

A Substitute

He Volunteered, Receiving No Money Compensation

By F. A. MITCHEL

An elderly lady in Belgium stood on the porch of a residence which was built on a hill and from which she could overlook a road winding through a valley below. Anxiety and impatience were expressed on her face. She was evidently expecting something or some one that did not appear.

"Wilhelmina!" she cried.

"Well, mamma?" responded a voice, contrasting with the mother's sharp tones both for its melody and its indifference.

"It is 12 o'clock, and there are no signs of him."

A comely young woman of twenty came out on to the porch and replied:

"In these war times we cannot expect any one to be punctual."

"Herman has nothing to do with the war. He is not a soldier."

To this the daughter made no reply, but on her face one could read expressed the words "He should be," accompanied by a look of contempt.

"Wilhelmina," said the mother severely, "I am outraged at your indifference. I have been at great pains to bring about this match between you and Herman Weber, of whose wealth you are aware, and now that there is a probability that something has occurred to interfere you show no disappointment whatever."

"What is worth in Belgium today, mamma? If this war continues as it has begun there will be no wealth."

"The trouble with you is that your head is full of impractical romance. You do not favor a suitable match. You wish some knight with no fortune except his sword to come along, kill a dragon who is about to devour you and carry you off."

"I admit that I would be pleased to listen to the suit of one who is fighting for our homes and our freedoms."

A horseman rode out from a wood below.

"There he is now!" exclaimed the mother joyfully. "He will be here in a few minutes."

But the lady was doomed to a new disappointment. The horseman was followed by a dozen or more others, and as they drew nearer it was evident that he had been sent out on skirmish duty. He was followed by a party of British officers, at whose head rode a general. Coming to a branch road leading up to where the two women stood, a single horseman turned into it, while the others rode on. Coming to the gate, he turned in and advanced to the porch. Uncovering in the presence of the ladies, he said:

"I am directed by General Gordon of the British forces to say that he will pass the night hereabout and begs to know if you can conveniently quarter him and his staff."

The speaker was Lieutenant Warren Chandler, an American, who at the breaking out of the war had been a student at Cambridge, England. He volunteered and had been selected by General Gordon as an aide-de-camp.

"Certainly, we shall feel honored at having an opportunity to entertain our country's defenders."

The mother, casting a withering glance at her daughter, spoke up:

"We are expecting to have a wedding here today, and the occasion would be greatly marred by the presence of soldiers."

"There will be no wedding," said the daughter. "The wedding cannot be celebrated without my consent, and I shall not be married today."

The officer looked admiringly upon the girl and as if to become her supporter he said, "I feel obliged to do so. The general ordered me to find quarters for him and his staff, and there is no other house hereabout available."

With that he dismounted and led his horse to a barn in the rear, where he looked to see if there was forage, and finding plenty, unbridled his horse, gave him a feed and went to the house. Being invited to a seat, he asked to be informed as to the wedding that had been mentioned. The mother gave him the necessary information, dwelling luxuriously on her daughter's disappointment.

"I assure you, mademoiselle," said Chandler, "that you have my sympathy. It must be a great trial to a woman to get ready for a wedding and have the ceremony fail to appear."

The girl's face wore an indignant look which the officer mistook for an expression of injury. So he added:

"Quite likely the groom to be has been detained against his will. Soldiers are never their own masters, and in wartime"

"The groomman is a civilian," said Wilhelmina dryly.

"Indeed, I am surprised that in such straining times as these a lady should choose a civilian."

"To this there was no answer in words, though there was a look on the girl's face as much as to say, "I would infinitely prefer a soldier." The mother, who by this time had given up the coming of the groom, left her daughter and Chandler together and went away to give orders for the changed conditions.

The American is a creature especially adapted for emergencies. Chandler had jumped from a peaceful university into war, and he was ready for any other jump that might present itself. One of the least objectionable jumps he might take would be into the affections of a pretty girl. He pretended to sympathize deeply with Wilhelmina in what he perceived in calling her disappointment and had not been in her company long before he averred that any man who would thus disap-

point such an attractive woman must be bereft of any taste whatever. Wilhelmina made no reply to such compliments, keeping her eyes on the floor with becoming modesty.

Chandler spent three hours in the young lady's company. A great deal may be done in three hours, especially by a soldier. Battles have been won in a few minutes. The lieutenant from sympathizing with his companion suggested that a substitute might alleviate her disappointment, and she was not at all shocked at the suggestion.

