares of domestic life. Wait; choose your own time to marry me, dear, that was what he always said. I didn't realize that I was letting a man break his heart for me. It was only when my dear girl got ill that I realized the truth, for he called out in his delirium—called out to the woman he had loved so patiently and so well—to come to him, never recognizing that she was there—by his bedside. And on the night he died, he said, being still very delirious, that I had never loved him. I had preferred fame and ambition—to happiness."

She shuddered, and David Royant no longer wondered how it was that when she played on her violin men and women wept.

A silence fell, which neither the man nor the woman cared to break; then the dance music suddenly ceased in the ballroom, and a second later a young couple swept up to the entrance of the little sitting-out room. The sound of their happy talk reached David Royant and the violinist.

"To sit out with one's husband—most un-fashionable, Jack." The girl's voice was full of delicious mockery, her lips rippled with smiles.

"Madam, you know you are in love!" He spoke in tones of masterful tenderness. "And in love with your own property, too. Absurd!"

The girl gave a little gurgling laugh. "Jack, you darling," she whispered, "isn't it good to be happy? Aren't you glad we didn't marry for money, but for love?"

They moved away. In the full heyday of their youth and strength, exulting in each other and in life, a crowned son and daughter of joy, drawn back to the glamor of the hearth side.

"El Dorado!" murmured David Royant gently. But Vanessa did not answer.

David Royant was silent for a moment, then he touched his companion upon the arm.

"Shall we make search together for the road which leads back to El Dorado?" he asked. "Shall we try to find that lost country, or does it belong to the youth, I'm afraid," she

whispered back. "And we have lost our youth."
"Of that?" he replied. "We might dwell under the shadow of the city walls of El Dorado."

And he groped for and found her hand.—Casell's Saturday Journal.

ANOTHER ROMANTIC TRAGEDY.

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RULES OF A STRICKEN COUNTRY.



QUEEN MARGHERITA OF ITALY.

THE CALAMITY IN ITALY.

The great earthquake zones of the earth lie generally in long lines of gradual curve, following mountain chains of volcanic rock. In the often-harassed Sicilian-Calabrian region the faultful might trace upon the map a sickle of death, comparatively narrow, curving slowly from the east to the northeast. Its beginning is in the mountains of Central Sicily, its end in the narrow isthmus of the boot of lower Italy.

In this section, Sicily and Calabria are joined. The mountain rock merely dips under water at the Messina straits. Etna, two miles high, the greatest volcano of Italy, is in modern phrase the powder-house of the un-governable force that kills men so pitilessly. The old fable held that Euceladus was here imprisoned, breathing flame and shaking the earth with his struggles to be free. Vesuvius to a slight extent only, Stromboli on its island between usually in a somewhat greater degree, sympathize with the giant's throes.

Messina is almost at the center of the earthquake zone, but its greater foe is the sea. Here are Scylla and Charybdis of the ancient navigators. The car ferry that connects Sicily with the mainland is often interrupted in winter. Three days of south wind, the dreaded "strocchio," and it must stop. The narrow funnel-like strait, that piles a winter storm into such dangerous waves, pinched up the tidal water of the earthquake into the wall of water that overwhelmed Messina and Reggio. The water killed its scores where the earthquake had slain one; and fire and pillage followed, as if humane men were merely making war.

Along the stricken eastern shore of Sicily and on the western shore of Calabria the railroad follows the sea at low level. At every station villages have huddled on the flat land at the foot of the hills, the fishermen's huts edging the very beach. In all these luckless places the tidal wave must have repeated upon a smaller scale the horrors of Messina and Catania.

As when Vesuvius last broke loose, people will wonder why men choose to dwell in such scenes of danger. But between the great disasters that make so portentous a printed list are long periods when the slopes are golden with lemons ripening and the rich soil smiles with double harvests. A volcano is not such a bad neighbor. It always gives warning, and in its worst fits enriches the soil. The earthquake in its appalling fury and unescapable suddenness is a different matter.

SMUGGLING IN PHILIPPINES.

Swift Boat Brings Contraband Goods from Oriental Ports to Islands. Smuggling in the Philippine Islands is assuming proportions that make it a menace to immigration, says the Manila Times. It will surprise the orderly and law-abiding to know that only a few days ago a cargo of khaki, smuggled into the country by way of the east coast of Luzon, was floated down Laguna de Bay and the Pasig for distribution in Manila, yet such is the fact.

