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PRINCESS ZARA

BY ROSS BEECKMAN.

CHAPTER I.
A Lady of Quality.

The steamship Trave of the North German Lloyd, docked at the Hoboken pier at eight o'clock one morning in December. Among the passengers who presently departed from the vessel was a woman who attracted unusual attention for the reason that she was accompanied by a considerable suite of retainers and servants who were for a time as busy as flies around a honey pot, caring for their mistress' baggage, and otherwise attending to the details of her arrival. Nor was it alone for this reason that all eyes were turned from time to time in her direction. There was about her a certain air of distinction, wealth, power and repose, which impressed itself upon the observers. Many there were who sought eagerly an opportunity to scan the features of this young woman's face, for that she was young was immediately apparent, and the fact added not a little to the interest that was manifested in her.

The young woman, whoever she was, maintained an air of reserve which raised a barrier beyond which none of the curious might penetrate, and as if insolently disdainful of the attention she attracted, her face remained veiled; not too thickly, but effectively enough to set at naught these efforts of the curious throng.

A view of her face was, however, not required to determine the minds of the beholders that she possessed more than ordinarily the attractive feminine qualities. Her very presence told that; the air with which she moved about among her servants; the simple gestures she made in giving her directions; and the quiet but resourceful and effective methods she used in administering her affairs, indicated that not only was she a person of great wealth, but that she was also high in place and in authority, and one who was accustomed to being obeyed.

Her costume was hidden entirely beneath the magnificent furs which enveloped her, and even the maid who attended upon her immediate wants was more elaborately gowned and wrapped than the average feminine personage of the western world is wont to be.

The immediate party of this distinguished passenger soon took its departure from the pier, leaving behind only those whose various duties consisted in caring for the seventy-odd pieces of baggage soon to be taken from the hold of the vessel; and the immediate party departed from the pier in a carriage, for the hotel where accommodations had already been secured. The young woman and her maid occupied a conveyance by themselves; other maids followed in a second one, and a third contained two footmen, a courier and her official messenger.

At the hotel, where notice of her arrival in the city had been received, she was assigned to a suite of rooms which occupied the greater part of one entire floor and which included every convenience which the most illustrious personage traveling in the United States could have required, or would have found it possible to obtain.

The courier at once sought the hotel office and registered as follows:

Her Highness Princess Zara de Echeveria and suite, St. Petersburg.

And when his attention was called to the fact that the names of the entire party were required, he shrugged his shoulders and announced:

"I regret, sir, that I do not remember the names of all the persons who comprise her highness' suite, but I will supply you presently with a list of them."

In the parlor of the apartments occupied by the princess, her maid was removing the furs and wraps and making her mistress comfortable, for there is inevitably after a sea voyage, a few hours of fatigue which nothing but restful quiet and utter idleness will overcome; and therefore an hour or more later, when a visiting card was taken to the princess she did not even give herself the trouble to examine it, but said while she peered through half closed eyelids:

"Whoever it is, Orloff, say that I will not receive until four this afternoon."

Down below, in the office of the hotel, the gentlemen who had sent up the card and who received this message in reply to it, shrugged his shoulders, glanced at the face of his watch to discover that it was yet barely noon-time, crossed to the book stall where he secured something to read and thereby while away the time, and then having sought a comfortable chair in a secluded corner deposited himself in it with an air of finality which indicated that he had no idea of departing from the hotel until after he had secured

sed the solicited audience.

At four he sent a second card to the princess; at half past four he was admitted to her presence.

If the eyes of that curious throng of people who had watched her arrival at the steamship pier could have seen her then, when this man who had waited so long was shown into her presence, they would have been amply repaid for their admiring curiosity concerning her. It is true to speak of a woman as being radiantly beautiful, commonplace to refer to it at all, save by implication, since feminine beauty is a composite attribute, vague and indefinable, and no one possesses so single quality to individualize it. Beauty such as that possessed by Princess Zara can neither be defined nor described. It is the-tout ensemble of her presence and her personal charm.

