

STEPHEN S. PARFENOFF



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Inside the Great Conflict

Epic
On the World's War
Politics and Love

By
Stephen S. Parfenoff, LL.B.
Author of "Human Trend."



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Epic on the Great War, Politics and Love By Stephen S. Parfenoff, LL. B. Author of "Human Trend"

Cast of principal characters:

BISMARCK

DEMON

KAISER

PEOPLE

LIBERTY

Columbia

ROOSEVELT

UNCLE SAM

WILSON

CZAR NICOLAS

LENINE

TROTZKY

et al



PROLOGE

It was written enough Of love and great war And politics in prose And I decided, therefore,

To escape the datas And conventional style, To use my simple rhymes And let the critics smile.

Of course, you all admit That the truth is naked So read the book quietly Though your heart is achéd.







CHAPTER I

AGREEMENT Act I

BISMARCK: (In his cabinet, angry alone)

Again a daughter born
To our wretched princess...
But we need an heir — man
To fight the world — yes....

We must have a leader To put the *Vaterland Uber alles* and to hold The world in iron hand.

But this — our crown prince Is just a feeble rat, They can not give a birth To an heir — male — a brat.

Demon: (Appearing)

Yes, I can help you.

BISMARCK: (Surprised)

Why, is it demon? Well!

DEMON:

Why, don't you recognize? Directly from hell!

BISMARCK:

But what do you want of me?

DEMON:

Why, you called me idly, I am not, I can help you And can be your ally.

BISMARCK: (After a moment)

Well, for the Vaterland!— Aim justifies the means; Crime—when—successful Called virtue by its miens.

Better crime — a success Than virtue — a failure.

DEMON:

Yes, if I deposed God — I would live at leisure.

If you conquer the world Then most shall hail thee

A liberator — who The people has set free.

BISMARCK:

Oh, yes, my Vaterland Must be "uber alles."

DEMON:

And if you want it so Then we must be allies.

BISMARCK:

What is your condition?
Or better state your case!

DEMON:

First you need a leader Worthy of your race —

And I swear by my might, That your crown princess Will have an heir born Who can not us disgrace;

And he — when emperor — Will crown your ambition, He will conquer the world — In spite of opposition.

BISMARCK:

What is your condition For helping our cause?

DEMON:

Why, we're Atilla's kins
And pursue the same course.

I want to drag Him down—
The heavenly dweller
And be a king of hell
And heaven together.

I want the kaiser to be—
Supreme power on earth;
And I shall be his Gott
To rule o'er death and birth.

Your God imparts the fears — Only — an autocrat, But I'm for liberty, I am a democrat!

When your folks shall bow And take me as their Gott Then liberty will reign For you, forget me not!

My condition — easy, As a matter of fact.

BISMARCK:

(According to the custom draws his blood and takes a scroll of paper from the devil)

By blood from right hand I shall sign the contract.

To demon by his blood Bismarck signed a contract For his dear fatherland, Simple matter of fact!

DEMON:

Now, Bismarck, listen, Our first step is this: I'll make the princess sleep Then her you take and—kiss.

BISMARCK:

For my dear fatherland, I shall kiss the princess— Aim justifies the means!

DEMON:

Go ahead — your plans I bless.

CHAPTER II BIRTH OF KAISER

As a fruit of the devil's plan, In time it came to pass; A living thing was born— E'en mother said: alas!

It wasn't a rattle snake
The more fierce looking;
It was not a hyena —
A more blood thirsty thing;

But lo, it was a male! To rule on German throne. Princess saw a devil born And she, while all alone,

And terror stricken, tried To stab the devil-baby, But the father — demon There has been already

And took the boy away By the left arm of his And saved it thereby, And that is why it is

The kaiser's left arm grew Shorter than the other, It's a devilish mark And the curse of his mother.

ANTICHRIST

Jesus Christ was born In the humblest place; But the devil was born — A prince in the palace.

Son of God was greeted By shepherds and the star But the son of the devil By every king and czar.

Oh, hail you all grafters, Crooks, beasts and rats, Profiteers, spouse-haters, Felons, vamps and brats!!

Here is your inspiration, Here is your ideal In your vile spheres Not a sprite-corporeal.

SOME OF KAISER'S CHARACTERISTICS

Two decades have passed And look at the devil's son —

Hell is not disgraced Nor is Bismarck undone.

He has the eyes of swine But with the eagle's sight, With the features of a bull, But as a cat—so light.

He was a king of kings By look and by his mind, But the kurd was nobler And yacquis — more refin'd.

Attila and Chingis Chan And John the Terrible Were excell'd by this beast In deeds contemptible.

He was every inch a tyrant, Lusty — a chimpanzee, Ravished nuns and sisters True to his pedigree.

CHAPTER III ACT II

OLD EMPEROR WAS POISONED

(Bismarck and demon in Bismarck's cabinet)

BISMARCK:

Now, I am growing old But before I am gone I want to see Wilhelm On the German throne.

DEMON:

He is well bred by now, Graduated from hell, His past and present deeds Speak for future well.

Here's a dose of poison — When the old rat will dine You give it unto him In the beer — not in wine.

The king of ninety days By beer was put on Fritz

For good of Vaterland, That's why they love the Schlitz.

REVELATION TO KAISER

(Bismarck, demon and kaiser in the cell of kaiser's family-treasures)

BISMARCK:

Now, my future kaiser, Before you mount the throne We shall tell you a secret, Which you must know alone.

DEMON:

Your father left a will And other magic things How to defeat the world And be a king of kings.

KAISER:

Oh, that's my ambition—
To put the Vaterland
Uber alles and to hold
The world in iron hand.

BISMARCK:

According to this will, First you war on Russia,

In such a way and manner: The old king of Austria,

Being as your servant, Shall war on Serbs, of course, Russia will stand by them — That's a cause for your force

To be set on Russia And against her allies. Czarina, in the meantime, Being one of our spies,

Shall cause her Nick to quit
Fighting for his brothers —
And we shall win the world! . . .
And then so far as others,

Like England, are concerned, They can't sail to Berlin; And the chocolate soldiers Shall die before they win.

DEMON:

If our trump — czarina
Will be known as our spy
And cause the fall of czar —
Then you'll have to rely

On Lenine and the son Of Judah — named Trotzky, They'll raise cry for freedom For the bolsheviky.

But U. S. A., of course, They arn't going to fight, We breed there Bryan and Wilson—they are all right.

And they all shall stand For peace at any price. You send your offsprings there To finance them all wise.

BISMARCK:

When France is over-run And Russia's on her knees, Then England will be yours, And U. S. A. at peace —

Then all your legal sons
And illegitimates
Shall rule the whole world
As blood confederates.

DEMON:

And then your Vaterland Will be uber alles

And you as "all highest" Shall laugh at the allies.

Show a benevolence, Not an autocracy, And stand for liberty, Play in democracy.

And always remember You are the hand of *Gott* — The greatest master here And thus, forget you not,

You are the "all highest" Amongst this mankind.

WILHELM:

"Gott is mit uns," and soon The world will so find.

DEMON:

(Giving a bundle of maps and drawings to Wilhelm)

We all depend on you, Take these secret plans For making war machines, How to spy or to advance.

Make wars in Mexico And strikes in U. S. A. Boom that business first And that will pave your way.

