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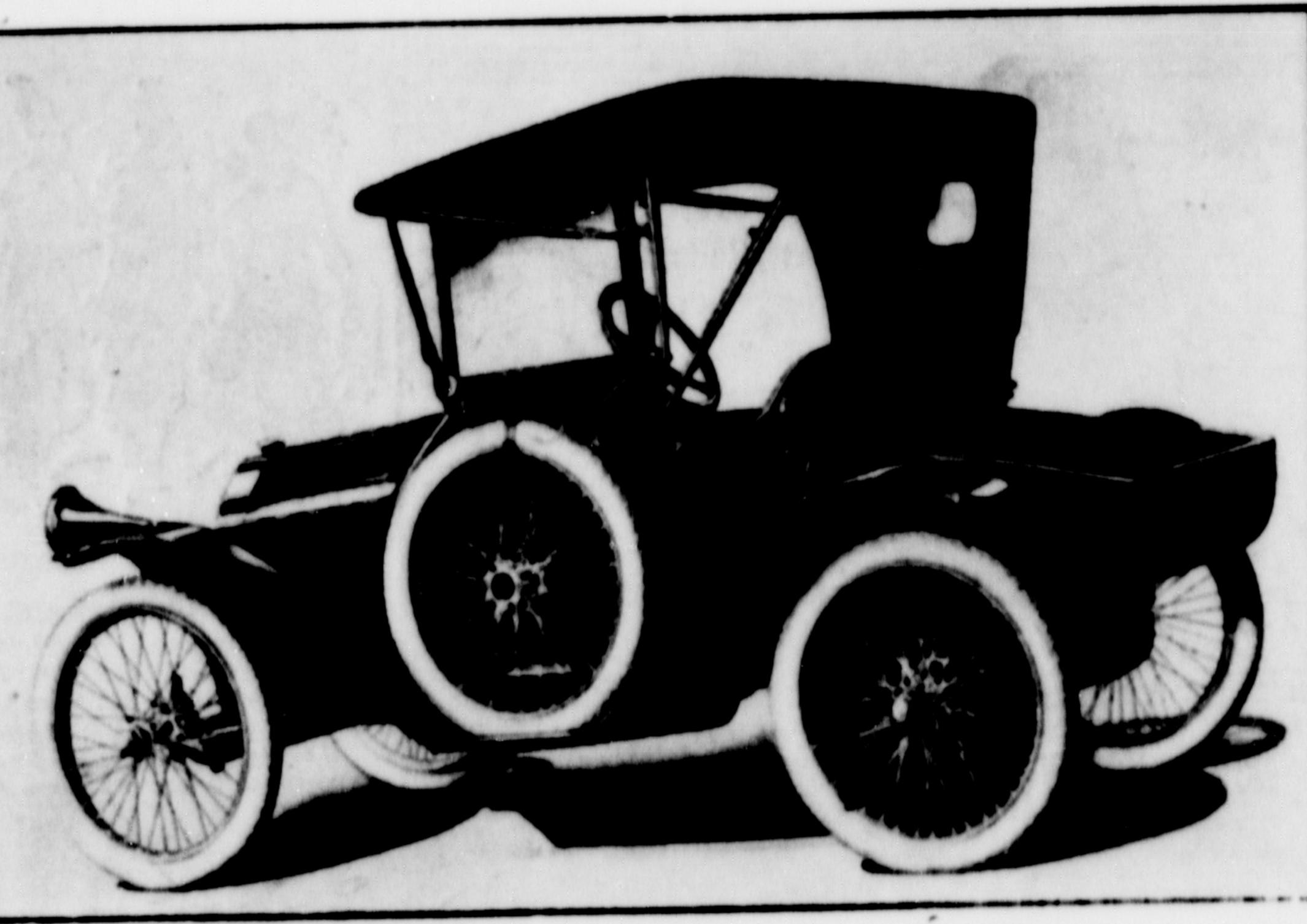
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OBSERVER'S WEEKLY -SHORT STORY-

Through His Nerves

he happened to hear that a young

in a duel and, on inquiry, that Bertha

Townsend had just her betrothed. He

gathered all the information possible

to him that his rival, or, rather, the

man who had prevented him from

winning Vivien Wentworth's love, had

"No one," said Kenworthy's inform-

mitting any more murders.

