An Old Ambassador's Revelations of the Inner History of Famous Episodes Heretofore Cloaked in Mystery Chronicled by ALLEN UPWARD

HONOR OF AN EMPRESS

sador, as he laid down the in which he had been readaccount of one of M. de Rocheerous duels. "I do not wonyou English amuse yourselves on France. Nevertheless, you that, when we please, make of the duel something different; that is to say, an af-

t doubt," I answered, tossdes Etrangers-"but your press

ambassador brushed this obserthe too great facility with these affairs are arranged that ed them in ridicule," he said, his own line of thought. crime has been committed truly worthy of death, and from its nature, is beyond of laws, that the duel beascred resource, indispensable torests of mankind."

there such occasions, asponded, in order to see in his excellency's mind. at all events known of one,"

annot recall the exact date at was accredited to the court but it must have been at wenty-five years ago, I had Great Britain with a sincere win the confidence of the gilsh people; and knowing our country even politics reconsideration than what

hunt of which I became a memat that time the most aristothe world, made so by the

majesty had formed the habit the chase, under a strict foand attended by only a small to take part in this was in this way that I obprivilege of an acquaintance Il always look back spon aberiahed remembrance. members of her maj-

You will understand. that my intercouses with was on the most respectgood deal, was a dan-

tended to me by that noble lady did not cast bligation of warning this man's presumption. still in doubt an incident aich rendered it unneces-

g outside a small covfor to appear, I observed up to the empress and and, as if persuading beant was about to a a point further on. horse, and they rode rund a corner of the wood. me rague presentiment Lat once gave rein to my

f took place. forward, with an Afrending some remark lia nedw war sty rein in her horse, whip she held in her

tarted with a violence his horse to rear. done next I cannot say. that moment he caught the empress had already rode back past me her eyes relaxing

it swiftly across his quished

istence."

comedies, which reflect its and death

my own copy of the Matinin the smoking room of the not give such importance to

saids with a wave of his hand.

gravely as he began to

wport, I resolved to prove huntsman. Accordingly ! self horses and went out to

of an filustrious personage I shall not mention. Her over to England during the

this time was a certain who filled the post of

at it was not long bered that this baron, of man, quite unworthy se reposed in him by aly did I realize this that

ation with me whether spects to you at the embassy. ig when we were en

knowledgments I could not take my ayes off his face. It was doubtless an Illusion, but I thought I could distinctly perceive a faint purple mark where I had seen the whip of the empress

thoughts, or rather they were conveyed to him without words, by that subtle process for which science has not yet invented a suitable name. He bit his lip and permitted himself an Ill-bred remark

"To a man of your excellency's well-known discretion it would be impertinence to recommend silence with regard to certain incidents of the

changed the subject by complimenting him on the heauty of the young girl whose arm he had just relin-

"'Ah! that is my niece,' he observed. with affected careleshness. an orphan whom I have brought up. The crown prince is good enough to interest himself in her, but of course the difference in their ranks is too great for it to be any more than a passing fancy.

with a fatherly air which did not impose upon me. I even fancied I detected in them a veiled allusion to the cfreumstances of our last meeting.

"I turned on my heel, feeling strangely disturbed, and passed on through the rooms. The crown prince and his

The ambassador paused. His cigarette was smoked out, and he proceeded to roll himself a fresh one. "Catching sight in the crowd of my

a trivial affair," commented | and he passed on, with a wicked smile, and rode away out of sight.

"The next day I heard that he had quitted England under the displeasure of the empress, and some years passed before I was again reminded of his ex-

The ambassador stopped and flicked his cigarette ash into the fireplace before us with much dexterity.

"It was in --- that I next met with my baron." His excellency checked himself abruptly and appeared to be overwhelmed with confusion at having allowed this name to escape him. I was careful to show that I had not heard it.

"You met him, where did you say?" I asked languidly.

whose illustrious consort I have spo- following day a summons to a private ken of," replied the ambassador, conference with the empress herself, swiftly recovering himself. "I had just been appointed to the charge of our embassy in the imperial capital, and it was at a state ball given in honor of the crown prince's birthday that I recognized Magratz again.