Zara de Echeveria needed no adornment to emphasize the attractions of her gorgeous self. She was one of those rare women who are rendered more attractive by the absence of all ornament and her dark eyes were more luminous and brilliant than any jewel she might have worn. Her gown, though rich, was simple; it was, and inasmuch as her servants had found time during the hours since her arrival, to decorate the rooms according to the princess' tastes, she was surrounded by much the same settings that would have been contained in her own palatial home at St. Petersburg. When it is said that she was barely twenty-five in years; that her father had been a Spanish nobleman in the diplomatic service at the Russian capital, and that her mother was of royal birth, we have an explanation for the exquisitely fascinating and almost voluptuous qualities of her beauty, as well as of her royal manner of command.

She did not leave her chair when this man was taken into her presence, but extended one small and perfectly formed hand upon which gleamed a solitary ring; the only jewel she wore that afternoon save a small pin in the lace at her throat, which was fashioned precisely after the same pattern as the ring.

The man lost no time in raising that beautiful hand to his lips, and he bowed low over it, with a courtly grace as graceful as his gesture, as was his reception of him. One wondered why such a man as this had been contented to endure five idle hours of waiting upon her serene pleasure; and yet if one had looked past him to her, one might have ceased to wonder, and have thought a lifetime of waiting would be as nothing, if possession of her at the end of it could be its reward.

"It was kind of you to come to me so quickly after my arrival," she said to him in a low voice that was perfectly modulated.

"It was kinder of you to receive me, princess," he responded, stepping back again to the centre of the room and standing tall and straight before her in his commanding manhood. He was a handsome man, past fifty, distinguished, and like the princess he greeted, had about him the unquestionable air of authority.

"I am afraid I kept you waiting."

"One does not consider moments of waiting, if Princess Zara be the object of it," he retorted, smiling.

"Thank you, yes."

He drew a chair forward so that they sat nearly facing each other across a low table upon which many of the princess' personal effects had already been arranged. Among them was a box of Russian cigarettes which she now indicated by a gesture, while with a smile which lighted her face wonderfully and gave to it that added charm that is indescribable, she said:

"There are some of your favorite cigarettes, Saberevski. I had you in mind when I included them among my personal baggage, having no doubt that I should encounter you when I should arrive in this country; but little thinking that you would be the first to greet me. You will pardon me for not indulging in one of them myself, for you know that I have never acquired the habit. Nevertheless, they will perhaps suggest to you the flavor of home, and may transport you for a moment to the scenes which I know you are longing for."

"Thank you, princess," he replied and lighted one. Then he leaned back in his chair, closed his eyes, and for a time there was utter silence between these two. The man seemed indeed to have been transported in thought, to his native environment, not so much by the odor and flavor of the cigarette he puffed with such calm enjoyment, as by the presence of this magnificent creature who confronted him so daintily, and who received him so simply and yet so grandly. "You knew, then, that I was here in New York, princess?" he asked of her presently, peering at her through the smoke he was making, and he smiled comfortably across the distance that separated them.

"I knew you were in America, Saberevski; and to me America means New York. I believe that you would not be long in making yourself known to me after my arrival, for I knew that the papers would announce it, and that you—shall I call it your duties?—would require that you should not permit my presence here to pass unnoticed."

(To Be Continued)

NOT AT ALL.

Bosh—Yes, he doesn't do anything but pick up nines all the time.

Josh—Well, well, that's a queer superstition.

Bosh—Not at all. It's an occupation, she's employed in a bowling alley.

Fashion Hint for Times Readers



BRAIDED NET COAT.

Much braiding on net is used this year with lingerie costumes, and the term "lingerie" is stretched to cover a multitude of fabrics. This is a veritable garden party frock and is intended for wear only in carriages and on piazzas or lawns. Over a whole frock of net with trimmings of tucks and lace fills goes the long coat, also of the net, but decorated in panel effect with close soutache braiding. This coat is sleeveless, the net and lace sleeves of the frock showing plainly. These long sleeveless coats are really scarcely more than stoles or tunics covering dressy frocks, and are, of course, no protection from the cold, but they are considered particularly smart for ceremonious wear. The parasol is a fringed pongee model in apple green.

MOB BOARDED GEORGIA TRAIN AND STONED THE ENGINEER

Crisis Reached Yesterday in the Georgia Railway Trouble—White Drivers Will Refuse to Take Any More Chances With Negroes.