Let profiteers get rich By robbing the poorest class And make them mad as dogs, Revolt and die in mass.

Let your men be tyrants And the agitators To raise revolutions As the liberators.

Stand no compromise, Use well the brutal force And let the public pets Be grafters—legal curs,

They'll cause a class war, Brother will fight brother, Son will fight his father And daughter — her mother.

You are to go by trail Of your ancestors — huns.

WILHELM:

Oh, I shall excel them Because Gott is mit uns.

DEMON:

When the world will go mad In shedding blood and tears Then you'll be the master On BOTH hemispheres.

But beware of Roosevelt And Milukoff — they are Worse to us than all Opposing kings and czar.

BISMARCK:

(Giving a blood-stained sheet to Wilhelm, who looked at it in disgust.)

Flag for agitators, Give it them when you need Their help, it's their banner Will help you so in deed.

WILHELM:

(Stepping backward as from an abominable premises)

Why, that's a bloody rag! Even bulls don't love it. . . .

BISMARCK:

Not the red reformers, It's their learnt requisite.

WILHELM: (Still obstinate)

Who drew the blood? from whom?

BISMARCK: (To Wilhelm)

You drew it by your birth And we wrote plans with it To make you king of earth.

(Kaiser takes the rag and kisses it.)

CHAPTER IV ACT I

ANOINTMENT OF WILHELM

(Representatives of many nations were present and some of the crowned heads could be seen. Glittering and pomp was too comprehensible to describe).

> It wasn't a wedding feast Nor funeral of witch, It wasn't a dog's assembly, Out of sight, in the ditch,

It wasn't a rat in grease Nor a mouse in the cream Or a snake anointing A snake in joy supreme;

It was the anointment Of the son of devil, Was — an anathema — Triumph of the evil.

With the sounds of anthem Rang the bells, roared guns, And in exult of joy Even monks married nuns —

So maiden blood and tears, Sour-krout, wine and beer, Duels, cards and robbery Were mixed in the revere.

E'en diamonds in the crown Were bought with the blood Of ages by the devil— Were prize of sin and lewd.

Why shouldn't they rejoice? The top of the chaplet even Was adorned, think of it, With the cross of heaven.

CONFERRING THE DIVINE RIGHTS

BISMARCK:

(Ending his address, which was an arrogant praise of his Vaterland for her heroic deeds in the past, great achievement in the present, and the great future, praising his Vaterland even for her great undone deeds in advance, exclaims in exult.)

Kings, ladies and gentlemen, Deutchland uber alles! And glory to our king And praise to his allies.

(At this time the suite of high priests approached the stand before the throne with their canonic paraphernalia and the sacramental oil to bestow the divine rights of the anointee.)

Prince Gorchakoff of Russia: (Aside)
Old frog — uber alles,
Unter alles of hogs. . . .

Ambassador of England: (Aside)
Uber alles of fools. . . .

Ambassador of U. S. A.: (Aside)
Uber alles of dogs. . . .

Ambassador of France:

Uber alles of curs — The prowlers of nights.

PRIEST: (Ending his benediction)

And now by anointing
You'll have "all highest rights."

Priests: (Praying in a low voice)
Victories to the king. . . .
Glory to Vaterland. . . .

GERCHAKOFF:

(Observing the cup with the sacramental oil)

They want to give the devil Divine rights, understand. . . .

To dispute the right of God!

Not that!—you king of huns. . . .

PRIEST: (Praying)

Lord, make us uber alles. . . .

WILHELM:

Yes, Gott ist mit uns. . . .

GORCHAKOFF:

(While the assembly were praying, he took the cup with the sacred oil and emptied it in his pocket and then poured in it his common booze—vodka—from the quart, which he had a habit of carrying with him even to church, aside)

And this kind of sacred oil
And give you "de-wine rights"....

Priest: (Anointing Wilhelm with vodka)

Oh, Lord make all his foes
To fear him — day and night. . . .

GORCHAKOFF:

(After the ceremony of anointment, ending his address)

I pray you all to notice That now this anointment Gave the king "De-wine" rights With God's arbitrament. . . .

So Wilhelm took the throne Son of devil, king of huns, Thinking: uber alles; And saying: Gott mit uns.

Gorchakoff: (Looking at the kaiser, aside)

This anointment "de-wine"
Did not make him feel well . . .
And so he won't succeed —
He will go back to hell. . . .

BISMARCK:

(Observing no change in the face of kaiser, scented the trouble and examined the sacred cup, where-

upon he found a common mujik vodka instead of the sacraments in it and in rage to Gorchakoff)

My old friend, Gorchakoff, You are a friend — no more! You have tricked the master And for this — we shall war!

Gorchakoff: (Laughing, to Bismarck)

Go ahead, break your neek, But there will be no more "Divine rights" for your kings Whether in peace or war.

DEMON: (Appearing and irely to Bismarck)

For such an impudence, His czar, the Liberator Shall die by violence From hands of conspirator.

I will make his czar's son A vodka's fiend—to die, The throne of czar's grandson Will fall and end his sigh.

(Directly to Bismarck)

Breed for them czarina, Send more bureaucrats

And more provocators

To use the mass as brats.

And then Russian nations And her classes shall fight As mad dogs and equal In their fighting might.

(Demon disappears, leaving Gorchakoff and Bismarck face to face.

Kaiser observing their stern attitude comes on the scene and drops his handkerchief at the feet of Gorchakoff.)

GORCHAKOFF:

(Observing the purpose of the kaiser, instead of picking it up, steps on the kaiser's handkerchief)

Might of truth is with us— Might of God and, therefore, We shall not sleep in peace And we shall fight in war.

Gott's not mit uns — but God . . . And all's well — when ends well, But surely, I believe, You all shall meet in hell. . . .

(Gorchakoff leaves Bismarck and Kaiser in their irresponsive spell.)







CHAPTER I ACT I

ENGLISH POLICY

(Session of the English cabinet)

Gray: (Expressing the foreign policy)

Our ancient enemy,
The land power — Russia
Must be made our ally
At the expense of Persia

And Constantinople.

If not — then czarina

Will make Nick an ally

Of kaiser — the hyena. . . .

MINISTER OF MARINES:

And if our fleet will be Outrivaled on the sea Then our cause will be lost And India will be free

And other colonies Shall follow U. S. A.

And the British cause
Will be lost, Mr. Gray. . . .

GRAY:

Our trump — to form an entente And then "league of nations," Entente to break the huns, League — to guard possessions.

We can hold what we have By keeping us in team With the smallest nations And the crown will be supreme.

Against the Russian nation We've revolutions, We'll keep her paralyzed By her institutions.

Next president of yanks Will be a friend of us, Who shall like the king And make so—all U. S.

Roosevelts and Milukoffs
Must be dealt with wise—
Keep them out of power
And that—at any price.

MINISTER OF FINANCE:

France and other nations — No less — than our vassals Because their heads depend On British capitals.

CHAPTER II ACT II

(In Rome. An agitating conference between the kings of Italy, Roumania Bulgaria and the ambassador of France just before the great war.)

SMART KINGS

Ambassador of France: (Agitated and tired)

You must be our allies Against the devil kaiser. . . .

KING OF ITALY: (Defensively)

We must have the money. . . .

