

**A Close Call**  
By DONALD CHAMBERLIN

The administration of President Huerta of Mexico I was employed by the United States government to the state department service for the state department at Laredo and entering Laredo in with a prominent leader of the rebel forces, who I had attached him that my mission was not detrimental to his interest expressed a willingness that I should go to my destination, the City of Mexico.

How would you like to earn some money? asked the general. I would gladly earn money if I can without compromising my employment at Washington. What I have in mind would not interfere with that at all. I desire to receive a message through a certain person in the City of Mexico. As a member of the United States you would not be suspected. Your government has not taken sides in this matter and there is nothing to prevent me from being the bearer of a letter from a friend.

Supposing I am caught with a letter on my person? I asked. That case you would be shot. And what would I receive for taking this risk?

The general named a sum that tempted me. I was to take that, being in the employ of the United States government, would be little or no risk in carrying the general's message. I needed the sum to be offered for a certain purpose and concluded to stake being caught.

He wrote his message on a bit of paper about three inches square, was to take it to a man high in favor with President Huerta. His name and address were given me, but were not written on the message, though it was signed by a fictitious name. I decided to carry it in the upper vest pocket on my left side, my object being to have where I could easily get it to deliver it in case I was cornered. The general paid me the money for the service I was about to render, for I was to receive it whether I succeeded in delivering the message or not.

Going southward on the general's train I struck the Federal lines near from the City of Mexico. I informed the commanding officer of my mission and was received by him with the courtesy due one in the United States service. Indeed, being stationed at a point where he saw no one except officers and men he seemed pleased to see me, and since I reached his quarters in the evening he insisted on entertaining me overnight.

He proved to be an inveterate gambler, and nothing would do but that I must play cards with him. I dared not antagonize him by refusing and after the evening meal sat down with him in his tent to play. He soon won all the cash I had provided for my journey, and I proposed to quit. He seemed inclined to play on, and I feared to refuse him. I had the money the general had given me, a roll of bills, in my pocket and was obliged to produce it.

My opponent asked at this large quantity of Mexican money was it true. He said nothing about it, but from that moment he began to talk about the difficulty of my getting on in the morning and expressed the opinion that I would be delayed. His prophecy came true, for he gave orders that no conveyance was to be furnished me.

The next morning I asked my entertainer to cash a draft on the American consul at the capital. He promised to do so, but made no move to produce the funds. His actions were so suspicious that I began to think I had better seize upon any opportunity to destroy the general's message. My host never left me for a moment unless there was some one else in the room. All the while he was telling me that he was endeavoring to secure conveyance for me, that he expected a train very soon, and when it came he would furnish me with money for the journey.

About 10 o'clock in the morning I saw a sergeant posting a guard about the house. My heart stood still. I was suspected, would be searched, and the message would be found on me. That meant death. The officer was looking over some military papers at a table, with an unlighted cigarette between his lips. Taking a cigar from my pocket, and with a show of coolness I did not feel, I deliberately cut off the end with my penknife and asked him if he had a match. He produced one, struck it and was about to light his cigarette when, remembering politeness, he extended the match to me.

"After you," I said.

He touched it to the end of his cigarette and handed it to me. I put the flame to the end of my cigar, but purposely failed to close my lips tight in order to prevent suction. When the match had burned near my fingers I took the message from my vest pocket, put one end to the flame and lit my cigar with it, taking sufficient time for it to be entirely consumed.

I saw the officer look up at me quickly, but he said nothing. Dropping the ash of the paper on the floor, I put my foot on it, rubbing it with the sole of my shoe so that it could not betray me.

I think he saw by my expression that I experienced a great relief and had made myself safe, for he permitted me to depart without further delay.

**That Face!**  
"Look me straight in the face and tell me you really love me," he said warmly to the sweet young thing who stood in front of him with downcast eyes.

"Oh, I couldn't do that," came from the lips of the clever girl.—Yonkers Statesman.