Atlanta, Ga., May 28.—An ultimatum which may stop the mails on the Georgia Railroad tomorrow, was delivered tonight by Assistant Chief Burgess, of the engineers to General Manager Scott.

Engineer Downing was seriously injured at Lithonia tonight, Burgess says, and he has forbidden engineers to take out trains until complete protection is guaranteed. The first violation to railroad property in the Georgia Railroad firemen's strike occurred tonight to a moving freight at Lithonia (Ga.), and in consequence the race question loomed more sharply than ever over the situation notwithstanding a remote of much apparent progress toward settlement.

A negro fireman was apparently the cause of the trouble and he was rushed to Atlanta on an engine to save him from a threatening situation. The trouble started in the throwing of one or two stones and the boarding of the freight of a man who set the brake and broke it into three sections. The freight now blocks the main line and the progress of the mails. The railroad officials declared tonight that the incident was the work of strike sympathizers, while a county official wired the governor's office that it was merely an accident.

The engine left here today for Lithonia to bring a trainload of perishable provisions from the siding at Lithonia into Atlanta. Assurances have been given for several days that in the interest of local shippers whose valuable cars were tied up, no demonstration would be made against having these cars to Atlanta. When, however, the engine reached Lithonia about dusk it was seen to carry a negro fireman, as did the mail trains which passed Lithonia earlier in the day, exciting unfavorable comments.

About 200 people gathered at the station and just as the train was getting under way, it is said, a stone flew in the cab window and hit Engineer Downing.

Next, according to the officials, several men boarded the cars, set the brakes and

cut off the air, causing the last car to break loose from the train. They also uncoupled the engine, leaving it stalled. According to the railroad's statement, the board of directors can run the trains and interfere with the attack.

Today brought forth almost simultaneously, the possibilities of speedy state or federal intervention believed by many persons of wide acquaintance with local conditions to be heavy with danger of race trouble. It is admitted that either federal or state authorities can run the trains and preserve armed order, but if the railroad insist on its right to hire negro firemen, it is feared that racial enmity and reprisals on negroes will be stirred up in regions remote from the railroad tracks.

It is pointed out that not until the lynching of a negro at Lithonia, shortly after the strike began, had there previously been a deliberate lynching in Georgia for nearly two years. Negroes have met violent deaths during that time, but they were killed while resisting capture from the railroad tracks.

The coming tomorrow of Chairman Knapp, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, is regarded here as indicating that federal intervention may result if the strike is prolonged.

The status of arbitration for settlement has remained unchanged all day.

The race issue developed today in what constitutes probably its two strongest holds on the southern people. The first of these was the unanimity shown by the entire community in resenting the forcing of negroes in their midst in a capacity to which they chose to object. This feeling was evident within an hour after nine negro firemen went out on the mail trains this morning. The other sentiment was the instinct of southern employers to stand loyally by negroes who have rendered them the best of service. Such a large measure, was the character of the negroes who fired the trains today.

While there is still plenty to eat in the strike district, luxuries are exhausted. The one thing which the people feel the need of most keenly is rice.

It was reported late tonight that the engineers would refuse to work tomorrow on account of the Lithonia trouble and there would, in consequence, be no mails tomorrow.

CITY WILL FIGHT THE SEELEY CASE THROUGH THE COURTS

Matters of Importance Discussed at Special Session of Common Council Yesterday Afternoon—The Question of Telephone Conduits.

At a special meeting of the council yesterday afternoon it was decided, after a warm discussion, to defend the suit which the Seeley estate is bringing against Francis Kerr & Co. with respect to the lots adjoining Sydney Market wharf. Permission was granted the N. B. Telephone Company to lay conduits in Mill and Main streets on a guarantee that the pavement after the work is completed be kept in as good condition for twelve months. After considerable debate it was decided to amend the contract with Clark & Adams for repairs to the aboudeau at the Marsh bridge to meet objections raised by the contractors. The mayor presided and Ald. Baxter, Sproul, Kelley, Codner, Belyea,

Potts, Holder, Frink, Christie, Scully, Kelley and Lewis were present with the recorder and common clerk.