"He was moving about among the guests with the assured manner of one who held a recognized position at court. He wore on his breast the cross of the order of St. Luke, the second order in the empire, and everyone appeared to treat him with marked distinction. But what attracted my notice particularly was a young girl of extraordinary beauty, whom he was escorting through the ballroom, and who clung to his arm with a delicious shyness. You know that I am not easily moved by the sex; picture the fascination of this damsel, therefore, when I tell you that I had hard work to refrain from going up to the baron and soliciting an introduction.

"While I was wondering who she could be, and how Magratz had contrived to regain the imperial favor, I observed a movement in the crowd through which the pair was straying. The bystanders fell back, and a young man suddenly came through, a young man with heavy features and bloodabot, rolling eyes, who was dressed in a rich uniform blazing with the stars of a dozen royal orders. It was the crown prince.

"The prince, whose leaden face flushed with pleasure on catching sight of the couple, greeted Magratz in a style of much intimacy, and eagerly took possession of his exquisite partner, whom he led off through the apartments out of my sight.

"Magratz stood looking after them with an expression of dark and furtive satisfaction. Then he turned round, and for the first time caught my eye. He bowed with a polite, almost cordial air, and advanced towards me through the throng.

" Permit me to welcome you to my country, M. l'Ambassadeur,' he said, extending his hand, which I accepted with reluctance. What little influence I may possess here, and especially with his imperial highness, is entirely at your service. I trust you allow me, within the next few days, the pleasure of paying my re-

"While I murmured my formal ac-

"M. de Magratz no doubt divined my

"I bowed, but with coldness, and

"He pronounced these last words

adred years old Briend the little Count Messana of the family statutes of his house, his mar-Staffan fegation, I resolved to ques clase with a lady not of royal blood able man. He is the greatest septist sense. Politically it would be treated this request.

The count is a most remark arould be lastituate only in a social smoke from his lips and complied with tory of scandal in the whole of the analysis, and the offspring of the "For a moment I thought of immo-

DOWNERS GROVE, ILL. remarked. "Was he not mixed up this sense. in that scandal in the Quirinal, in which Prince-"

The ambassador frowned rebukingly. "Yes, yes; we will speak of that some other time. Do not let us distract ourselves now, I beg of you." I excused myself for my interrup-

tion, and his excellency went on: "From Messans I gathered enough house. information to confirm my uneasiness. It appeared that Magratz, after being in disgrace for some years, had recently been allowed to present himself again at court. Fatal magnanim- different view. ity! Unpardonable forgiveness! He

had come up from his estates, bringing with him this niece, who had immediately cast a spell over the crown prince, a young man unfortunately not without a reputation of a certain kind. Her uncle conducted himself in this affair with great prudence, so managing matters that his niece's reputation of a woman! Her majesty immediatewas not compromised, while the ly replied: prince became every day more desperately enamored; and all kinds of conjectures were affoat as to what would be the ultimate issue of this strange cituation.

"Although I was still far from suspecting the real object which Magratz had in view, I could not help seeing in all this some machination which boded no good to the peace of the imperial house. I was hardly sur-"In the dominions of the emperor prised, therefore, to receive on the

"I think I have heard of the count," queen's daughters is illegitimate in

"But since such a marriage would, at the same time, have sufficient force to render any other alliance impossible, the consequence would be, in effect, that the line of the emperor Schwartzenfeldt, would become extinct in the next generation, and the crown would pass to ing no single attraction which could some collateral branch of the imperial ]

"Well might Magratz triumph in such a possibility. I could see only Paula von Magratz became the bride one thing to advise, and even now I do of this ogre on the very day on which not see how I could have taken any the crown prince returned to the capi-

girl.