It was twilight before the general and his staff drew rein at the chateau, dismounted and strode into the house to the clanking of their spurs and side arms. Supper was ready for them, and when introduced to it there was surprise to find a collation such as would be served at a social gathering rather than a hot meal. Then it came out that they were eating what had been prepared for a wedding breakfast.

General Gordon, a bluff Britisher, who had been a soldier for thirty years, was much surprised and indignant to learn that the pretty Wilhelmina had expected to be a bride and had remained a spinster.

"My dear," he said to her, "if I were a youngster instead of an old fellow and the father of a large family of children I would offer myself as a substitute for this end who has been so unappreciative of a lovely girl. As it is I can do nothing for you. But if there is any young unmarried man on my staff who pleases your fancy and who refuses to volunteer to supply the deficiency I shall take the first opportunity to order him where he will be shot."

Even the young lady smiled at this compliment, and several officers held up a hand as boys in school who are ready for some special duty.

When the laughter that greeted the general's sally had subsided Chandler arose and said:

"May I please you, general, I have since entering upon your staff felt under great obligations to you for my appointment and have longed for an occasion to show my appreciation. No opportunity has thus far occurred in the line of military duty. I understand you desire to benefit this young lady and doubt not that, despite your age, were you a single man you might be accepted as a substitute. We are assembled at what was to have been a wedding breakfast. It would not be to the credit of the service if among so many single men of your staff none could be found to represent his commander in a duty—rather a pleasure—for which he is incalculably by previous engagements. If the lady will accept a substitute for a husband in lieu of a general I volunteer with my whole heart."

A clapping of hands and shouts of approval greeted this speech, and every eye was turned to Wilhelmina, who sat with her eyes cast down and spoke never a word.

"Silence, please consent!" cried the general, "silently!"

The general's orderly heard, and, having appeared, the commander said to him:

"Go and find a chaplain or a parson at once. If you give your thirty minutes, and if you are not back here with one in that time I'll court-martial you for disobedience of orders."

At this juncture a servant, who was not cognizant of the turn that had been taken in the affairs of the bride expectant, entered and, with a look and hands thrown up expressing trouble, said to the mistress of the house:

"Oh, madame, we are undone! The groom is coming, and the wedding feast is being eaten. We have nothing more in the house fitted for such an occasion."

Every eye was turned to Wilhelmina, who paled at the announcement. The general was equal to the occasion. "Captain Grant," he said, "put a guard around these headquarters with orders to admit no one."

"General," protested the mother, "you have no right to interfere in my domestic affairs."

"Pardon me, madame, I am not interfering with your affairs. This house is my headquarters. You and your daughter are at liberty to leave it as soon as you like."

All eyes turned to Wilhelmina, who sat without speaking, but it was plain that she was much affected. Her bosom heaved, and she bit her lip. Chandler was watching her and, divining what she felt, went to her, bent over her and looked down upon her with inquiry in his eyes and a smile on his lips. She turned her own eyes up to his, and he saw a decision in his favor.

"A chaplain," cried the general, "Why this delay?"

"Here, general," came a voice from the hall without, and an officer, whose uniform marked his calling, hurried into the room.

"I forbid this marriage," cried the mother. "My daughter's fiancé has 1,000,000 francs."

"And I offer \$1,000,000," said Chandler.

This settled the matter. The ceremony was performed, and the general drew a check for £2000 for a wedding present.

The next morning the general and his staff, except Chandler, who was granted a week's leave for a honeymoon, galloped away.

Gray Hair.

A Chinese philosopher says there is an ounce of wisdom at the root of every gray hair.

Unkind Science.

Money talks, but it never tells us whether or not we are investing it wisely.—Boston Transcript.

Didn't Know the Bird.

He Do you know Poe's "Raven"? She: Why, no. What's the matter with him? Club Fellow.

March Better.

Even though one once won one's "one best bet," it were better that the better did not bet.

The Thinker.

"She has ideas of her own."

"Indeed! What a disagreeable person!"—Detroit Free Press.

Failure to Qualify.

"Are they influential?"

"Hardly. Their automobile is last year's model!"—Judge.

The Color of Metals.
Various facts in support of the theory that all metals are naturally of the color of silver are given by Dr. I. Martionchek in a Russian chemical journal. The yellow tint of certain metals, such as calcium, has been found to be due to the presence of traces of impurities, the pure metal being silvery white. Helms has also shown that when copper is specially purified it becomes of a paler tint, the red color being apparently the result of oxidation caused by the presence of lead oxide.