The report of the harbor board was first considered. Section 1, recommending that the fielding be allowed to dredge to a depth of thirty-two feet in Sand Point slip, was adopted with the addition that the city engineer should furnish a plan to the department showing within what area the work might be carried out. Recommendations that an iron ladder should be placed on the southern face of Reid's Point wharf and that a boat be purchased for the use of the department at a cost of \$28, were passed.

An account of Robert Roberts Sons amounting to \$1,375.60 for extras in repairing the Wiggins wharf, was ordered paid.

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In section 5 the board reported that they had been informed that application for an injunction was being made by the Seeley estate, lessees of lots Nos. 1 and 2 on the easterly side of Sydney Market wharf, to restrain Francis Kerr & Co. from building a wharf on the adjoining lots which he recently leased from the city. The council was asked to consider what action, if any, should be taken by the city.

The recorder, in reviewing the circumstances from a legal standpoint, said the Seeley estate claimed that having used the lots in question for fifty years they had rights by prescription.

There was considerable discussion over the matter. Ald. Potts criticised the former action of the city in granting the leases to Mr. Kerr on account of the liability for unlimited improvements. He moved that the improvements be proceeded with and that the city defend the case.

Ald. Frink asked if it was going to be the policy of the council to defend all its tenants in their disputes. He claimed it was common street talk that this litigation would follow the granting of the leases.

Ald. Baxter said he had never heard it, and it would be monstrous if the Seeley estate's contention were good in law. The city should not prejudice its position by running the chance of Mr. Kerr losing and should defend the action.

Ald. Kelley contended that if he joined by the courts Mr. Kerr had the right to look to the city for an indemnity and that the city should therefore fight the case.

Ald. Lewis said the voters in Sydney ward had been bitterly opposed to the leases being granted. "Unfortunately I helped Mr. Kerr," he added; "if he had told the truth I should not have minded." The motion to defend the case was carried. Ald. Kelley, Baxter, Potts, Belyea, Codner, Christie and Hayes, voting aye; Ald. Frink, Holder and Lewis, nay.

The report of the board of works was then taken up. The first section related to the application of N. B. Telephone Co. for permission to lay conduits in Union, Mill and Main streets at Douglas avenue.

The board recommended that permission be granted on the same conditions as heretofore with a further guarantee by the company that the streets opened should be in as good condition six months after completion as they were before the work was commenced.

At the suggestion of the mayor Ald. Codner moved that a guarantee be given for twelve months.

Ald. Kelley objected to Main street being cut up. He was convinced, he said, that it would never be replaced in as good condition and moved an amendment that the section be struck out.

At the suggestion of Ald. Potts Ald. Kelley agreed to a condition that the company might take up half the street and put it down in as good condition.

Ald. Sproul characterized the suggestion as unreasonable.

Ald. Frink at this stage reminded the council that under their charter the company had the right to open the streets and that the application was in reality only an act of courtesy.

The mayor added that the work had already started, authority having been given by the chairman of the board.

A remark from Ald. Frink that the city's officials had not done their duty in the past in seeing that the work was properly carried out drew a reply from Ald. Baxter that if it were the case it was time for a house cleaning and the matter should be taken up.

In reply to a protest from Ald. Kelley that his charge was hardly fair, Ald. Frink gave an instance of a sidewalk that was left unfinished for nearly a year.

Ald. Kelley and Sproul engaged in dispute as to the need of cutting the cross ties under the wood pavement, and in the course of some further remarks Ald. Kelley described the company as a vindictive corporation which appeared to have a good grip on the city from the fact that aldermen who had opposed it in the past subsequently lost their election. He further contended that the company should be compelled to take down the poles.

Ald. Baxter, having read the old agreement to the council, said there was no legal power by which the company could be compelled to take up half the street. He moved an amendment to the amendment that the section be adopted with the addition that the pavement and its supports be replaced and kept in as good condition for twelve months.

Ald. Frink remarked that all the froth boiled down to the simple fact that the council had no confidence in their own engineer.

At this stage the original charter of the company was brought into the discussion and Ald. Baxter and Kelley engaged in a legal argument as to whether the power given to make conduits in the streets included the right to construct manholes.