(He was not a Miser)

Yet, we don't like Russia,
If she is free of curbs
Then we'll not be able
To show a tongue to Serbs. . . .

We want all Dalmatia And the Adriatic And make all Jugo-Slavs To feel as on the attic.

And if Russia will have The Dardanelles' strait Then for us — good night — With the bear tête a tête.

KING OF BULGARIA: (Antagonistically)

That's why I took the name Of czar — it makes me right To claim the rivalship With the Moscow might.

The kaiser said to me To take the name of czar And here — I am the czar! The Russian dreams to bar.

KING OF ROUMANIA: (German prince)

If czar will have Bosphorus Then I shall lose my say In my Roumanian home — I'll work the other way.

ENTENTE

And so just Russia, Serbs, England and France Have formed the alliance To break the devil's lance.

CHAPTER III ACT III

WAR

(State room of the kaiser. Lackey announces the appearance of the "all highest." Kaiser appears with demon behind him. All the assembly bows in homage. Demon triumphantly laughing.)

Demon: (Aside, to assembly)

All thy learnt brains — mine, All thy juniors—my slaves, Now I will gain by wars What my ambition craves. . . .

Assembly: (To the "highest")

We hail "the all highest"—
The "Father" of six sons!

Kaiser: (Aside)

"Father," they make me laugh. . . .

(To the assembly)

Children, Gott ist mit uns.

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(After receiving reports from his ministers and finding that all his enemies are not yet prepared for the war, kaiser saw the advantage and after summing up the reports in a brief statement, exclaims)

And we are "uber alles!"....

And just as huns before—

We'll win by sword and fire....

I declare on Russ war!

Squeal and scream and roar Met his declaration, E'en Marxists sharpen'd tails All throughout the nation.

E'en the kaiser's daughter Loved a commonest hun For a democracy . . . When the war's begun.

Kaiser Was Prepared

Kaiser with help of devil According to his plans Built ships for sea and air And mysterious guns.

To capture gay Paris, In the year of 1914,

He without a warning, Set his best machine.

And so it came to pass—
The social demokrats
Were true to their Bismarck
Had gendarmes in their hearts,

Instead of Marseillaise Sang "Deutschland uber alles" And the "Wacht am Rhein" Killing their own allies.

And the sun was too weak To send his rays on earth Thru the clouds of darkness To light the death and dearth.

And worse than a sarancha On the spring field of rye, And worse than the black plague, And cholera's death sigh,

Worse than a joy of kurds In Armenian village, Worse than Jews' pogroms In a Russian pillage;—

It was the kaiser's march, The king of beasts and sin,

To sit in gay Paris "Unter der baldachin."

THE MONSTER

Like a reptile wizard, Breathing fire and gas, With one blow leveling The cities to the grass,

And with a single breath Breaking fences and forts And by his paws sweeping Forests, hosts and ports,

Kaiser — ghasty monster — Horribly marched on, Blinding the moon and stars And the rays of the sun.

Misery, tears and blood, Terror, slaughter and woe Were his faithful servants, And against such a foe

Belgium, ought to be said, With all her little might, Bravely, at the monster To stop him, took a bite.

THE GREAT BEAR

The bite of Belgium Could not stop the kaiser, It did not save Paris, Nor made the beast wiser.

And — one moment more
The proud beauty of France
He would ravish — but then
In such a circumstance

The tail of the monster That was in East-Prussia Was caught by the teeth Of great bear from Russia,

Who would not let it loose And the beast of kaiser — Then coiled like a snake, Trembled like a miser,

And for the strategy,
To capture sweet Paris,
Decided that his tail
First must be made free.

And so he coiled backward.

Struck the bear of Russia

With his available might,

Thrust him out of Prussia—

But before he could free His tail from the bear The British came to help In less than half a year.

And the beast of kaiser
In new rush for Paris
Lo, the river of Marne
He found then — a broad sea.

With his tail pinched fast He could pass Marne—no more. But the French and British Think that they won the war!







CHAPTER I ACT I

(Scene of garden in the Spring. Roses abloom and varieties of other flowers. Tillie Liberty and Stephen People on the bench under an oak tree.)

LOVE

Tillie: (In sweet lover's voice)

Stephen, dear, I shall be Happy all my life thru, Clinging to your side as Your wife—good and true. . . .

I dream of you by night
And long for you by day . . .
I love you, dear Stephen,
I am your own—I pray. . . .

Stephen: (In exult of gladness)

Dear, many years I spent In search of one like you; And now the world is mine— You are my—angel—true. . . .

And how strong I am now! How sweet is such a life! I love you, dear Tillie, Be my partner — my wife. . . .

Tillie: (In reverie)

Stephen, I don't believe In death — because — we love, Love makes us saint, pure, Just as the One above.

STEPHEN:

Tillie dear, talk some more, I want to hear your voice, Murmuring ever love, Thrill me and rejoice. . . .

When I just touch your hand I feel myself—your part—
Part of sun in heaven,
A universal heart. . . .

TILLIE:

Stephen dear, I love you.

STEPHEN:

Tillie dear, I love you. . . .

TILLIE AND STEPHEN: (Together)

From now on, help us God, We vow to be e'er true. . . .

(Now they kiss and how long — I know not.)

CHAPTER II

DEMON SAW LOVE

Well, have you ever been In love so deep as this? Did you e'er lose a time When you have had a kiss?

Love perfects imperfect; Cabbage — makes your rose; Devil — makes your angel Whom you cannot oppose. . . .

And here's a proof to you: A demon loosed from hell Once flew over U. S. A. To marry Europe,—belle

Of exquisite beauty;—
The king of blood and death,
The king of hate and wrath,
The king of poison'd breath

Observed the lovers' twain, Their lips joined in a kiss,— Heart to heart, breast to breast And can you believe this—

The coward demon stop'd,
The dirty king of hell
Grew ashamed of his life
And on the earth—he fell! . . .

The demon, heartless beast, Black of sod and dried blood, Watched the loving couple While hiding in the mud. . . .

Demon's Affection Resulted in Loss of His Two Friends

> Was he there half a day, Half a year — I know not, But the beast — the kaiser, Being without his Gott,

Soon began to question The hope to win the war With his tail in the pinch And blunted teeth, therefore,

His friends deserted him: First the Italian king Then the Roumanian king Joined the British ring

To help the British cause Against the Russian bear,

To get for this his share Or if they can — his hair.

DEMON CRIED

Every kiss and laugh, Each word of love and cheers Made the devil meek and mad And shed his grief in tears.

The first time in his life Demon cried and his tears Were dropped on the ground Of U. S. A., and hear!:

The land of God's country Shriveled in disgust, Shook the hills of the East, Blew cities to a dust,

Could not chase the devil off Under the laws of men But it blew the tears up In anger great and then

Would not take them back, Winds carried them away, One of devil's tears fell On island of Hawaii

And now there, where it fell, Right on the top of the isle, A hell came out — crater, Breathing fire all the while.

Another devil's tear Fell near Valparaise, State of Indiana, Where you can find also—

A hole, called Sager's lake, Set in a lovely vale, The place where lovers meet, But listen to this tale:—

E'vry year in the Spring Its water takes a man Unfaithful to his maid, E'er since the lake began.