Tigris Means Swift.
The Tigris appears in the book of Genesis at Hiddkel, one of the four "heads" into which the river of Eden was parted. The name by which we know it does not exactly mean "Tiger." For the correct way of putting it is that both "Tiger" and "Tigris" mean in Persian swift as an arrow. "Euphrates" is a Greek version of the Persian hufrat, which signifies "the good abounding," and represents the old Asiatic burst or pour, akin to our verb "pour."—London Standard.

Candidate For Congress.
The constitution says, "No person shall be a representative who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-five years." This would seem to mean that one may run for congress before he is twenty-five, provided the election day comes on or after the candidate's twenty-fifth birthday.—New York American.

She Paid Cash.
She was notorious for wanting credit, and the druggist was on his guard. "You keep soda water?" "Oh, yes." "And can I have it charged?" "To 120 pounds pressure," he answered urbanely. And then she fished up the necessary coin.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Discovery of the Amazon.
The Amazon river was discovered from the west, in spite of its being the largest body of water emptying into the Atlantic. A party of Spanish conquistadores reached its headwaters after an unspeakably difficult passage of the Andes. Then they built a boat and floated down, later to navigate along the coast to the Caribbean settlements.

Even Then.
First Antediluvian (in Methuselah's time)—What's the discussion about over there? Second ditto—Same old topic, whether a man aged 320 ought to marry a girl of 140. Boston Journal.

Make It Six and Get Interest.
"Jones has owed me \$5 borrowed money for a year. I hate to ask him for it." "Try my plan. Pretend to have forgotten it and borrow \$5 of him."—Boston Transcript.

Dramatic Note.
There's nothing makes a man feel queerer than to have his wife describe a play to him all wrong when he can't correct her because he told her he didn't go to it the night he worked late at the office.—New York Press.

Wonderings.
"There's one thing I've often wondered about, ma." "What's that, child?" "If the mermaids make up the oyster beds with sheets of water."—Baltimore American.

Consolation.
"What! This awfully expensive and horribly crazy but I am to buy for you?" "But, hubby, dear, I won't wear it more than a couple of weeks."—Philadelphia Blatter.

Whatever It Is.
"I don't see how they can afford to do what they do on his salary." "Do you know what his salary is?" "No, but I don't see how they can afford things, just the same."—Detroit Free Press.

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Egg Harbor Township—Charles L. Smith, English Creek.
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SHERIFF'S SALE.
By virtue of a writ of fieri facias, to me directed, issued out of the New Jersey Court of Chancery, will be sold at public vendue, on WEDNESDAY, THE SEVENTEENTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND FIFTEEN, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day, in the Court Room No. 201, Second Floor, Guarantee Trust Building, in the City of Atlantic City, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey, All that tract or parcel of land and premises, situate, lying and being in the City of Atlantic City, in the County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey, bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a point in the Northernly line of French Street, divided into two hundred and fifty feet Westwardly from the Westernly line of Vermont Avenue and extending thence (1) North thirty degrees East along the center of said road one hundred and five feet to the Southernly line of a fifteen foot wide alley known as Franklin Avenue, thence (2) Eastwardly along the Southernly line of Franklin Avenue sixty feet six inches to the Westernly side of Cletchen Avenue, thence (3) Southwardly along the Westernly side of Cletchen Avenue one hundred and five feet to the Northernly line of French Street, thence (4) North along the Northernly line of French Street sixty feet six inches to the place of beginning. Being the property of Delaney Company by deed dated August 15, 1908, and recorded in the Atlantic County Clerk's Office in book No. 37, of deeds.

Property to be sold subject to taxes of 1910 amounting to \$10.53; 1911, \$10.53; 1912, \$10.53; 1913, \$10.53; 1914, \$10.53; and a street assessment of \$6.57 and also street assessment of \$7.25 together with interests and costs on all taxes and assessments.

Selected as the property of Delaney Company et al., and taken in execution at the suit of John H. Carr, and to be sold by JOSEPH H. BARTLETT, Sheriff.

Dated October 23, 1915.

GODFREY, GIDDINGS & REED, Solicitors. P's fee, \$18.00

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Dated October 23, 1915.

WILSON & CARR, Solicitors. P's fee, \$18.00

IN CHANCERY OF NEW JERSEY.
To the Debtor:
By virtue of an order of the Court of Chancery of New Jersey, made on the day of the date hereof, in a cause wherein Hamilton is complainant, and you and others are defendants, you are required to appear, plead, answer or demur to the bill of sale, made on or before the sixteenth day of December next, or the said bill will be taken as confessed against you.