The priest sought the duelist and

on which he kept the record of his

"I will make good this last notch;

olute look upon him. Chartier endured

"I am commissioned by your last vic-

"To arrange a meeting between us."

Chartier looked at the man in won

ed, he arose from the table.

counter begon.

"Adlen till tomorrow, monsieur."

was waiting for his antagonist a car

riage drove up, and his enemy alight

ed. There was on his face a look of

cool resolution, indicating that he had

no fear whatever for the result. Being

given a rapier and his enemy another.

the two faced each other, and the en-

The stranger showed himself only

fair fencer. He kept his eye on that

of his antagonist, as is customary with

fencers, and it produced an effect.

Chartier astonished his seconds by his

weak thrusts, his almost unsuccessful

defense. Under the influence of his

antagonist's eye he grew weaker, more

defenseless, till at last the stranger,

"Gentlemen," said the man who had

killed him, "it no longer serves my

purpose to remain incognito. Here is

The name on it was Egbert Ken-

A year passed before Vivien Went-

worth met the man who had avenged

her. Shortly before their meeting she

heard who killed Chartier and sent for

It was a singular meeting between

avenged her. Kenworthy stood wait-

ing for her to speak. Several times she

essayed to do so, but either she could

not frame in words what she felt in

her heart or her tongue refused to ut-

ter them. At last she held out her

hand to him, and at the same time all a

she felt was expressed in her features

with far more intensity than words

forward, seized it and covered it with

could have given it. Kenworthy sprang

taking advantage of his mental condi-

tion, ran him through the heart.

In the morning Chartler arrived with

continued the stranger.

"What for, monsieur?"

then I will retire on my laurels."

Paris on his way to America There The old story of one girl and two artist named Trudeau had been killed It. Usually one of the lovers is the villain of the plot, the other the hero At first the villain has the edvantage. but in the end virtue triumphs over concerning the affair, and it was plain vice. This is a tale of one girl with young men, one of them possessing a

extraordinary nerve been murdered. Furthermore, he was It is now more than built a century told that Chartier was invulnerable. since a family of Americans named He was an expert with every weapon, from the dirk to the claymore, from nineteen and considered by all who the derringer to the rifle. knew her a lovely girl. She had been brought up in seclusion and had there ant, "can hope to conquer Chartier exfore not received much attention from | cept through his nerve | Naturally he is a coward. It is the certainty that young men. The visiting of new and to her strange countries at a time when his skill will protect him and enable few Americans went to Europe natu- him to kill his opponent that keeps rally produced upon her a marked im him cutting notches on the cane which bears the number of his victims. Nevperament, she enjoyed especially the ertheless he has splendid nerve, and, works of art to be found in Europe this being the only possible avenue and while in Rome had a special ad through which to attack him, he is liavantage in being shown through the ble to die a natural death in his bed." marvelous collection of art treasures | Nenworthy dwelt on this statement in the Vatican by a young French art. a long while-a man with splendid nerve, whom an enemy could hope ist named Armand Tradeau

This young man was especially fitted to attack only through that nerve. by nature to captivate a young girl of How might the nerve be attacked? an ideal makeup. He was very hand. He learned that Chartler, like most some, with large, dreamy eyes, a high Frenchmen, had been born a Roman forehead and an olive complexion. He Catholic, though he had never been to gave great promise as an artist and mass or confession since his boyhood. wrote very clever verses. He soon Kenworthy went to a priest and subwon his way into Vivien's affections. mitted a plan for bringing Chartier though he was opposed by her parents. back into the fold, but, if this were who did not wish her to marry a for not practicable, to prevent his com-