DEMON FELL IN LOVE

The king of war and slaves, The king of depths of hell, Forlorn his own glory, In love for Tillie fell.

He ran into a lake, Sod and blood washed off Attired in a civil dress And came out,—Bernstoff.

His servants were so glad, Chewed the glass, drank the oil And blood in Mexico And over Europe's soil.

Some didn't know what to do So they turned to be good And took the shape of snakes And crept all in the wood.

CHAPTER III ACT III

(Demon as an ambassador was introduced into the society of this country, gained an acquaintance with Tillie Liberty and became her ardent admirer, notwithstandin Tillie's repeated refusal to accept his attention. Scene of the ball given by the ambassador Bernstoff, where could be seen most of the democratic leaders with Wilson and Bryan as the lions of the set. Demon and Tillie on the terrace.)

DEMON'S PROPOSAL

DEMON:

Fair maid of U. S. A., Your purity is deep Sunk in the heart of mine, I can sigh, I can weep,

I can make war or peace, I once have dwelt above, I'm still a king of kings, But I can't take thy love.

Surrender yourself, maid, To me, and God Himself

Will come down,—a servant When the world will be — myself.

But I am lacking love. Maid bestow me thy love, And the realm of Hell And the kingdom of above

Shall be united in one And there will be no fears Of God or hate of hell, Nor shedding blood or tears.

Happiness of the world Depends alone on peace— So long as hell and heav'n Live—war will never cease.

Think of the harmony
Of universal peace,
For which humanity
Will pray thee on her knees.

And hail me—Messiah, Forgetting sacrifice, And here upon the earth We'll make a paradise.

I'll give you silk and gold, Diamonds and rare things,

World's riches shall be yours.. And servants—earls and kings.

THE GIRL RESPONDED

The words of such a kind From one who can persist Have a great attraction — Some girls cannot resist.

And Tillie was not old, Of mind and body pure, She could not understand As one of age mature

The demon's final aim
And agreed with the devil
That 'tis nigh well to end
War of good and evil.

FORGED LETTER

One of the demon's servants After a little while Brought Tillie a false message Full of deceit guile —

A Forgéd letter, saying, That Stephen overheard Bernstoff's talk to her And that now it's absurd

To keep the engagement, She could not understand Such sort of jealousy From her loved Stephen, and

She asked the demon—why He is so eccentric And the demon said that May be, he's splenetic,

But it's an old saying That if you have a lover You would never listen Love talk of another.

And so it comes to pass — When the woman does yield Her years to love talks — Thus she loses her shield.

CHAPTER IV ACT IV

UNCLE SAM

(Sleeping room of Uncle Sam. Roosevelt enters and is trying to wake him.)

ROOSEVELT:

Sam, you sleep too long . . . Open your eyes and see . . . I came to talk with you, Come on, wake up, hear me.

SAM:

Well, let me sleep some more.

ROOSEVELT:

You may sleep when I am gone, But I am here and I will Keep you awake, come on!...

Uncle Sam gets under Blankets, but Teddy takes The blankets off and Sam, Seeing clothes off, makes

A dash to his ward-robe.

SAM:

What is the matter, Teddy, You go hunting and when You're back—I'll be ready.

ROOSEVELT:

No, get dressed right now, We have no time to lose For beasts in Africa Or e'en for the bull-moose.

Every common sense So well understands That Miss Liberty Falls in the devil's hands.

Sam: (Excitedly)

What? what, my daughter! (Reflectively)

Well, Teddy, can't you see That my little daughter Is her own boss and free.

ROOSEVELT:

What, to mary a devil! And drag us all to hell!

No, by God, you sleep yet, Oh, I shall ring the bell,

I'll wake you up to see The things yourself quite well That this groomed Bernstoff A demon out of hell. . . .

Sam: (Seriously)

Why, Teddy, can you prove?

ROOSEVELT:

Yes, come and you shall see That our Miss Liberty From the devil is not free!

SAM:

Well, it may be the truth, That freedom is all right So long as it is ours . . . And, surely, I will fight

Any suitor of hell
Who does court my daughter.
Let us go and see him —
Who is that curst plotter?

(The party leaves.)

ACT IV

SO NEAR - YET SO FAR

(Scene of a parlor. Demon and Tillie by the window.)

DEMON:

Liberty, marry me
And the pearls of oceans,
The gold of the world
And the fur of Russians

I'll bring all to thy feet.

TILLIE: (Jokingly)

You can spoil me thereby . . . So much ev'ry thing. . . . I want . . . — be good and I. . . .

DEMON:

(Seeing meekness of Tillie, takes her by the arms with intent to kiss her)

Love me, my dear Tillie,

(Aside)

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This will take off my curse. . . .

(To Tillie)

And then I will be able To rule the universe.

Tillie: (Hesitatingly)

I will ask my father first. . . .

DEMON:

Oh, Tillie, you are free, Therefore, to marry me You are at liberty.

TILLIE:

Yes, my father said to me That I'm of age and free And I believe in that— What you have said to me.

DEMON:

(In exuberance of joy steps back of Tillie and takes his own shape, aside.)

Oh, here I am the king, King of hell and heaven

And in a moment, God From heaven shall be driven. . . .

(Demon takes back the appearance of Bernstoff and again embraces Tillie.)

End of mad world has come, The end of wars for life . . . World shall have one *master!* And there will be no strife.

Then vice and sin shall be Good as virtue itself, Then hate will be—love, Fear—faith, and life—myself.

The tigers and the lions, All the beasts of prey — I'll make them human pets On the streets to play.

TILLIE:

Oh, then I shall be free, Why, absolutely free, Yes, I shall marry thee, My love I give to thee.

Demon: (Taking his dev'lish shape, aside)

I've won—the God is mine!—The love is in my hand . . .

And my immortal kiss

My kingdom shall expand. . . .

(Demon leans to kiss Tillie and at that moment Uncle Sam, Roosevelt and People enter in the parlor and see the demon in his real self, who observed the party and stopped to realize the kiss.)

UNPREPARED

Sam: (Excitedly)

By God, that's some devil! . . . Boys, shoot 'im, fire the gun. . . .

ROOSEVELT:

Sam, where's your gun? quick!

SAM:

I have not any one. . . .

Oh, Jesus Christ, help us, We are not armed, sons, To kill a bat; Wilson Is rusting all my guns. . . .

Let us run to Wilson! . . .

ROOSEVELT:

Leave the girl to the devil! No! let's use what we have To defeat this evil. . . .

(Mr. People makes a rush on the devil with unmistakable intent to fight him with what he has—his fists—but Roosevelt holds him back, saying,)

Let me handle him first, You see he's a devil and — Stronger physically Than you are, understand,

LIBERTY:

I am free, am I not? . . . Why can't I be as such! . . .

ROOSEVELT:

Yes, I do not deny—
You're free, but not so much—
As to marry a devil
And make us all his kins.

DEMON: (Laughing)

Ha, ha, ha, she loves me, You're late—and my cause wins,

She will be from now on — Mine — my own Liberty, She gave herself to me And in this she was free!

Your Constitution says
That the people are free
And your God blessed them,
Therefore, you all can see

That under the laws of men And under the laws of God Miss Liberty is mine. You have lost — the wage is odd.