"What's the good of conduits without manholes?" interjected Ald. Sproul, and that ended it. The amendment to the amendment was carried.

A petition to change the name of part of Sandy Point road to Hawthorne avenue was granted.

The final section of the report recommended that the contract for Clark & Adams to repair the aboudeau in the Marsh bridge should be executed by the mayor and that the work should be carried out under the direction of the board.

chance for extras? The recorder replied that there was. Ald. Potts—"Yes, with the wind and the weather I should think there would be a great opportunity. More is made out of extras than out of contracts. I should like to see one contract completed for the original amount."

Ald. Sproul—"You'll never see it." Ald. Potts added that he did not blame the contractors for trying to evade their liability. A. E. Hamilton, the next tenderer, would undertake the work at their figures and should be awarded the contract.

Ald. Baxter thought that would be a queer way of doing business after holding the deposit while the matter was being settled. An effort, he said, was being made to injure Clark & Adams without doing any good to the city.

The amendment that the original contract stand or new tenders be called for was lost. Ald. Kelley, Belyea and Potts voting aye. Ald. Kelley, Sproul, Codner, Hayes, Holder and Scully, nay.

Ald. Baxter did not vote, explaining to the council that on Hon. Mr. McKeown retiring from practice Messrs. Clark & Adams came to consult him and that, leaving the point a formal one, he looked into it for them.

The motion that the contract as amended should be executed was carried with the vote reversed.

At the suggestion of Ald. Hayes the council ordered all work on a crib work in Park street to be stopped until after the meeting of the board of works.

Ald. Hayes contended that the work was not being properly done and that although he had called the attention of the street superintendent to the matter, it was still going on.

The council then adjourned.

Thinks Swearing All Right

Providing the provocation equals the offence of Jones stepping on Smith's corns. Far better to use Putnam's Corn Extract—it does cure corns and warts in one day without pain. Try "Putnam's," free from acids, and painless.

MEETS HERE NEXT WEEK

The annual meeting of the St. John Presbyterial of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society will be held in this city next week. Delegates from all the W. F. M. societies in the bounds are expected to attend.

The ladies of St. Stephen's and St. Andrew's churches will entertain those who attend. On Tuesday evening a social will be held to welcome the delegates to the city.

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"There's ease in every drop." 25c a bottle at your Dealer's.

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AMHERST WANTS FIVE MILE RACE

The Amherst News says: The Ramblers are endeavoring to arrange a five mile race between Stirling of St. John; Cameron of Amherst; McKenzie, of Springhill, and two or three other outside players. A race with these men competing would certainly be a drawing card.

Hurry Ends in Indigestion

Use your teeth on your food or your stomach will suffer. Quick lunches, hurried eating, bolting food, are sure to end, sooner or later, in some form of indigestion, more or less troublesome.

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quickly relieve the distress caused by hurried eating. They act directly on the stomach nerves and actually help the food to digest and assimilate. They are particularly good for nervous dyspepsia, bloating, hiccoughs, bitter taste in the mouth, and flatulence. With reasonable care in eating, Beecham's Pills will soon

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FIVE YEARS FOR ROY

Montreal, May 28.—P. H. Roy, president of the defunct Banque St. Jean, was sentenced to five years imprisonment in the penitentiary for giving out false returns to the government.

Wife—You used to say that you would move mountains for me.

Hubby—Well, didn't I bring home your new hat the other night?

Rub It In And The Pain Comes Out

Pains and aches will come to every household, and the prudent mother keeps a bottle of Father Morrissey's Liniment on hand to meet them.

Whether it's cuts or bruises, burns or frost-bites, chapped hands or chilblains, sprains or sore muscles, back ache, tooth-ache, ear ache, rheumatism, sore throat or pain in the chest,

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A STRONG FLOUR can only be made from strong wheat. Manitoba hard wheat is acknowledged the strongest in the world—and that is the kind used for Purity Flour.

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Of course this special process is more expensive to operate but it means a lot to Purity flour users—that's why we use it.

It means that Purity Flour is made entirely of the highest-grade flour parts of the strongest wheat in the world.

It means a high-class, strong flour and therefore yields "more bread and better bread."

Purity may cost a little more than some flours, but results prove it the cheapest and most economical after all.

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