**The Cause.**  
"What is the cause of social unrest?" "The desire," replied Mr. Dustin Stux, "of the workman for leisure and of the leisurely man for something to keep him busy."—Washington

**A ROYAL MYSTERY**  
Most Famous State Secret of the Reign of Louis XIV.

**THE MAN IN THE IRON MASK.**

Who the Unfortunate Prisoner Was Has Never Been Disclosed, and When He Died His Body Was Destroyed by Chemicals in His Casket.

A famous state mystery of the reign of Louis XIV of France was the mysterious prisoner, the Man in the Iron Mask. Many are the guesses which have been ventured as to who he was. Plays and novels have been written with the iron mask as the central character, but his identity has remained a secret. It is known without doubt that St. Mars during his life had as a prisoner a man whose face always was covered with a mask of black velvet fastened by springs of steel behind the head.

The guards had orders to kill the man if he ever exposed his face, and St. Mars' own life depended on nobody finding out who his prisoner was. His first prison was the castle of Pignerol. When St. Mars was transferred to the Isles of St. Marguerite the king himself told the jailer to take his prisoner with him and cautioned him not to let him speak to any one, even his guards.

On the night of April 29, 1674, a closed litter escorted by a troop of horses stopped at Lyon, some leagues from Lyons. From the litter descended a young man of slim and active figure, his face hidden by a mask and his hands firmly tied, in which state he lay down on a couch prepared beforehand. Next day ten horsemen arrived with sealed orders to convey the prisoner with the utmost secrecy to the fortress of Pignerol. So it was the Man in the Iron Mask began his twenty-nine years of captivity under the impassive, silent, remorseless St. Mars.

Several years later the man of the mask was seen again when St. Mars was transferred to St. Marguerite. This time troops surrounded a chair covered with waxed cloth. The travelers stopped at an inn for supper. The more daring of the curious peasants peeped through a small window from outside the locked supper room. The prisoner sat with his back to the window, and they could not tell whether he had on his mask. St. Mars sat opposite him with a pistol on each side of his plate.

This prisoner was the subject of much correspondence between St. Mars and Louis XIV of France. Louis continually was asking about him. He gave full instructions as to the care of the man, and about the cell he was to occupy the king wrote:

"Let there be so many doors closed one after the other that the sentinels cannot hear a word, and you will never listen to anything he has to say on any pretext whatever. Threaten him with death if he ever opens his mouth to speak of anything but of what he may be absolutely in want of."

The blindly obedient St. Mars followed his instructions carefully. The doctor who waited on the prisoner said he had never seen his face. Dishes, and plates were examined each time the prisoner was served to see if there was any writing on them. The guards always were ready to kill the moment he took off his mask.

In other respects the greatest attention was shown him, and nothing which he requested was refused. He always was dressed in black. St. Mars himself stood uncovered in his presence and remained standing until the prisoner had requested him to be seated. The jailer often took his meals with the prisoner.

Just who was the Man in the Iron Mask? Some thought he was an illegitimate son of Anne of Austria. Others said he was a twin brother of Louis XIV., whose claims might have deprived the king of his throne. Another writer makes him the leader of an association which was formed to assassinate the ruler. The most general belief is that he was Count Mithridate, first minister of the Duke of Mantua, who had betrayed the interests of Louis XIV. by failing to secure for him, as he had pledged himself to do in consideration for a tribe, possession of the fortress of Casale, but to all questions replied that if it was known who the prisoner was every one would be surprised to find him so uninteresting a person.

The prisoner died after a short illness in 1703. He was buried one autumn day, and his name was inserted in the prison register as "M. de Marchiel."

Eighty-six years later the fronted citizens of Paris broke into the Bastille and rushed to the cell where it was known he had been kept. They stopped short before clean whitewashed walls. Nothing was in the room. The prisoner's clothes and the mask had been burned when he died. Chemicals had been put in his casket to destroy the body. Only one man had seen the face behind the iron mask during the twenty-nine years. He was St. Mars, and St. Mars never told.—Kansas City Times.