"I happened to meet the prince next

day, and for the first time I was seized

"It was, of course, impossible that a

Naturally alarmed and annoyed, Count

Schwartzenfeldt left the capital with

his wife. He carried her away to his

ward the marriage already arranged

the sullen coldness with which be

"Some months passed before he

made his next open move. He waited,

with prudent calculation, for the

crown prince to begin to feel the

"On rising to go he lifted the mask

"'I have been greatly distressed by

gave his arm to the trembling bride.

already succeeded.

the prince.

for one instant

mistress

continue to inhabit.

"'You must arrange a marriage for his imperial highness without delay." said with firmness. 'Let him be dispatched at once to some court where there is a princess of suitable age, and ordered not to return till the betrothal is an accomplished fact.'

"Ah, how profound is the instinct threatened to put an end to his life,

and his unhappy parents were reduced to the extremity of distress. "But I dread the effect of a loveless marriage on my son. I know too scandal of such a kind should be long in reaching the ears of the bridegroom.

The ambassador broke off short at this interesting point, and began coughing with violence. The cigarette smoke seemed to have got into his excellency's throat,

"But I weary you with this long conversation," he observed, as soon as the coughing had subsided. "Enough that this venerated personage placed entire confidence in me.

"Within a week of our conversation



.The Prince Greeted Magratz in a Style of Much Intimacy and Eagerly Took Possession of His Exquisite Partner.

which she desired to consult me.

own apartments, without anyone else being present, a mark of confidence which touched me profoundly. had not met for six years, and I was marks of suffering, and the exquisite gayety which had formerly distinguished her had become overcast, Doubtless the sad fate of her relative, the king of Bavaria, had done something to effect this alteration, but the chief cause, I more than suspected, was the anxiety given to her by the conduct of her son.

"It is needless for me to repeat to you the kind expressions which the empress was pleased to make use of on thus meeting me again. It was her first words on the subject of the crown prince which roused my alarm.

"'I have hoped, M. l'Ambassadeur, that an old friend like yourself might be able to advise me with regard to my son,' she said, 'and I look espe cially to you, because you alone are in the secret of the past history of M. de Magratz.

"'Madame,' I replied with ferror, 'the only thing that can prevent my advising you is the confusion with which your condescension overwhelms me."

"Her majesty heard me with a mournful smile. "You have heard, no doubt, of the prince's infatuation for this man's

niece? she proceeded. "I have, madam. I have even seen the young girl herself, who appeared to me to be quite incapable of knowingly taking part in any treacherous

design. "You may be right, but unfortunately she is under the control of a man who has no such scruples. come to what I was about to say, this entanglement is by far the most serious of any in which my son has been involved. So serious is it that the emperor and myself live in actual charming partner were nowhere to be dread of hearing that the prince has privately married this young woman.

"I started, realizing at once the full consequences of such a situation. The crown prince was the only child of the imperial couple. By the well known you please," I said. "Your story in- cuse himself for being unable to de- The people are crying for a voice.

and at once divined the subject on | the crown prince had set out for the capital of a small kingdom in the "Her majesty received me in her west of Europe, under stringent instructions to offer his hand to the monarch's daughter.

distressed to perceive the change conventions of love-making, he blunt. delicate and guarded terms my hope other. which had taken place in this exalted ly approached this young princess in that his visit would contribute to the lady. Her finely cut features bore the a ballroom, and, in bare words, asked peace and happiness of the Schwarther if she would become his wife. The girl, no doubt under equally strict compulsion, gave her assent, adding a profession of fidelity and submission. The crown prince instantly turned away, and that was all that ever passed between them in the nature of courtable.

fleially announced to me by the imily spread through the capital, where it created an immense sensation. was immediately after this that I received the promised visit of Baron

the world, my high regard for the empress made me anxious to fathom the intentions of this villain.

