

BERLIN LETTER.

BY BERNARD ASTON.

[...]

At Freiburg has been issued the Autobiography of Karl May, the robber-novelist, who died a few months ago after a sensational series of libel actions. May, though unknown abroad, was the most popular author Germany has produced. Thirty of his works of adventure and travel (all fakes, for he had never traveled) sold about seven million copies. At the height of May's fame an enemy exposed the fact that he had spent his youth as a robber and jailbird. In his autobiography May admits his offenses; and describes his exploits as highway robber in the Saxon forests. He says that he planned to write his wonderful "travel books," while in jail undergoing a sentence of four years' penal servitude for robbery and arson.

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