**Her Blunder.**  
Beas—You interest me strangely, Jack—as no other man ever has. Jack—You sprung that on me last night. Beas—Oh, was it you? Pardon me for repeating.—Judge.

Religion is the best armor in the world, but the worst cloak.—Newton.

**BUILDING**  
I am prepared to do "all kinds of Building and Repair work Cabinet work, etc., Saw-filing, Screens and Screen doors. Shop at Main and Front.

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Those who have ever stopped off at Orenco and gone over their large acreage of ornamental nursery stock, need not be told that it is the largest and most complete on the Coast. If you have not seen it you should arrange to do so at your earliest convenience. If you are contemplating the planting of any ornamental stock, you should endeavor to see it this Fall—so that it may get the benefit of our Fall and Winter rains.

**UNION STOCK YARDS**

Only a few arrivals in the cattle section for the beginning of the week's trade. Ordinary steers brought 7 65. Cow sales would indicate an advance. One sale being recorded at 6 75. Other lines reported steady.

As was the case with cattle only a few head of hogs arrived owing to the storms on all the lines leading into Portland. Large receipts are indicated for the end of the week. Prices are advancing and the market is very strong.

No arrivals in the sheep section. Buyers are quoting an advance on lambs. Current quotations on choice stuff being at 8 75 to 9. Other lines are very strong.

Regular services at Christian Church, next Sunday. Bible school, 10; preaching at 11 o'clock a. m.; Y. P. S. C. E., at 6:30; preaching, 7:30. All are cordially invited to attend these services.

**Spirella Corsets—Not sold in stores.** A question and a suggestion. Have you any corset troubles? If so, let Spirella service cure them. Over three million satisfied Spirella wearers testify to the ease, comfort and perfection of style produced by Spirella corsets. Many exclusive designs from which to select the corset best suited to your individual needs. A Spirella residence corsetier in this field. My advice, experience and training are at your service, without obligation. Appointments by letter or telephone given prompt attention.—Phone Main 384. Residence, Fifth and Jackson, Hillsboro, Ore. 33-46

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**I have \$6500 or \$7000 that I would like to place in one loan on good farm lands. Who wants it?—E. L. Perkins, Commercial Bldg., Hillsboro. 32-tf**

**ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that we, the undersigned, have been by the County Court of the State of Oregon for Washington County, duly appointed administrator and administratrix respectively of the estate of Polly C. Butler, deceased, with the will of said deceased annexed, and have duly qualified as such.

All persons having claims against the estate are hereby notified to present the same to us with the proper vouchers at the law office of W. N. Barrett, in Hillsboro, Oregon, within six months from the date of this notice.

Dated this January 27, 1916.

James E. Butler and Lottie H. Butler, administrator and administratrix respectively of the estate of Polly C. Butler, deceased, with the will of said deceased annexed.

W. N. Barrett, Attorney for said estate.

**ARE YOU GOING TO BUILD?**

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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS.**

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY.

In the Matter of the Estate of Hamilton West, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed by the above entitled Court as administrator of the estate of Hamilton West, Deceased, and has qualified as such by law prescribed.

Now the estate, all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified and required to present the same, together with the proper vouchers therefor to the undersigned administrator at the office of the Portland Trust & Savings Bank, Northwest Bank Building, Morrison and Sixth Streets, Portland, Oregon, within six months from the time hereof. Dated this 3rd day of January, 1916.

Walter O. Haines, Administrator of the Estate aforesaid.