"He appeared to take his defeat with

"'I sincerely trust this marriage may end happily,' he said, when I intraduced the topic. 'It is, of course, absurd to suppose that there is any attachment, at all events on the side of the crown prince. Unhappily, the preference his highness has shown for my niece has turned out to be more serious than I believed, and I afraid the poor child has allowed herself to cherish unreasonable ideas. shall make it my business to obtain a husband for her, if possible, before the prince returns.

saw nothing to take hold of in this announcement. If true, it seemed his unhappy union. From that he that the baron was taking the most pradent course, both in the interests having given his niece's hand to Count of the imperial dynasty and of his niece. I did not yet appreciate the subtlety of his combinations, far less did I foresee the terrible end he had in view, and which you perhaps already perceive?"

I evaded this question.

at her husband's residence. There was on the eve of some new stroke. Perhaps even then, if I had comprehended the nature of his designs, I "The manner in which he did so is might have interfered. But as it was,

well known. Harshly ignoring the I could do nothing except to express in his conduct would present itself to ansenfeldt household. the unfortunate result of this marriage of the crown prince's,' he said, 'and especially when I reflect on the griet it must cause to her majesty my late

"The next day the betrothal was ofperial chancellor, and the news speedfaded scar of the whip leap into sight upon his dark skin, I drew back, and clenched my teeth firmly to prevent myself from making the reply that rose to my lips. But you will realize the difficulty of my position. As the

"I had given orders that he was to representative of a great government, be admitted; for though I am, as you are aware, the least curious person in

His excellency turned his eyes upon me as if to ascertain whether I desired to hear more. I entreated him to complete the narrative. "The European press" he observed, "always misinformed in these matters, put forth a thousand different explanations of what had taken place, all of them sufficiently incorrect. I will tell you the actual sequence of events as learnt it soon afterwards from the confession of Magratz himself.

court to which I was accredited.

errand. The event which followed has

become the property of the world."

"It appears, then, that this monster commenced by insinuating his sympathy with the poor young prince in passed to lamenting his own action in Schwartzenfeldt.

"Having excited the prince's mind sufficiently by hints of this sort, he at | (Copyrighted in U. S. and Great Britain.) length went on, with pretended reluctance, to depict the young countess as a victim of intolerable persecutions on the part of a jealous and pit. Today there are one hundred "Proceed, my dear ambassador, if tyrannical husband, and to bitterly ac- writers and authors to one in 1860. vise a means for her deliverance.

A the husting of one of your late match for the charming baroness. But, more than life itself, all thoughts of out.

a secret attachment—of which I a submission forbidden to speak-restrained me. In a frensy of passion he swore to pu allowed Magratz to depart; and before an end to this state of things, and is many days had passed I learned that plored Magnets to assist him. be had found a husband for his unfor tunate niece in the person of Count

"After some well-acted hesitation the tempter professed himself wor immensely over. He furnished the prince with wealthy nobleman of fifty, but possessthe direction of a certain hunting lodge in an out-of-the-way corner of his own recommend him in the eyes of a young estates.

"The prince was to travel secretly "The ceremony was hurried on, and to the spot at a certain date, by which time the baron undertook that his niece should be there to meet him. Then the two lovers were to lie concealed untli Magratz had succeeded in pacifying the outraged husband, and bringing about an accommodation with the emperor's sanction.

with a presentiment of the coming tragedy. If ever I read anguish and "This understanding arrived at, the despair on a human face, I read it on worthy uncle departed to the Schwartthat of this miserable young man. So zenfeldt castle. The first part of the violent was his grief that he openly arrangement he carried out in the manner agreed upon. The love of the poor young countess for the prince was no less intense than his for her; her married life had not been happy, and, in fine, she was persuaded to accept the part assigned to her. She fled from her home with the baron's secret assistance, and the lovers were speedily united.

estates, some hundreds of miles off, and buried her in one of those fright-"Now Magratz proceeded to execute ful feudal castles which this nobility his real design. He had stayed on at the castle after his niece's flight, pacifying the furious count, not in the way "In the meantime the only resource which occurred to the troubled emhe had promised the crown prince, but by undertaking to discover the peror and empress was to press forfugitive's retreat. As soon as he knew for their son, in the hope that he that the pair had met, he boldly anmight be distracted from dwelling on he had received private intelligence of his fatal passion for the young Count- his niece's whereabouts, and offered to conduct the other to the spot. They "I was present in the diplomatic gal; set out together.