ROOSEVELT:

Our Constitution is
The law of our own land —
It is made for OUR good
To keep our good in hand,

But can't protect the devil, It's against the COMMON LAW. And, therefore, the devil Shall have to withdraw.

DEMON:

But God's law is higher Than that "common law" of thine,

God sanctions love on earth —
She loves me — she is mine. . . .

(And the demon with Liberty in his arms makes a dash for outside, but Roosevelt catches him by the wings and halts)

ROOSEVELT:

Wait, I am not thru yet, Why is such a hurry? If you're right — you'll have Liberty, why worry!

And we will not claim her, But see, *OUR* Liberty In the hands of the devil Does not make *him* free. . . .

DEMON: (irely)

She loves me — she is mine. . . .

ROOSEVELT:

NO! she's saved by LOVE — Love is virtue of God And her home is above.

Demon: Makes Liberty blind with his breath and irely)

DEMON:

If I did not win her By my love then, I swear, I'll win her by the war!

(And started to run away)

Stephen People: (Running after demon)

Await you, devil, wait! I have not got the lead But with my empty hands I'll tear off your head!

UNCLE SAM:

Go to, boy, and get him!

ROOSEVELT:

No use, Sam, you will see, He has a safety place In the German embassy.

LIBERTY: (As after a sleep)

Yes, I know myself now—
I have been so blind,
And now my eyes—outward
Expression of my mind.

UNCLE SAM:

Liberty, from now on You can't be by yourself.

LIBERTY:

Yes, I shall be more safe In your care, I know myself.

CHAPTER V ACT V

(Scene of Wilson's cabinet. Session of council of defense. Most of the members are present.)—keep away from fighting, peace at any price, too proud to fight, etc.

STEPHEN PEOPLE: (In altercation)

Wilson, I want a gun!
To kill a demon, see. . . .

WILSON:

No, you haven't the right . . . The devil is in his embassy.

ROOSEVELT:

But he brings upon us WAR, Destroys our property, Kills our men and is Filching our Liberty. . . .

PEOPLE:

He blows our mills in air — He plunders our land. . . . We must fight him down And all his devilish band. . . .

WILSON:

I don't approve the FIGHT, But the SHIPS and OUR MEN Must KEEP AWAY from him— It will be all right then.

ROOSEVELT:

But he destroys our homes, Steals Liberty away. . . .

Wilson: (Antagonistically)

Why, I said already— That they MUST KEEP AWAY.

UNCLE SAM: (To Wilson, resolutely)

No, I can't suffer that, And you're talking a fish,

(Excusing himself for the slang)

Open armories of mine, Give them arms, so I wish. . . .

WILSON:

Oh, listen, wait, my master, By Jove, I'll write a note, For a year or two or more! I'll try to "get their goat."

And you can all admit That the might of my pen Can protect the honor Of every denizen.

ROOSEVELT:

Oh, you have been using Your writing might for years And it produced only More of blood and tears.

And all other nations
Now ridicule your course —
It's a disgrace for us,
Your policy — a curse.

Bryan: (Fearing that there may be a fight)

God bless you, children,
Peace! peace! at any price. . . .
War is hell, don't you fight . . .
Hatch a dove — my advice. . . .

WILSON: (To Bryan)

I thank you my teacher.

Marshall: (To Wilson, pathetically)

You kept us out of war Oh, so successfully And you can keep so — more.

WILSON:

Thank you, Mr. Marshall, And you shall keep my vice, So long as I am here Stick by me — my advice.

STEPHEN PEOPLE:

Mr. Vice-manager,
Suppose that your wife
Is assaulted by a devil
Would you fight — save her life?

Bryan: (Interrupting)

Peace, peace at any price.

MARSHALL:

And that is what we say — She must be more careful And keep from him away.

Wilson: (To Roosevelt, bluntly)

Say, you — republicans, You think me an autocrat, Can't you understand that I am a democrat? —

ROOSEVELT:

No, I am American!
And stand for union
And liberty of men—
Whom we depend upon.

Wilson: (Continuing)

I AM TOO PROUD TO FIGHT, I am too good for this.... Let other people fight, But I will live in bliss.

ROOSEVELT:

Come, Mr. Manager — Would you fight for your wife, Knowing that you can save Thereby her very life?

WILSON:

Oh, most assuredly. . . . To save her life — I'll fight!

BRYAN:

Peace, peace at any price, Manager, you aren't right! . . .

You were saying before I am too proud to fight,

Loved peace at any price, Held — might isn't right. . . .

Better live — a coward
Than a hero in the grave. . . .

ROOSEVELT:

Would you fight to be free Or live in peace — a slave?

BRYAN: (To Wilson)

Yes, peace at any price, That's just my idea! . . . And if you want the grave Go fight o'er the sea. . . .

But since you're for this stuff, Here's my resignation. . . .

(Solemnly)

GIVE ME LIBERTY OR A GRAPE-JUICE CONVENTION.

WILSON: (Solemnly)

Grape-juice convention, National prohibition Shall glorify your name And fill your ambition.

END OF PART THREE

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CHAPTER VI Act VI

WAGER OF POLITICS

Demon met a failure.
To win love in U. S.
And so came back to his
Old haunts for new success.

When the last two kings Joined the ring of British And so many thought then That war's at the finish.

But it came not to pass Devil was too mad to rest: While eating spaghetti He smashed all Bucharest.

But still his tail was fast Held in the teeth of the czar, And from his goal in Paris He still was very far.

Then devil bade czarina With all her blackest might To bring peace with the Russ And stop her nation's fight.

But the Russian people Cut her business off, And the mad czarina caused The fall of Romanoff.

So England sent to Russia Gramophon — Kerensky — But devil with bloody rag Sent — Lenine and Trotzky.

The devil's policy
And British policy
In respect of Russia —
Was — "more democracy."

(Demon and Kaiser)

Kaiser: (Alliance with reds)

My dreams are coming through. Russia is dwindling off.

DEMON:

The British aided me To o'erthrow Milukoff.

DEMON:

Call Lenine and Trotzky
For a conference with us.

Kaiser:

Lenine's here but Trotzky In the red haunts of U. S.

But I am, sure, in doubt— Whether men of Karl Marx Can help us very much.

DEMON:

Oh, they are easy marks.

You don't forget your own Marxian democrats.

KAISER:

Oh, well, that's different, They always were my brats.

(Lenine enters)

Demon: (Interview with Lenine)

I heard that you would Accept help from the devil To make the lower class To uproot the bourgeois evil.

LENINE:

Yes, I said — long ago That the proletariats

Must rule the world as kings And not exist as brats.

And to uproot the rule
Of cruel capitalism
I'd accept the devil's help
For the cause of bolshevism.

DEMON:

For the equality And brotherhood of man.

Kaiser:

All Russia then will be A patriarchal clan With me — their patriarch.

DEMON: (To kaiser)

Don't show your ignorance, Call it a communism, And great deliverance.

Kaiser: (Correcting himself)

Das ist recht, in my heart I'm not an autocrat, I long for socialism— I am a democrat.

And that's why my Marxists Fight for me, because — I am for liberty

(To Lenine, positively)

I'm fighting for your cause.

And my Bulgarian czar —
A socialist, too, you see,
And the Turkish sultan
Made all his harem free. . . .