**SHERIFF'S SALE**

Notice is hereby given that by virtue of a Writ of Execution issued out of and under the seal of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Washington, dated the 25th day of January, 1916, in favor of Theodore Bernards, plaintiff, and D. Rejhito and Luigia Rejhito, his wife, W. E. Ely, Western Bond & Mortgage Co., a corporation, and Hillsboro National Bank, a corporation, defendants, for the sum of \$1000.00 costs and the further sum of \$1112.50 with interest thereon from the 15th day of April, 1913, at the rate of 8 per cent per annum, and for the further sum of \$100.00 attorney fees; and also, the further sum on judgment in favor of W. E. Ely, against the said D. Rejhito and Luigia Rejhito, his wife, and each of them for the sum of \$1500.00 with interest thereon at the rate of 6 per cent per annum from June 22nd, 1914, and the further sum of \$100.00 costs, to and to be directed and delivered, commanding me to make sale of the real property hereinafter described, I have levied upon and pursuant to said Writ of Execution I will on Monday, the 28th day of February, 1916, at the South door of the County Court House in Hillsboro, Washington County, Oregon, at the hour of ten o'clock a. m. of said day, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash in hand, all the following described real property, lying, being and situate in Washington County, Oregon, and more particularly described as follows, to-wit:

Be of parts of Lots twenty-one (21), twenty-two (22), twenty-three (23), twenty-four (24), twenty-six (26), twenty-seven (27), twenty-eight (28), and twenty-nine (29) in Steel's Addition to Beaverton, Washington County, Oregon, being a part of the William F. Hall and wife Donatton Land Claim No. 44, Township 1 South, Range 1 West of the Willamette Meridian, and bounded by beginning at the Northeast corner of said Lot No. twenty-nine (29), in the center of the ditch and running along same North 66 deg. 35 min. West 447.4 feet to its intersection with the main ditch; thence up said main ditch South 22 deg. 32 min. East 758.3 feet; thence South 47 degrees 24 min. East 82.5 feet; thence South 84 degrees 46 min. East 303.6 feet; thence North 62 deg. 12 min. East 275.5 feet, more or less, to the East line of said Lot No. 29; thence along said line North 11 deg. 37 min. West 127.6 feet to the place of beginning. Also a roadway 20 feet wide being 10 feet on each side of a line beginning at a point in the center of the Beaverton Road as shown on the map of Steel's Addition to Beaverton, Washington County, Oregon, 500 feet westerly from a stone at the Southeast corner of said Lot 29 and running at right angles with said road North 28 deg. 15 min. West 291 feet to the center of the main ditch; the parcel of real property above described containing 1.25 acres, more or less, to satisfy the hereinbefore named sums and for the costs and expenses of sale and said writ.

Said sale will be made subject to redemption as per statute of Oregon.

Dated at Hillsboro, Oregon, this 26th day of January 1916.

J. E. REEVES, Sheriff of Washington County, Oregon.

By J. C. APPLGATE, Deputy. John M. Wall, Attorney for Plaintiff.

**News for the economic housewife.** Corn and tomatoes three cents for twenty-five cents, at the Hillsboro Mercantile Co.

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**NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT**

Notice is hereby given that I, the undersigned executrix of the estate of J. M. Bridges, deceased, have filed in the County Court of the State of Oregon, my final account as such executrix and that said Court has set Monday, February 7, 1916, at the hour of 10 o'clock A. M., of said day as the time, and the County Court room in Hillsboro, Oregon, as the place for hearing objections to said account and the final settlement of said estate.

Alice Bridges, Executrix of the estate of J. M. Bridges, deceased.

W. N. Barrett, Attorney for said Executrix

Date of first publication January 6, 1916

**NOTICE OF FINAL ACCOUNT.**

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, administrator of the estate of John L. Forbes, deceased, has this day filed in the County Court of Washington County, Oregon, his final account and report as such administrator in said estate, and the same has been set for final hearing and settlement before said Court at the Court House in Hillsboro, Oregon, on Monday, March 6th, 1916, at 10 o'clock a. m. of said day.

Dated this January 29th, 1916.

J. H. Ray, Administrator of the Estate of John L. Forbes, Deceased.

M. B. and D. D. Bump, Attorneys for Estate.

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