lery when the royal nuptials were celebrated in the national cathedral, be-"But it would not have suited the fore an immense concourse of the nobaron's purpose to bring the rivals bility and citizens. It was the most face to face. The crown prince's high melancholy pageant at which I have band, and the whole affair have been rank might have overawed the husever assisted. The demeanor of the hushed up. He therefore sent on a wretched bridegroom created universecret warning to his victim, managing sal dismay. It was impossible to esso that it should reach him too late cape noticing the reluctance with to afford any chance of escape. In which he uttered the responses, and this warning he pretended to the prince that the elopement was known publicly, and that the count was com-"Among the most interested spectaing to take signal vengeance on both.

tors of it all, I caught sight of Magratz. "The resolution thereupon taken by had but to glance from him to the the unhappy lovers is a matter of hispale face and drooping eyelids of the tory. When the deceived count and illustrious object of his batred to see his conductor entered the lodge, they how far his scheme of vengeance had found the two young people lying dead in each others' arme."

The ambassador again interrupted himself, under the pretense of loosening his cravat. He went on presently. in a firm voice:

chafing of his new fetters. It was "When all was over the author of with alarm that I discovered he was this dreadful catastrophe had the asbeginning to renew his intimacy with surance to return to the capital, and to pose as the disconsolate uncle whose "I had the opportunity once or twice efforts to save his niece from the conof observing them together, and I nosequences of a fatal passion had unticed that his imperial highness, when happily miscarried.

"Two persons knew or suspected something of the truth. One was the stricken empress, who sat in her palace, tearless, beside the corpse of her only son. The other was myself.

"Finally, Magratz came one day to been tortured in his wicked heart all "I do not doubt that this man had the embassy to take leave of me be- these years by the recollection that I fore departing on a visit to his niece had been a witness of his well-merited was an ill-suppressed ring of triumph | he conceived, wiped out the stain in chastisement. The moment he had, as in his voice, which warned me that he blood, he came to me to boast openly of what he had done.

"It may be that long brooding on his vengeance had so warped his mind

"When I sat and heard this terrible creature unrolling the awful story of his crimes, in the perfect confidence that he was beyond the reach of human justice, and then thought of that imperial mother whose life had been rendered desolate for ever, I realized that there are occasions when the duel becomes the most holy of sacra-

The ambassador closed his lips, and "As he spoke I positively saw the leaned back in his seat with the air of one who had no more to say. waited a few moments to see

whether he was going to resume of his own accord. Then I inquired: "And what did you do then?" His excellency transfixed me with gaze of the scorn

I could not afford to enter into a quar-"Ask yourself, as a man of honor, rel with a private nobleman at the what I could do. I waited merely till that carrion was gone, to telegraph to "I suppressed my indignation, and Paris for a week's leave of absence. It allowed him to depart on his fatal was granted. I crossed the frontier as his excellency the French ambassador, and returned the next morning as plain M. le Baron. Then I sought out Magratz.

"I found him in a club to which we both belonged. I offered him a game of piquet, and he accepted with a smile, and at the first card he played I said

" 'Monsieur, you cheated. I saw you mark that queen.

"That was all. You see, there was no scandal. There could be no suspicion of any other cause for our quarrel." "And the result?"

A faint flush came on his excellency's face.

"Our encounter was not prolonged. Within ten seconds after our swords had crossed I had passed my blade through his heart-and I have never wiped off the blood to this day."

The New Pulpit. The press has become the new pul-

He is the greatest reposition to be a sold to be inditionate only in a social stated lover received these tidings. His morracy; suppressentary to use a fine tide sold be individually it would be treated this request.

So a moment I thought of immorrance and the individual be incapable of succeeding the individual to bear, but as soon as it be are getting free speech. Talk it is the glory of humanity. T. P. man or woman, he is immensely pope ing to the throne. It is well known perial house by offering myself as a wretchedness of the woman he dowed Powell, in the New York independ