(After a passing thought)

When I picked the flowers From the graves in France I heard them say to me Further not to advance.

And why should I fight? When there is a better chance To establish my rule By means of your fine plans?

I stand for liberty,— And freedom of the sea For a universal Gott— For a democracy.

LENINE: (Aside)

Of course, he is a liar But I will use his aid To establish bolshevism, Of him I'm not afraid.

Kaiser:

You know this very well—
The war's been forced upon me,
For I'm a radical
And stand for liberty.

LENINE:

Point of information:— For whose liberty?

KAISER:

For liberty of men — Such as you and me.

Our interest — the same — I'll get the capitals
Of my foes on the west
And help your radicals

To make you all supreme To do whatever you please

In Russia, but hear this: "We are to live in peace."

(Aside)

He is an easy chap Then all his motherland Will become soon after The part of Vaterland.

LENINE: (Aside)

I will make his tail rot
When I get the power
And to save his own head
He'll hide in his Dutch bower.

(To Kaiser and devil)

Your offer pleases me, Finance the bolshevists, Send us your officers And all your communists

To put the middle class In Russia underneath And to the working class Present a victor's wreath.

(Lenine leaves, shaking hands with the devil and the kaiser.)







Act I

FRUITS OF RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

(Meeting of delegates in Russia to decide on peace or war against the kaiser after the czar was deposed.)

STAND OF PROGRESSIVE PARTY

MILUKOFF: (Ending his speech)

We must fight the kaiser
And fight to the finish
And then protect ourselves
From the Japs and British. . . .

(After explaining the relations of Russia with the foreign nations and the necessity of concerted action of all the people of Russia for the interest of the country)

(Appealing)

To save Russia from wreck — Keep the law and order. . . .

Voice of Bolsheviks:

Law and order of czar?... Slavery and hunger!...

MILUKOFF: (Replying)

Homicide for a crime Cannot be a murder, It's never slavery To yield to law and order.

(Continuing)

For the welfare of Russia
We must have the Dardanelles —
Open roads to the seas.
And what we're in need of else

Is to teach the masses
To read and write,—and —
The curse of bolshevism—
The people to forget.

History makes no jumps, Right after monarchism You never can establish The state of communism.

The republic must be built By the gradual evolution Of the masses themselves,— Not by a revolution.

(Milukoff leaves the tribune under the applause of the delegates)

STAND OF MODERATE SOCIALIST

KERENSKY:

(After speaking a few hours on the subject of war without annexation and indemnities and on scientific socialism)

Milukoff, my comrades, Is not a socialist— Wants his Dardenelles! He's an imperialist!—

No better than the czar, But our revolution — Made to change conditions Of the old constitution —

(Shouting)

Down with the laws of the czar! . . . Down with discipline! . . . In the army and navy! . . . Down with the czar's machine! . . . Long live the committees! Committees everywhere! In the army and navy. . . .

GENERAL KORNILOFF: (To Milukoff)

This soap box debonnaire,

By destroying discipline, Will cause our might to cease. With the fall of our armies— Russia will lose its peace.

MILUKOFF: (To Korniloff)

He is a British hand.

Kerensky:

We must fight — God compels!. But — no annexation! We need not the Dardanelles.

We must fight the kaiser, Down with his institutions! But no indemnities, And no contributions!

And universal peace
Will come and stay with us,
And then will liberty
Protect the home of the Russ!

(Kerensky leaves the tribune under the applause of delegates.)

STAND OF ARMY LEADERS

GEN. KORNILOFF:

(Korniloff made an impassioned speech on the subject of preserv-

ing the discipline in the army and navy in order to continue the war against the central powers and to hold Russia together from breaking to pieces.)

New God — new sacrifice! But I'll rebel,—to-day. . . .

(Pointing to Kerensky)

He drifts to bolshevism; I shall drive them away.

I am a moujik myself, And this you can't deny, And I'll fight for Russia To save her or I die.

(Gen. Korniloff leaves the tribune under the applause of delegates.)

Bolshevism

LENINE: (On the tribune)

Comrades, citizens, friends, We do not want their war, We don't want the slaughter! We want our freedom more!

We want but peace and bread! But freedom, peace, and bread! That is what we all want. . . .

(To the right from the center)

YOU want to die - GO AHEAD!

But don't make the others

To die for you — in war. . . .

(To the right from the center)

The mass works for you—yet!
That's not enough — NO, more —

You want them to die for you. But that's too much to ask From anybody, because, It's a self perform'd task.

(After two hours of speaking on the subject of inequality and opression, etc.)

Down with bourgeoisie!...
And private property!...
Down with slavery!...
Long live liberty!...

All the lands—to peasants! All the mills—to workers!

All the stores—to masses!
All the bread—to toilers....

(Applause from the left interrupts the speaker)

Voice: (From the left)

We want you our leader. . . . Make free the enslaved mass. . . . Long live the brotherhood Of the only working class. . . .

(General commotion of the assembly stops the speaker and is beyond control of the chairman. Trotzky in meantime comes to Lenine and, after a consultation with him mounts the tribune. Lenine leaves the assembly immediately and returns with an armed force which by violence ousts the opponents.)

TERRORISM

TROTZKY:

(Speaking more than two hours on the subject of cause and prevention of wars, peace with Germany and social revolution)

To save the revolution
We must have a red guard—
Death to the bourgeois class!
Kill them or whip them hard!

All who are not with us Are against us, therefore, On each opponent now Here we declare a war! . . .

(After a deliberation on the practical matters the assembly had elected the ministers. Lenine was elected by the commissioners as their president and Trotzky as a minister of war and navy. Henceforth the orders of this body were carried out strictly under the penalty of death as from the supreme authority of the land.)

RESULT OF BOLSHEVISM

Kaiser's Greatest Victory

So Russia was brought down The devil's tail was free And the British navy ruled The ports of the Russian sea.

Soon the middle of Europe Came under the kaiser's hand And the Russ were sold to him By Trotzky and his band.

And the might of the kaiser Grew stronger than before And the world was thinking That the kaiser won the war.

CALL FOR HELP And in this distress, To save them in the fray, They looked about for help, And turned to the U. S. A.







CHAPTER I

RESPOND

(Meeting of the council of defence of the U.S.A.)

ROOSEVELT:

The kaiser wins the war—All the middle of Europe
And Russia are with him
For the allies there is no hope.

Shall we trust the kaiser
Since his treaty with the Russ . . .
And shall we live in peace
When he makes war on us? . . .

Lusitania is sunk — What proofs need you more To show you that it's not A friendly act — but WAR.

WILSON:

(After the speeches of other statesmen in favor of war)

Yes, and I am tired, too, Of corresponding more, And for democracy We'll start on the kaiser-war.

UNCLE SAM ACCOMPLISHED IMPOSSIBLE

And Uncle Sam did start, With all his fervent might— Became ready for war Practically over night.

He has accomplished The impossible thing— Built bridges over seas And made all Europe sing

The star spangled banner. And why should they not sing! When in such a dire stress They saw a hope on the wing?

British sin for Russia Was paid by the blood Of boys of Uncle Sam, Forget it not, my God.

CHAPTER II ACT I

LAST CHARGE OF DEVIL'S ARMY

But a sin for a sin:
Beast's tail would not heal!
Because it was infected,
Now they themselves reveal,

With the kaiser's poison— With a fierce bolshevism, And kaiser started to cry For peace and humanism.