The cloth was shipped on the east coast somewhere near Baker, lugged across the mountains to a secluded inlet on the lake and bodily brought into Manila. Sleuths of the government got track of it before it was landed, but there was no way to stop it.

There is smuggling, too, in the north country, but its greatest home is in the Sulu archipelago, with Borneo as its base. There in that back alleyway of the sea it has gone on for ages without let or hindrance. Hundreds of swift gullig vintas are engaged in the illicit trade, and heretofore they have carried on the traffic in the light of day.

It has never been anybody's business to watch them. The trade was good for Borneo and Spanish sovereignty sat lightly in the sea of Dyaks. A month ago when a legislative committee went from Manila to investigate the question it found a hundred boats loading contraband on the Borneo coast and it stumbled upon a party of ninety Chinese who were coming to the Philippines by the underground.

Suppression of the use of opium in the Philippines has made the drug the great prize of smuggling. It has gone to a fabulous price in Manila, Iloilo, Cebu and other cities, and there are riches for the fellow who can run it across the Sulu Sea. And there is money in other articles, as witness the innocent khaki cloth that circled Luzon and came in by way of the Laguna excursion route. The government is planning to meet the Sulu situation by

SOMETHING FOR EVERYBODY

Mattresses filled with paper are used by German soldiers. Lulu Elio is the richest body of water in the world in fish.

As a rule, the modern butterfly is out of date after fifteen years. It is estimated by a New York builder that there are buildings under construction in the city which will aggregate in value more than \$100,000,000.

It is related that when Robert Louis Stevenson was told of the death of Matthew Arnold he paused, and then said, dubiously: "He won't like God!"

Motorists will learn with interest of the case of a Hyderabad notable whose car almost came into collision with that of the Nieman. The notable was fined \$50 by the Nieman, and all his motor cars were confiscated.

At a service of thanksgiving for the harvest of the sea at Port Isaac Church, Cornwall, the walls from end to end were draped with fishing nets, while lobster pots and packing barrels occupied the window spaces.

Asbestos is found in the island of Cyprus and a company organized in 1908, obtaining a concession in the island, began to open a mine early in 1907. Up to the end of that year 1,000 tons of asbestos were mined.

The word "Yankee" is derived from a Cherokee word, Yankke, which signifies coward and slave. This epithet of "Yankee" was bestowed upon the New Englanders by the Virginians for not assisting them in a war with the Cherokees.

Speaking of the engagement of the Princess Maria zu Ysenburg und Biedinger to Admor Robinson of Baltimore, the Vienna Neue Presse says: "This is the first time that a real German princess goes as a bride to the Dollar Land."

A native of Annam, Indo-China, sentenced in Paris for theft, wrote the following apology to his employer: "All Annamites, whether emperors, mandarins, secretaries, literary men, and others, are born thieves. It is a grave and deadly complaint, and there is no cure for it. I know people do not like thieves in France, but it cannot be helped."

From a remote country district there came to Edinburgh an old Scotch lady. It was her first visit, and she happened to arrive as a party of golfers were hurrying to catch a suburban train for the links. "It's a braw town, Mr. MacWholesale," she informed her minister, after her return; "but it hurt me, sair, to see so many deevillike men carrying baks o' broken umbrellas. There maun be sair doun-comes, an' though I wida mention it for the war' to another, there was two or three that lookit as if they had ben ministers."

Maryland's special legislative committee on automobile regulations is out hot-footed after that dangerous nuisance—the "joy rider." "Joy riding has stopped," says Col. Sherlock Swann, a member of the committee. "This reckless driving of automobiles does more to create prejudice against automobilism than anything else. While the committee appointed by Governor Crothers to draft an automobile law has until the next Legislature to finish its work, it has already decided that the severest penalties shall be imposed on chauffeurs and other people who use a car without the owner's consent."

A Union soldier, George Middleton, of Chicago, has sent to Col. W. R. Hal-deman of Louisville a contribution of \$50 toward a proposed monument to Gen. John H. Morgan, the famous Confederate cavalry leader. Mr. Middleton served through the war as a private in Company B, Third Regiment, Indiana Cavalry. He is now a wealthy theatrical manager. Last summer a monument given by him in honor of the soldiers buried in the cemetery of his native city, Madison, Ind., was dedicated. Governor Wilson of Kentucky was the chief orator, and soldiers of the Indiana and Kentucky national guards joined in the ceremonies.