The said bill is filed to foreclose a mortgage given by Egg Harbor Development Company to Caroline Hamilton dated January 30, 1915, on lands in the City of Atlantic City, New Jersey, and in the County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey, and inasmuch as you are made defendant, because it is alleged you hold a mortgage on said lands, which will be cut out of said bill under foreclosure proceedings aforesaid.

ALBERT C. ABBOTT, Solicitor for Plaintiff, 64 Guarantee Trust Bldg., Atlantic City, N. J. P's fee, \$7.50

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.
Estate of Joseph Merritt, deceased. Pursuant to the order of Emanuel C. Shiner, Surrogate of the County of Atlantic, his day hereof, in a cause wherein the undersigned, Executor of the said decedent, notice is hereby given to the creditors of the said decedent to file their claims and demands against the estate of the said decedent, within nine months from the date of this order, or they will be forever barred from prosecuting or recovering the same against the subscriber.

GILBERT M. VANSANT, Executor, Atlantic City, N. J.

May's Landing, N. J., October 20, 1915. BANCROFT & CHAMBERS, Proctors. Atlantic City, N. J. P's fee, \$14.80

IN ATTACHMENT.
Isaac L. Smith vs. Charles Campbell. In attachment. Notice is hereby given that a writ of attachment was issued out of the County Court of the County of Atlantic on the 14th day of October 1915, and the same has been served and duly executed and returned on the twenty-second day of September 1915 by the Sheriff of the County of Atlantic.

OLIVER T. ROGERS, Attorney.

EDWIN A. PARKER, Clerk. P's fee, \$6.12

Dated October 23, 1915.

NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT.
Notice is hereby given that the accounts of the subscriber, as Executor of the estate of Dolphus S. King, deceased, will be audited and stated by the Surrogate and reported for settlement to the Orphans' Court of Atlantic County, on Wednesday, the twenty-fourth day of November, next.

NELLIE B. CAFFERTY, KETTLIE F. BISHOP, Executrices.

Dated October 21, A. D., 1915. CHARLES S. KING, Proctor. Camden, N. J. P's fee, \$7.11

NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT.
Notice is hereby given that the accounts of the subscriber, as Administrator of the estate of Martin V. B. Moore, deceased, will be audited and stated by the Surrogate and reported for settlement to the Orphans' Court of Atlantic County, on Wednesday, the twenty-fourth day of November, next.

ALWILDA MOORE, Administratrix.

Dated October 21, A. D., 1915. JOHN E. ISZARD, Proctor. May's Landing, N. J. P's fee, \$6.30

NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT.
Notice is hereby given that the accounts of the subscriber, as Executor of the estate of William W. Bowler, deceased, will be audited and stated by the Surrogate and reported for settlement to the Orphans' Court of Atlantic County, on Wednesday, the twenty-fourth day of November, next.

BENJAMIN F. HAYDEN, Executor, Stroudsburg, Pa.

Dated October 21, A. D., 1915. JOHN E. ISZARD, Proctor. Atlantic City, N. J. P's fee, \$6.30

NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT.
Notice is hereby given that the accounts of the subscriber, as Administrator of the estate of Louis MacNeill, deceased, will be audited and stated by the Surrogate and reported for settlement to the Orphans' Court of Atlantic County, on Wednesday, the twenty-fourth day of November, next.

MARY MACNEILL, Administratrix, 2730 West Fletcher St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Dated October 21, A. D., 1915. P's fee, \$6.30

NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT.
Notice is hereby given that the accounts of the subscriber, as Executor of the estate of Anna M. Johnson, deceased, will be audited and stated by the Surrogate and reported for settlement to the Orphans' Court of Atlantic County, on Wednesday, the twenty-fourth day of November, next.

JULIA WURZ, Executrix, Gloucester, N. J.

FRANK BESSER, Attorney, Atlantic City, N. J.

Dated October 21, A. D., 1915. P's fee, \$5.88

Freeholders Committees.
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Asylum—Alfred B. Smith, Charles Hart, John K. Johnson, Cyrus F. Osgood, Taylor Haines, Thomas Hutton, Edwin Robinson.
Roads—Charles Hart, Charles W. Clements, Ernest W. Shuckelford, John Hauselmann, Dominick Coniglia, Edwin Robinson, Lewis R. Smith.
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