Why he became so good?—
Saw stars and stripes ahead!
And his tail in the rear
Was gangrened!—it was red. . . .

And the ire monster then, He has groaned once more And struck, to save his life, The front to win the war! . . .

But the eagles of Uncle Sam Met him over the top And made him run so far It seemed he would never stop.

(The scene of battle in France)
MARXISTS' STRATEGY

PEOPLE:

Say, wait you, Kamarade: Wherefore such a hurry? Wait, my demokratens.

Demokrat: (Running ahead toward Berlin)

I cannot, I am sorry.

(Running without looking back)

I am going to Berlin, I can swear, — I am sore, To depose the Kaiser.

PEOPLE:

Because he lost the war!

But say, you hypocrite, Leave your arms or I fire.

Social Demokrat: (Throwing arms down)

Don't shoot me, but the kaiser, Whom no longer I admire.

He kept us out of peace.

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PEOPLE:

Because he loves you more.

SOCIAL DEMOKRAT:

Just like your President, Who kept you out of war.

We're going back to Berlin.
Oh, Gott is still mit uns,
My Vaterland is saved. . . .
Shoot the kaiser and his sons! . . .

BLAMING AUTOCRATS

And so it came to pass The social demokrats Put the blame for war On their autocrats.

Act II

(Demon and kaiser in the bower of Holland)

Kaiser: (A fugitive)

My Gott, our cause is lost.

DEMON:

Not quite or not at all.

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Kaiser:

I am a fugitive here, Not in the mirror's hall.

DEMON:

It's a strategic move
For the good of the Vaterland —
See, if you are deposed
And all your high command —

Then your own demokrats
Will meet a democrat —
The President Wilson.

Kaiser:

Why, what do you mean by that?

DEMON:

What do I mean by that?

(Ending his explanation)

They'll put the blame on you, For causing the great war To escape to pay the due.

Kaiser: (Nodding his head in consent, then)

But who will pay his cost For coming over here?

DEMON:

But he's a democrat, I've said, didn't you hear?

ACT III

DIPLOMATISM

(Clemenceau and Lloyd George after the armistice was signed and before the peace conference)

LLOYD GEORGE:

My friend, I pray to God — Oh, we have won the war. . . .

CLEMENCEAU:

My friend, France is saved — The kaiser is no more.

LLOYD GEORGE:

And Russia out of the way—And we have her ports yet.

CLEMENCEAU:

They saved us from the kaiser —

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LLOYD GEORGE:

The past we must forget.

Now we shall get the loot. And then we'll make U. S. Thru a "League of Nations" To guard our loot and us.

CLEMENCEAU:

Do you think the Russ will be At our conference, here?

LLOYD GEORGE:

Kerensky's a waiter now— They've no one that we'd hear.

BENEFICIARIES OF THE WORLD'S WAR

All's well that ends well.

The British and the French

And the idle kings

Have won the war on the bench. . . .

The French and British took The kaiser's lands and ships,

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The kings took what they could, Wilson enjoyed his trips.

Japs took Eastern Asia And bolted off with that, And Russia became a prey To the proletariat.

But the boys of Uncle Sam, By grace of democrats, "Won" Sixty Dollars each To buy them suits and hats.

WILSON'S FAILURE

Wilson came in triumph
At the peace conference
But on coming home — was
Without such preference. . . .

Wilson's "Fourteen Points" Were small for "demokrats" And did not satisfy The other diplomats. . . .

And so it came to pass,
His "Fourteen Points" were lost. . . .
Though we fought for nothing
But we paid the war cost.

ACT IV

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF BISMARCK

(Spirit of Bismarck and the demon on the gallery at the peace conference in the Summer of 1918.)

Spirit of Bismarck:

I cannot suffer that, Such a degradation. . . . Our contract is broken, I want a reparation! . . .

DEMON:

Bismarck, it was your fault.

SPIRIT OF BISMARCK:

What, the fault was mine?

DEMON:

Yes, kaiser was anointed By the unholy wine. . . .





Act I

(Scene of garden. Spring in full swing. People sitting under an oak tree on the bench, looking at the statue of liberty.)

LOVE

Oh, my sweet Liberty,
I shed my blood and tears
Just for looking at you —
So many days and years. . . .

I fought England for you, I fought the Spaniard out, I fought the kaiser down And more I'll fight—no doubt.

I love you, Liberty, I love your lips and eyes And if you were mine now I'd feel in paradise. . . .

Liberty, I love you, Come down, and be my wife And we shall be happy Thru our eternal life.

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COLUMBIA'S RÔLE

COLUMBIA:

(Appearing to People and pointing at liberty's statue)

My boy, do you know her?—
I see, you are sincere. . . .

PEOPLE:

But I believe in her,
And she is to me so dear. . . .

COLUMBIA:

All who loved her before,— From immemorial times, But just while courting her, They have committed crimes,

Because they know her not. Now she's growing older And I want her to be The wife and the mother.

But before the wedding We shall descend to hell To show you her lovers.

PEOPLE:

With you am ready, well.

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ACT II

CZAR NICHOLAS II

(Our party on approaching the gorge of hades observed a house at the end of a small garden, where there was a man working about flowers)

PEOPLE:

(Asking the man on approaching him)

Who is living in this house?

(A man turns to the party and People exclaim to Columbia)

My God, that is the czar, well, But, surely, I expected To see the czar in hell.

CZAR NICHOLAS:

That is my own dwelling, My family and I Live in this little house.

PEOPLE:

How's that you're here, why?

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CZAR NICHOLAS:

Didn't I suffer enough
While on the Russian throne? . .

PEOPLE:

Well, it may be so, but It's a fault of your own.

Where is the czarina?

CZAR NICHOLAS:

She lives in the abyss. . . .

PEOPLE:

Why, are you separated — That you can live in peace?

CZAR NICHOLAS:

Oh, well, she visits me Here every other day. . . .

(Czarina appearing from hell)

Now she is coming here. . . .

(To the party)

Oh, no, don't go away. . . .

[801]

PEOPLE:

Why is she kept in hell?

CZAR NICHOLAS:

For treachery, my friend.

She helped the devil's cause

And caused my rule to end. . . .

PEOPLE:

But how did you escape From being down with her?

CZAR NICHOLAS:

I loved her — all lovers — Exempt from hell, my sir.

And because of my love Heaven granted her The right to visit me. . . . I am here a gardener. . . .

(Czar as if in a dream)

She died—a broken heart, But my son and daughters And myself were murdered By the band of robbers.

[109]

People: (Taking leave from the czar)

What's your message to men?

CZAR NICHOLAS:

To love their own wives, Minding their own affairs, And hell won't take their lives.

(Our party entered the gorge of hades and disappeared therein. Then the four daughters and son of the czar came and greeted the parents)

Act III

HADES — WHERE THE ADMIRERS OF LIBERTY LIVE

(Scene of ordinary picture of hell, where all the provocating agitators are snakes. Saloon keepers are derelicts after the night before. Dishonest bankers are shovelling a red hot gold. Bad wives and girls are running naked and hounded by the beasts and reptiles of every description. Old maids are turned into barren and dry trees, on the branches of which the gossipers are hung by their tongues. The crooked judges and lawyers and the fake doctors are the coockoos whose number is decreasing. All the

cheating profiteers are suffering a lose of one pound of flesh every day from the hands of Shylock, who is now their chief creditor and judge.)