So the matter stood when Egbert tried to convince him of the heinousness ly different type from Trudeau, ap of his crimes. Chartier was unmoved. peared in Home and made the ac After expending upon him all the perqualptance of the Wentworths. While suastve eloquence he possessed with-Trudeau's face might have served for out avail the priest said to him: a model of St. Sebastian, Kenworthy's "Re it so. I leave you to your fate, would have made an admirable David for no man who practices deliberate He was the son of a New York bank murder as you do can come to any er and was taking an outing previous good end. Beware and repent before to entering his father's counting room it is too late. If you do not, God's

These two men became rivals for wrath will surely smite you." the hand of Miss Wentworth Ken For the first time during the interworthy upon entering the list did not view Chartier winced. The father left know that an attachment had already him without another word, and the aprung up between her and Trudeau duelist sat for some time lost in The latter, being opposed by Mr. and thought. Then he took up the cane Mrs. Wentworth, after devoting him victims. There were twenty notches. dling through the gulleries, ceased his. He cut one more, saying to himself:

It was at this time that Kenworth; appeared on the scene. He was given That evening Chartier dined at a were a commagnity the parents cafe where he was used to taking his with a frank avowest that she preferred | faced the ductist, faing a calm, res-

Kenworthy, though he had met the it for a time, then said in the usual disappointment of his life, declined to | tey tone he used in beginning an afask her father for her, contrary to her fair; wishes. He at once withdrew his at "Monsteur, I appear to interest you." tentions and left Rome. Then Vivien's "You certainly do, since I represent parents, being convinced that her heart | your victims," said the man in broken | was fixed upon the artist consented to French.

The warm season in itsly was now tim, Armand Trudeau, to avenge him." approaching and it was decided by the Wentworths to go to flams and accept Recovering himself sufficiently to rean invitation to visit Trudeau's family tain his outward coolness, Chartier at their chateau not far distant from said: "I do not wish to be disturbed at the capital Trustean mas to accome my dinner. Please let me have your pany them. They found his relatives card and a friend of mine will call on to be eminently refined and were great you." ity pleased with the intended conner

But the many descined not to ... There is no necessity to arrange a

meeting. I will meet you on the ground At that time there was in turns Jules where you killed Armand Trudeau at Charties one of those duclists of the 6 tomorrow morning. You shall have earlier part of the nineteenth century your friends with you and choose the each of whom tried to make a namer weapons you prefer As for me, need no buman assistance." der. He would have no seconds, would These parameter there disappeared and leave the choice of weapons to his encducting is many only practices; my. What did it mean? He nodded France are those who consider that an assent and went on with his dinner they have a vacue, and even there ex The stranger continued to stare at him pect only a little ploadbelling

Finally when Chartier raised a glass A parintiple of Trudenu's was name a of wine to his lips his hand trembled. the salon time day when the arrist was present chatting with friends who As soon as he had finished his dinner. were admirting his nork Chartler stop making an effort to appear unconcern ped before it and began to refer . Trudesu flushed and made a fr mark tropical to the critic's knowledge of art Chartner Exhibs shapped the his seconds bearing rapters. While he artist on the check

which justified murder should ever have prevailed. The insult, which was dren publicly, forced Trudeau to chalenge the man who had stapped time or be forever tabooed by his associates He had no skill whatever with any weapon, and the affair must result in his being vanquished and probably kiled. He knew that he must suffer death and wished to bid a last farewell to his fiancee. But this was not permitted. She might take measures to prevent his fighting and thus dis-

The morning after the insult Trudesu and Chartler met in the Bois dec Boulogne, and the latter added one more name to the list of men he had killed. Trudeau's death was a great shock to Virten Wentworth. Her parents took her away from Paris at once to Switzerland, for the hot season was on, and the mountain air was considered best for the stricken girl. In September Kenworthe reached

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