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## THE LATE NAT GOODWIN A MUCH MARRIED COMEDIAN

Noted Actor was About to Engage in His Sixth Matrimonial Venture When Death Overtook Him—Passed Away at the Claridge Hotel, New York—Had Serious Accident in December.

(New York Herald)  
Nat C. Goodwin died yesterday in the Claridge Hotel. The announcement of his death was followed almost immediately by the statement that the actor had been about to embark on his sixth matrimonial venture. The last romance of the much married comedian had as the heroine Miss Georgia Gardner, an actress, who has

recently been an understudy in the company playing "Why Marry?" a comedy of matrimony, in which Mr. Goodwin was one of the stars.

It was only a few days ago that Mr. Goodwin upon learning of the remarriage of Miss Margaret Moreland, who was his fifth wife, stated that he would never marry again. Yet with the very human philosophy that seemed

## WILL RETURN VIA CANADA

Ottawa, Feb. 3.—The members of the French delegation, headed by the distinguished General Pau, who have visiting Australia and New Zealand, are returning to their homes via Canada, and are to be the guests of the Dominion Government, during their stay in this country.

The mission is expected to arrive in Victoria, B. C., about the middle of this month, and will be met on arrival there, by Sir Joseph Pope, under secretary for external affairs, who will represent the government, and accompany the party on their tour of the Dominion. Their tour includes the city of Quebec.

always a factor in Mr. Goodwin's life he changed his mind the next day. He applied for leave of absence from the company which had been playing in Baltimore, and Miss Gardner preceded him to this city to make arrangements for his return here.

He had been advised by his physicians to take a brief rest, but no alarm was felt as to his condition. When Mr. Goodwin arrived here, it became understood among his friends that his sixth wedding would take place soon.

Thursday was the first day Mr. Goodwin was confined to his apartment in the Claridge Hotel. He retired about midnight feeling very comfortable but later he became ill, and died about five o'clock in the morning, following a stroke of apoplexy.

Miss Gardner had been summoned. With Mr. Goodwin also at the time of his death were his aged housekeeper an employee of many years, and Dr. Melvin E. Wolk Mr. Goodwin's physician.

### Last Courtship Was Brief

Like most of the romances which preceded Mr. Goodwin's several marriages, his courtship of Miss Gardner was brief, the romance having been noted by the members of the "Why

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Marry" company only recently. Miss Gardner was born in Los Angeles, Cal. about thirty years ago.

Mr. Goodwin who was sixty-one years old, met with a serious accident last December when he applied chloroform liniment to his right eye, mistaking the liniment for an eye lotion. It was found necessary to remove the right eye to save the left. This kept Mr. Goodwin from the stage only a short time, and few persons knew of the accident until some time later. Since then the actor was not in the best of health, but his spirits were unimpaired and the good humor which was so characteristic did not leave him.

The actor's parents in Boston, where he was born intended him for a business career, but when he was about eighteen he went on the stage at the old Howard Athenaeum, in Boston, taking the role of a newsboy in a play called "Law in New York." He never abandoned the footlights for very long thereafter. Several years ago Mr. Goodwin left the stage to devote his time to mining ventures, but he returned—many thought with subtler gifts of humor than ever.

In 1878 Mr. Goodwin married Miss Eliza Wethersby, an actress, who died in 1887. A year later he married Mrs. Nellie Pease, a wealthy widow. They were divorced in 1896, the marriage having been rather unhappy for several years prior.

Then he married Miss Maxine Elliot with whom he was appearing on the stage. Mr. Goodwin in 1898 began an action for divorce against Miss Elliott alleging desertion. He charged that she was ungrateful for the advancement on the stage he had afforded her.

Soon after this divorce Mr. Goodwin married Miss Edna Goodrich at the home of his mother, Mrs. N. C. Goodwin, in Boston, in November, 1908. Only a few days before he had declared he would never marry again.

Two years later Miss Goodrich divorced the comedian, whereupon he married Miss Moreland. She obtained a divorce recently and on last Monday was married to Lieutenant Ray Gilson U. S. A., in this city.

Mr. Goodwin became recognized as one of the most promising young American actors in 1892, when he originated the title role in "The Gilded Fool" at Miner's Fifth Avenue Theatre. Then followed a long series of successes of which some of the more prominent were "In Mizoura," "The Cowboy and the Lady," "When We Were Twenty-one," the charming comedy in which he appeared with Miss Maxine Elliott; "A Native Son" and "Cameo Kirby."

### Played Shylock and Fagin

While the actor's chief fame was as a comedian, he also proved himself in more serious roles. His portrayal of Shylock in an elaborate production of "The Merchant of Venice" aroused varied criticisms. It was asserted by some reviewers that Mr. Goodwin brought out what comedy there is in the role more sympathetically than did some of the most famous Shylocks of an earlier generation. He was seen in equally ornate presentations of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in which he played the role of Bottom, and as Fagin in "Oliver Twist."

Mr. Goodwin a few months ago acted for the motion picture camera and had difficulty with this newer school of expression. A law suit which followed called forth some of the actor's humor when on the witness stand.

Mr. Goodwin's unusual amassing of life's experiences led to the remark by one of his friends that "though little more than sixty years old, he had lived 120 years." During his career it was estimated he had made from his acting and from a few of his business ventures which were successful a sum approaching \$3,000,000. He was such a liberal spender, however, that those who knew him best believe his estate is small.

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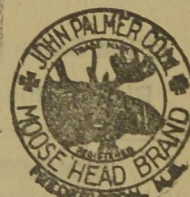
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