THE KING OF HADES

(People and Columbia went through the whole crowd unmolested physically and approached the king of all the ghastly inhabitants)

PEOPLE:

Who is that blackest chap? He looks like a kaiser. . . .

COLUMBIA:

That is his own father, First Liberty's admirer. . . .

He tried to free himself From God — to marry her, And now for that attempt He's such a character. . . .

DEMON: (To People)

You took my love on earth,
Therefore, I lost the war. . . .
But you have profiteers
And reds — I'll come once more. . . .

COLUMBIA: (To People)

Keep your true love in you And he'll ne'er come out.

PEOPLE: (Excitedly)

Oh, I'll furnish a home
To each soldier — no doubt. . . .

COLUMBIA:

Not only to the soldiers — But to every one. . . . Then you'll marry Liberty And he'll be left alone.

THE KAISER

KAISER:

(Appearing from the darkness and, on observing the visitors, half surprised takes a seat on his throne)

Visitors from the earth. . . .

People: (To Columbia)

And this is the kaiser! He isn't so dashing here, He looks more a miser.

[112]

(To the kaiser)

Your majesty of hell, What would your message be To your kins on earth?... Would you tell it to me?

Kaiser:

Soon they shall follow me. . . . You see that row of thrones — These for the Norman kings. . . . On my left — the little ones.

(Directly to our party)

My message to them all— To love your Liberty If sooner they desire To join my company.

Would you send a message To your own Vaterland?

KAISER:

To help the bolsheviks And crooks on every hand. . . .

And reform my old guard, And while the first two fight,

[113]

My old guard will appear And reconstruct my might. . . .

(People and Columbia on leaving the kaiser meet a crowd of beasts with human heads, venerably looking at him.)

ACT IV

THE SUPERMEN

People: (Surprisingly)

Who are these strange monsters?

COLUMBIA:

Why, don't you recognize? . . . The kaiser's generals!

PEOPLE:

Why they are in disguise. . . .

COLUMBIA:

Those are the supermen, And they are themselves here, In their real Vaterland, In their own shape and sphere.

[114]

People: (Looking at the beasts)

And this is Hindenburg With the body of a bulldog. And this is Ludendorff With the body of a hog. . . .

COLUMBIA:

(Taking People by his hand and going farther)

Now we shall see some more Admirers of Liberty, Who're enjoying themselves In this society. . . .

ACT V

OCTOPUS UBER ALLES

(Our party has approached a cave with a sign on the entrance "Octopus Uber Alles")

COLUMBIA:

Look at this — Von Tirpitz! . . . He is an octopus here, Eats the flesh of babies Without a shame or fear.

PEOPLE: (To Von Tirpitz)

You're thirsty on the seas And hungry here in hell. . . .

VON TIRPITZ:

You cannot talk to me — I'm the kaiser's sentinel.

COLUMBIA:

Oh, wait, my dear People, We shall meet some more And better freedom-lovers Than we met heretofore.

ACT VI

LENINE'S END

Columbia: (Pointing at the graveyard)

And here suffers Lenine. He's borne by a red flame And every day and eve He is changing his name

And hides from the others; The reason is simply this; E'en here in hades He is feeling an abyss.

[116]

He couldn't bring about The social revolution, Therefore, he'll have to flame While gradual evolution

Is bringing poor and rich Closer to each other. . . . He made one revolution But he can't make another.

PEOPLE: (To Lenine)

Why you failed to bring The social revolution All throughout the world, May I ask this question?

LENINE:

Yes, and I'll answer short: One hundred bolsheviks Contained:—sixty common fools, Thirty-nine mensheviks,

Criminals and rables, ONE—decent bolshevik! Arithmetic decided Such a body politic.

PEOPLE:

What helped you the most To gain your power there In the land of Russia?

LENINE:

Profiteers and hunger, sir.

PEOPLE:

Why the devil failed you?

LENINE:

Oh, he failed flat himself To win love in U. S.— So you know that yourself.

PEOPLE:

Tell me, Mr. Lenine, Was it bolshevism That did break Russia down?

LENINE:

No, it was terrorism. . . .

For bolshevism as such — The abolition of classes,

[811]

Is but a communism — A ruling by the masses,

Where there's no rich or poor, And gold's but an ornament— Of no value to the owner, Where peace is permanent. . . .

Abolition of armies,
Abolition of navies,
Abolition of jails,
Franchise of the ladies. . . .

Freedom . . . equality . . . And fraternity . . . State to feed and care And state's maternity.

PEOPLE: (Cutting him short)

Why, you don't have it In Russia established?

LENINE:

Bolshevism in Russia Stayed—a day and—vanished. . . .

PEOPLE:

And here will be your end?

[119]

LENINE:

My dreams have flown away, And in this dreary place I am condemned to stay

Till profiteers and hunger Shall create the unrest When the real bolshevism Will arise from its nests.

(Our party leaves Lenine with a doubtful smile.)

ACT VII

HOME OF TROTZKY

(Scene of the gloomiest and dirtiest place in hell. Heterogeneous conglomeration of all sorts of beasts and reptiles,—the most vile, vulgar, ignoble, cowardly, base, abject, sordid, sinful, vicious, degrading, predatory, provocating, abominable, odious, execrable, loathsome, and abhorring, repugnant to every senses of touch, taste, smell, sight and hearing.—Such was the picture before the eyes of our party. There our party

observed the chief of the premises coiling on the corpse of half dead and naked victims with the red flag posted over them on which is written: "Bolshevism of Trotzky and Co.")

ACT VII

TROTZKY'S GREED

PEOPLE:

And this ghastly reptile! . . .

COLUMBIA:

A boa-with Trotzky's head. . . .

PEOPLE:

Why, venomous viper . . . Of whom you heard and read. . . .

(Repugnantly)

Such a malformation! . . .

COLUMBIA:

He is hunting after gold, When he finds a bourgeoise— Either sex—young or old—

[121]

He simply swallows it And keeps the gold himself. In the name of freedom Even here he gets his pelf.

(When our party were near Trotzky's head the reptile opened its jaws and was ready to swallow People, but Columbia stood on guard of People and averted the crime.)

COLUMBIA: (To Trotzky)

Behold, you red reptile, We are visitors here And not quite your subjects. Keep out and don't coil near.

(People wanted to see yet the Japanese and Chinese potentates, but Columbia informed People that they live in worse slums than that of Trotzky's habitat, so they took the way out to the light.)

ACT VIII EPILOGUE

(The same garden of roses from which People and Columbia went to hades. God, because, of

People's true love to Liberty returned her sight and made her a real being. Now we see them together happy — in love.)

PEOPLE:

I love you, Liberty, E'en after having seen Your suitors in hades, And I would have been

Unhappy all my life Without being with you.

LIBERTY:

I love you, my dear People, And I'll be good and true.

(People and Liberty kiss and God Himself appears)

God: (Blessing People and Liberty)

Love, honor and obey And you shall ever be Free, happy and in peace Through all eternity.

(White angels appear and lay the laurels on the heads of lovers.)









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