Some excellent bulls are credited to William Arola, who was a London police judge in the thirties of the last century. He once remarked to counsel: "If you can show precisely at what moment the offense was committed and prove that the prisoner was not there when he did it, he could not possibly have done it." And he sagely added: "We cannot divest ourselves of common sense in a court of justice."

Of a similar character was an axiom he once delivered himself of, which has been maliciously fathered on many other occupants of the bench: "If ever there was a case of clearer evidence than this case, this case is that case."

Dr. Maurice de Fleury, a distinguished Frenchman, advances the theory that every time one becomes angry his vitality shrinks. After even the most artfully suppressed signs of bad temper the vitality becomes smaller and smaller, until finally nothing is left. Anger is a certain kind of cerebral excitement, explains Dr. de Fleury. The hypersthenic subject is always on the verge, while the neurosthenic becomes infuriated only by a sudden bound of reaction excited from without. But at that moment when they are let loose the two are alike, save that the strong man is a blunder brute, while the weak man is somewhat of an actor and seems to aim at effect.

Artemus Ward called on a friend the night before one of his panorama lectures. There were some three or four large roaches scurrying about the room, and they attracted his attention. "I am very fond of roaches," he said. "Once, in my own home, I found a roach struggling in a bowl of water. I took it; it made a good boat; I gave him a couple of toothpicks for oars. Next morning I saw that he had fastened a half to one of the toothpicks, and he was really fishing. Then, over-exhaustion, he had fallen overboard. I moved him. I took another toothpick and gave him a new boat. He was really fishing."

What has become of the old-fashioned woman who used to open an umbrella in the rain and sure sign of death?

POPULAR SCIENCE

A solution of a union of sulphur in ten of sulphuric acid will remove the silver from plated goods without affecting the other metal.

It is an established fact that an electric locomotive can haul heavier trains and at a faster speed than a steam locomotive of equal power.

A housebuilding made recently in the neighborhood of London will be powered from a turbine perforated by a German inventor.

Korea's rice crop this year is expected to be 30 per cent greater than for several years past. The yield is estimated at 2,750,000,000 bushels.

It has been officially denied that the 187,000 models in the Patent Office at Washington are to be destroyed, as has been published in some quarters.

Switzerland already has obtained 200,000 horse power from its waterfalls, and expects to make use of three times as much more within the next few years.

Broken pieces of amber can be rejoined by coating the fractured surfaces with linseed oil and bringing them together while warmed until they feel sticky.

At the beginning of September some of the petroleum wells fired by a violent thunderstorm near the end of June at Boryslaw, Galicia, were still burning, like torch flames forty or fifty feet in height. It is said that not less than five wells are struck by lightning every year at Boryslaw, the cause being ascribed to the obligatory use of sheet-iron coverings for all the installations. The iron surface communicates with the iron of metallic tubes, thus forming, during a thunderstorm, a sort of Leyden jar, which prevents lightning strokes.

The success attained in Norway by the electro-thermic process for the fixation of atmospheric nitrogen in the form of nitric acid, which is afterward converted into calcium nitrate and used as a fertilizer in place of Chile saltpeter, has been followed by the development of another method of fixing atmospheric nitrogen by passing it over heated calcium carbide. The product is called cyanamide. In the market "nitrolin"—and experiment shows that when placed in the soil it decomposes and furnishes nitrogen to plants. At present cyanamide is produced on an industrial scale at Odesa in Norway, at Piansa d'Orta in Italy, at Wuppertal, and Brühl in Germany, and large plants are being established at Altona in Austria-Hungary, and at Niagara Falls in Canada.

W. F. Denning, who is the most accomplished as well as the most zealous student of meteorology among astronomers, thinks that the Aurora borealis, which radiates from the magnetosphere of the sun, and was popularly called the "Tears of the Sun," belongs to a stream of gas that the earth, traveling between the sun and Jupiter, sweeps up as it goes. This stream would make the width of the aurora if the earth traveled in the same plane as these meteors, and would be a single line of light, which would be a sort of comet's tail.

They have discovered that a bright comet which appeared in 1892, and which is now in a period of about six months' duration, is a meteorite. I took a photograph of it, and it gave me a great deal of pleasure.